

Tips for a Virtual Interview

Tip 1: Use a Stable Device

In a video interview with an employer, consider using a laptop or desktop that will be placed on a steady surface. To ensure the screen does not move during the interview. If you use a mobile device, find a way to prop it up so you don't need to hold it. Whatever device you choose to use, make sure it is either plugged in or are fully charged, with several hours of battery life and especially that the camera works.

Tip 2: Check Your Internet Connection

Precheck the Wi-Fi or internet connection are reliable; with download and upload speeds of at least 2 Mbps to support video chats. Wired internet connections are more stable and reliable than wireless.

Tip 3: Check Your Background and Lighting

- Check surroundings are orderly; you don't want compromising items, such as open bottles, controversial materials, or dirty laundry in the background.
- If you choose to use a virtual background, make sure it is appropriate.
- Find a quiet place where you can concentrate and not be disturbed by roommates, family members, or pets.
- Lighting is also an important consideration. Try to have some light on you, so that the employer can see you when you are talking. If there is a bright light behind you, your face will not show up well on camera.

Tip 4: Turn Notifications Off

During the interview, you will want to focus your attention on connecting with the employer. To avoid being distracted, turn off notifications for social media, news, and other applications. A notification at the wrong time might make you miss an important question or make you stop in the middle of a brilliant answer!

Tip 5: Dress Professionally

Wear professional attire or at least business casual— a button-down shirt or blouse – to make a good first impression with an employer. Stay away from T-shirts with logos, ripped clothes, or tops that reveal too much. It is also good to wear solid colors, avoid clothes with lots of patterns, stripes, or plaids. The goal is to have the employer to focus on you as a person and not to be distracted by what you are wearing.

Tip 6: Have Your Resume Ready

Have a copy of your resume nearby. The employer may ask you something specific on your resume, and you will want to be able to speak to it without missing a beat.

In many ways, a video interview is just like an in-person interview. Maintain eye contact, smile, and be confident. Remember to follow up. The main difference is in being able to make a good impression on camera. You're on your way to acing a virtual interview!