Job interview: before

1. Homework!
   Do your homework! Prepare answers to common interview questions. Know what to say in general. Also try to come up with some questions to ask the interviewer.

2. Be professional
   If you want to be a professional, you need to act like one. It's as simple as that.

3. Knowledge is key
   Do you know who you'll be talking to? Check their LinkedIn profile! Make sure you know your interviewer.

   - Go to bed early
   - Dress professionally
   - Need some styling advice?
   - Be on time
   - Phone off

4. Beware of red!
   Just like black, red is a powerful colour. Be aware however! You may come across as too dominant, maybe even rebellious...

5. Orange isn't the new black
   You might think Dutch go crazy for orange. And while that is true on Kingsday and for football matches, you may want to avoid orange when you have a job interview!

6. White = organized
   Fully white probably isn't a great idea, but a nice white shirt on top of some darker pants or dress makes you look organized.

7. Creative? You're lucky
   When you're applying for a creative job you're in a bit of luck. Bright colours like purple, yellow, even orange are more accepted in this field of work!

8. Brown you wonder?
   Please...you're not old enough to collect dust just yet!

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**THE SAFEST CHOICE: BLUE**
Do you want to make a safe bet? Go for blue! Preferably navy blue! It is a safe colour that conveys confidence, honesty and loyalty. Not bad right?

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**50 SHADES OF GREY**
Actually...grey is the ultimate safe choice. You can dress like this in any field of work. But sure: it is a tad boring. Ladies, you are lucky! Show some personality by using colourful accessories!

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**BLACK POWER**
Applying for a management vacancy? Wear black! It is the ultimate power colour.

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**WHITE = ORGANIZED**
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**CREATIVE? YOU'RE LUCKY**
When you're applying for a creative job you're in a bit of luck. Bright colours like purple, yellow, even orange are more accepted in this field of work!

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**ORANGE ISN'T THE NEW BLACK**
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Job interview: during

Presenting yourself

1. Body language
Words don't paint a complete picture. Your body language says a lot about you, at least how you feel at that moment. Don’t let your body language distract people from what you have to say.

   **Do**
   - Smile!
   - Make eye contact
   - Listen actively
   - Nod your head

   **Don’t**
   - Touch your face
   - Play with a pen!
   - Chew gum
   - Mumble

2. Be you!
Fake it till you make it doesn’t work in an interview! Be authentic, focused and confident (even if you’re nervous!).

3. Answer...
Remember how you prepared answers to the common interview questions? Try not to stick to them too rigidly. Be dynamic!

4. ...and ask
Always ask questions about the job or company. Even if everything was clear, asking questions shows you’re eager and interested.

5. Sell yourself
Cheesy, but true. This is your time to shine and sell your qualities and skills. Make sure the person on the other side of the table knows you’re the best person for the job.

6. Closing the deal
As the interview nears an end, there are a couple of things you should do.

   - State your interest in the job!
   - Ask about the next steps
   - When can you expect the result?
   - Shake hands
Job interview: after

Sealing the deal!

1. Be polite!
   Basic courtesy goes a long way. It starts with a simple handshake after the interview and includes a ‘thank you’ for taking the time to interview you.

2. Don’t be too eager!
   Contacting the people you’ve just had an interview with is fine. Just don’t overdo it! Instant LinkedIn requests are a bridge too far, and it’s certainly not a good idea to spam the company mailbox with messages.

3. Wait
   ...

4. Yes...or no
   It might not stop there. A ‘yes’ might signal the start of an assessment round for instance. No means no, unfortunately. Accept it and focus on the next job. Don’t let negative reactions get you down. Maybe it simply wasn’t your moment!

You’ve got a job!

Congratulations! Need help preparing for an assessment or negotiating your contract? Take a look at our pages ‘Assessment’ and ‘Contract negotiation’.

Now you throw a party!

On to the next one!

Make the most of a ‘no’ by asking the reasoning behind the ‘no’. This may help you prepare better for your next job interview!