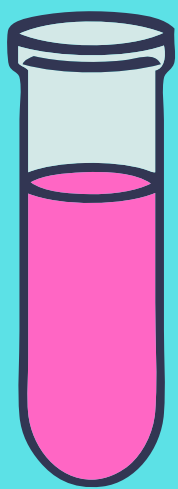


Helpful Tips for a Virtual Interview

The technicalities of a virtual interview may be new to you but please be mindful that the actual interview process will be same. It will also be the same question set and assessment criteria that will be used to ensure every candidate is treated fairly and equally, regardless of when and how the interview is conducted. Below are a few helpful tips to help you prepare.

Test



The most important part of your preparation is doing a test run. Have a friend rehearse a web conference with you before the big day. This will help you know how you look in front of the camera. It will help decide what to wear to make an interviewer focus on you and not get distracted with what you are wearing. Testing will also help you know how loudly to speak and at what pace.

Virtual interviews should be treated like any other type of interview. You still need to research and prepare to do well. Being at home should not be an excuse not to exert less effort than you would do with a face-to-face interview.

Probably the biggest problem in a virtual interview is having the right setting. Not everyone has the perfect background for a professional meeting via web conference. This is true especially when the home PC is in your bedroom. You want the interviewer to see you as a professional, and having an unmade bed as your background will not help you achieve this image. You need to find the right background for the interview; a blank white wall or bookshelf is usually a safe bet.

The Right Setting



Dress Code



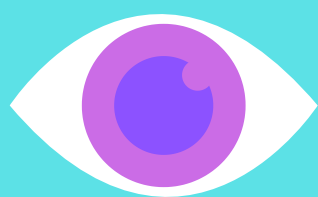
Some may think that being in a virtual interview means that you can get away with not dressing your best. You might be tempted to wear your pyjamas for your bottoms during the interview because the interviewer won't see it anyway. If you do this, it may lead you to forget that you are in an interview. Dressing the part will help you motivate and remind yourself that you want to impress the interviewer.

Being at home during a job interview does not help you maintain focus. Your brain has been trained to relax when at home. Therefore, it is important to eliminate most if not all possible distractions during the day of your interview. Arrange for a sitter for the kids and pets. Close your browser unless you need it during the interview.

Eliminate Distractions



Video Interview Non-Verbals



Like any other format, you need prep your interview stage presence. Yet, you also need to be aware of one major inconsistency - making virtual eye contact. When talking to someone via webcam, you have to look at the camera instead of the face in the monitor.