

# GET THE JOB

## Nailing a Virtual Interview

One of the most stressful parts of the job search is preparing for an interview with a prospective employer. Due to the pandemic, the majority of interviews have become virtual meetings.

This has posed new complications, including technical glitches and the loss of in-person communications that can help you feel more comfortable.

Fortunately, there are some things you can do to prepare that will help you turn stress into success the next time you interview.

### ALWAYS SAY YES

Interviewing is an art. And just like any other art, you need practice.

This is precisely the reason you should accept every interview offer that comes your way. Each discussion with a hiring manager is an opportunity to refine your personal pitch and challenge yourself to sell your key skills in real time.

Practicing in front of a mir-



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ror or your laptop screen is one thing. Interacting with someone who is judging your competencies while you tell your story is the only way to truly sharpen your interview prowess.

### OUT OF PRACTICE?

If you haven't been asked to interview lately, it's time to get your skills ready. The job mar-

ket is heating up and companies are building out their teams for post-pandemic growth.

Interview inactivity should not lead to anxiety. Understand that hiring managers are not out to get you. They are genuinely looking for great talent to fill their open job roles.

Each job interview offers

you a chance to meet new people and sell yourself. Spin the stress into enthusiasm and watch your interview performance improve with each chance you get.

### RESEARCH IS KEY

The best way to prepare for an interview is to research your target company. Spend some time on their corporate social

media profiles and find news articles highlighting recent initiatives. You can earn extra brownie points by tying in your experience and accomplishments into what the company is trying to achieve.

The social media platform LinkedIn makes it easy to research the people who will be interviewing you. Find out where they went to college and what community causes they are connected to. Use these tidbits as ice-breakers to help create a comfortable, free-flowing interview experience.

### HOW IS YOUR FOLLOW-UP?

How you perform during an interview is obviously vital. How you express your post-interview interest may be even more important. A recent Robert Half survey reports that 80% of hiring managers said it was helpful or somewhat helpful to receive a thank you note after an interview.

Always follow up with a note reiterating your interest in the position. You can also include any details you may have forgotten to mention during your interview.

With all hiring manager communications — both pre- and post-interview — remember to carry yourself with a modest air of confidence. You have earned the right to be in the conversation.