

Top 10 Must Haves

Interview/ Business

1. **Suit (interview):** Fit is key.
 - Suit jacket should fit so that it can be easily buttoned without any tug marks across the fabric.
 - Arms should be long enough so that about a ¼ inch of your dress shirt can be seen past the cuffs when your arms are relaxed at your side.
 - Choose a two or three button suits; stay away from double-breasted suits.
 - Preferred colors are charcoal grey and navy. Brown is not acceptable.
 - Pin stripes are ok, but they should be discreet. Brooks Brothers has a good selection.

⚠ Tip: Hickey Freeman has been ranked by Forbes among the Best Suits for Men. The company has trunk shows on Cornell Campus annually and provides 40-60% discounts. Typically the original price on their suits range at approximately \$1500.
HickeyFreeman.com
2. **Shirt (interview):** White shirts are the safest and most conservative. Depending on the industry, French-blue shirts are also fine as long as they are solid without stripes or patterns. For financial positions, stay conservative with white.

Business Casual

3. **Suit (business casual):** A well fitted two or three button suit; you can be more flexible with color for a casual suit.

⚠ Tip: For all **finance/investment banking** companies, interview/business dress is required for all events (corporate briefings, informationals, interviews, treks) – do not wear business casual unless specified.
4. **Shirt (business casual):** You can be more flexible with color but make sure that the shirt is still of a good material.

⚠ Tip: For all **finance/investment banking** companies, interview/business dress is required for all events -- do not wear business casual unless specified.
5. **Cream colored slacks:** Slacks are more acceptable than khakis. Make sure they are well pressed.

⚠ Tip: If you are wearing light colored clothing, it's a safe bet to stick to white wine rather than red at various events.
6. **Dark business casual slacks:** Worn for more "formal" casual occasions (pardon the oxymoron). Example: Drinks at Stella's with recruiters.

Shoes/Accessories

7. **Tie:** Choose a simple pattern or solid color silk tie that does not clash with the color of your suit. Typically "safe" colors include yellow, dark blue, light blue, and red. In general, choose bold colors in conservative but stylish patterns (Example symmetrical pattern or diagonal stripes).
8. **Belt:** Bring two leather belts; black and dark brown. The key is quality over quantity. Belts should be shiny, not dull.
9. **Socks:** Dark socks that *match* your outfit. No white socks! Your **shoes, socks** and **belt** should all match (e.g., black shoes, black socks, black belt).
10. **Shoes:** *Polished*, dark lace-ups shoes are preferred. Remember these are interview shoes, not shoes you wear to the club.

⚠ Tip: Buy an extra pair that you can leave in the box polished. This way if you don't have time to get your normal pair polished you are still ready for a formal occasion.

Final note: Keep your dress simple and professional. Let your talents, not your clothes, impress recruiters!

DOs

1. **Suit:** When you buy a brand new suit, wear it around your house for a bit to get the “feel” of it. If you’re uncomfortable in a new suit it can get noticed. Also, make sure to get it tailored.
2. **Ties:** Tie it properly; ties should fall to right above the belt buckle when completed. The Windsor knot is generally preferred for finance interviews. Brooks Brothers provide excellent video examples: BrooksBrothers.com/TieKnots/TieKnots.tem
3. **General Tip:** Dress for the right occasion. For all **finance** related industries, interview/business dress is required for all events. Do not wear business casual unless specified. Companies from the **west coast** tend to dress more casually to briefings, etc. So you may want to do a bit of research to make sure you’re not overdressed.

Appropriate Suit



- White pressed collared shirt.
- Tie is conservative color, no flashy print.
- Charcoal color is appropriate.
- No cufflinks are necessary.

Appropriate Shoes



- Polished, dark, leather lace-up oxfords

DON'Ts

1. **General:** Do not wear *wrinkled* clothing to professional events.
2. **Suit:** Avoid bold pin stripe suits.
3. **Cologne:** Do not wear cologne, it can be distracting.
4. **Shoes:** Avoid penny loafers, boots, shoes that don't match the suit or belt.
5. **Shirts:** Avoid cotton-blend shirts, polyester or any shiny shirts. Shirts should be 100% cotton.
6. **Accessories:** General note – do not over accessorize.
 - **Do not wear cufflinks at any time.**
 - Rings: Wear only a wedding band and/or college ring.
 - Do not wear earrings to any corporate events.
 - Do not bring a briefcase/backpack to your interview – a leather-bound folder for resumes is sufficient.

Inappropriate Suit



- Pin-striped lines are too bold.
- Tie is too flashy.
 - Colors are too bold.
 - Design is too busy.

Inappropriate Shoes



Too Trendy



No Loafers