The first impression is crucial, especially in a highly visual industry like design. Remember that policies on dress will vary at each company, firm, or office especially in a business casual versus business professional environment. Use this guide as a basic tool for dressing the part during an interview.

HAIR
Clean-shaven is best, but if you have facial hair, keep it groomed and tidy.

SHIRT AND TIE
For a business professional interview, keep it crisp and tailored with simple colors and patterns. If you want to show a little bit of personality in a business casual interview, consider a bright collared shirt or bold pattern. Choose a tie that complements your suit. If you’re worried about the look being distracting, it probably is.

ACCESSORIES
Wear a belt that matches your shoes. All other jewelry should be kept to a minimum and any visible piercings should be removed.

SUIT
For a business professional interview, wear a clean and pressed gray, charcoal, or blue suit. Avoid black as it is too formal. Expense is not as important as fit. Only invest in a well-fitting suit. For a business casual interview, play around with a sport coat or blazer.

SHOES AND SOCKS
Check your shoes for scuffs and make sure you polish them. If you are wearing a blue suit, wear brown shoes. If you are wearing a grey or charcoal suit, black or brown shoes are acceptable. Add a little personality with subtly patterned socks that complement the rest of your outfit.

FRAGRANCE
Perfumes and other kinds of fragrances are best left at home. Some people may have allergies or problems with scents.

Make it SIMPLE but SIGNIFICANT.”
-Don Draper

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DRESS THE PART: The Interior Design Interview

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**HAIR**
Keep it clean and tidy. Avoid styling hair in a way that will make you play and fidget with it during your interview.

**BLOUSE OR TOP**
Simple is best. Don’t go crazy with patterns and color. Remember, if it might seem distracting it probably is.

**FRAGRANCE**
Perfumes and other kinds of fragrances are best left at home. Some people may have allergies or problems with scents.

**JACKET**
Add a crisp finish to your outfit with a tailored jacket or blazer. For a business casual interview outfit, consider a cardigan or sweater.

**ACCESSORIES**
For a business professional interview, keep accessories to a minimum. For a business casual interview, wear pieces that compliment your personality, not distract from it. Like your hair, avoid wearing jewelry and accessories that you will be tempted to play with during your interview.

**SHOES**
Shoes should be clean, comfortable, and close-toed. Don’t be afraid to wear heels but make sure you can walk in them.

**MAKEUP**
Keep makeup as natural as possible. If you’re going to wear nail polish, make sure it’s not chipped. If you’re going for natural nails, make sure they’re clean.

**SKIRT OR TROUSERS**
Complete your suit for a business professional interview with a matching skirt or trousers. Skirts should come no higher than your knee. Save the body con skirt for the club. For a business casual interview, stick to a plain colored skirt or trouser as well. Leggings or tight-fitting pants are not appropriate, and neither are jeans.

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