

1. Look at the camera, not the screen.

It is very tempting to watch yourself or your interviewer during a video session. However, looking directly at the video camera is the only way to maintain direct eye contact with your interviewer.

2. Dress the part.

When it comes to what you wear, treat your Skype interview like an in-person interview and dress professionally from head to toe (or at least from head to waist). A professional dress code with video interview is expected, not excused.

3. Prepare your surroundings.

Pick a quiet place to interview without an elaborate backdrop so that you can be the focal point on the screen. Remove anything distracting behind you and keep it neutral.

4. Practice makes perfect.

Doing a run through interview with a friend beforehand is helpful because your first few video calls are likely to be awkward, especially if you have to retrain yourself to watch the camera and not the screen. Play around with everything beforehand so that when it is interview time, you can shine without being distracted by the program.

5. Close other programs on your computer. Turn off your notifications.

Getting Facebook notifications during your interview is distracting and unprofessional. Before your interview, make sure all other windows on your computer are closed (especially if they make noise).

6. Use notes.

Don't be afraid to help yourself with post-it notes, the job description, a copy of the interview prep worksheet, LinkedIn profile and a copy of your resume handy when you interview. A benefit of having a video interview is that you can have a cheat sheet in front of you so that you don't have to memorize everything you want to mention.

7. But don't rely too much on your notes.

Just make sure your notes are easily searchable so that you use them as quick reminder, not as a script. While having notes is certainly a plus, relying too heavily on them can cause awkward pauses during your interview. An interviewer won't be impressed if they only see the top of your head during the interview while you search for something on your notes, so while having notes is good, be sure to use them sparingly.

8. Avoid interruptions.

If you are interviewing in a house with multiple people or pets, be sure to let everyone in the house know ahead of time that you will be in an interview while securing any animals away from your interview space. Nothing is less professional than having to tell your potential employer to hang on while you shoo your dog away from the camera, answer a question of your child or apologize for loud barking in the background.

9. Keep your profile professional.

Unlike an in-person or phone interview, your first impression during a video interview doesn't actually involve you. The first thing your interviewer will see is your username and profile picture, so double check that they are both interview appropriate (or create a professional account – after all, they're free!)

10. Watch your body language.

Not all physical cues translate from in-person interviews to video interviews, which make the ones that do even more important. Be sure to have good posture and relax your shoulders to avoid stiffness.

11. Avoid a "Can you hear me now?" situation.

Nothing is more frustrating than only catching every other word a person is saying, so be sure to tweak the audio ahead of time to make sure you can both hear and be heard without difficulty.

12. Make sure the interviewer is engaged.

Stop every once in awhile and make sure your interviewer is engaged in what you are saying. Being aware of the interest level of your interviewer is crucial in a video interview since they may have interesting emails pop up that direct attention away from you.

13. Follow Up.

A THANK YOU email is just as important after a video interview as it is in an in-person interview.