



3 Hacks to Leave a Lasting Impression in Your Next Interview



Whether you have an upcoming interview or one is in the works, prepping for your next interview is always a good idea. You can never go wrong with always being ready to jump into “interview mode” and share your experiences, accomplishments, and how you can be an asset to the company you are speaking to. Being prepared and ready to jump in is what leaves a lasting impression on the interviewers and could potentially elevate you to the next round. Let’s talk about three specific ways to leave an impression!

So you might be asking, how do you prepare and stand out in an interview? Well here are 3 Hacks to get you ready to ace that next interview and leave a lasting impression!



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01

USE THE JOB DESCRIPTION AS YOUR “CHEAT SHEET”

Have an upcoming interview? Have you been google searching for the possible questions they might ask you? This is not a bad strategy, however, a better place to go that will give you the answers you are looking for, well, is the thing that made you want to apply to the position in the first place - and that is the job description.

The job description is essentially the answer sheet you're looking for to let you know the questions they will most likely ask and now you have the answer sheet too.

Of course, the job description won't give the exact questions they are going to ask, but it will help you get pretty close to it.

Look at the job description, see what skills they are asking for, the knowledge you should have, and even the leadership skills you might need.

Now here is the hack: Take one of the bullets and add “Tell me about a time you have...(finish the question with one of the bullets)”. And there you have a potential question the employer might ask! Try it out for yourself and see.

They know you can do the job based on your resume, the interview is used to hear you articulate your skillset and create an opportunity to connect with the employer.

Practice sharing examples of when you have used the skill sets the employer is asking for. This is one of the best ways to be prepared, by showing examples of when you actually used the skills needed to do the job.



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02

CREATE A STORY AROUND "THE TELL ME ABOUT YOURSELF" QUESTION

Practice the tell me about yourself question - Use this question to not just share who you are and all the random things about yourself. Instead, use this question to share your career journey, how it has impacted your different roles, and why it is leading you to be at this moment of your next transition.

This is a great opportunity to showcase your personality, humor, and even passion and expertise. This is also a great opportunity to break the ice about any gnawing questions you know they might have about your work history (e.g. employment gaps, "jumping around", etc). By putting a story to it, they can see your intention and purpose, and the reason for the shift.



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03

REMEMBER INTERVIEWING IS A TWO-WAY STREET

Always have questions at the end for the interviewer(s).

You know that moment when you know you had a great interview, they unexpectedly answered all your questions in the process, and now the moment has come where they ask you if you have any questions. You feel pretty complete and satisfied so you say no you don't have any questions at this time. Although this is being truthful, the best advice is to still ask a question!

At the end of an interview, the interviewer will most likely always ask you, do you have any questions for us and yes, you always want to come prepared with questions for the interviewer(s). This shows you are genuinely interested in the role/company, that you have really given thought to being in this role, and it further helps you stand out, especially when you ask great questions.

Now, there are good questions and then there are great questions. The difference between the two is the amount of preparation. If you want to be in the good category, questions like "can you tell me why you like working here, what's a day in the life of a person in this role, if you could be any utensil what would it be". Again, good questions, but if you want to stand out, do some preparation, this includes researching the role/company. As you do so, you're going to generate questions about what the company is doing which you can ask. Ask about the skills needed to do well in this job, and the company culture. Even get clarity on ways you can grow in this role.

Remember, interviews are two-way streets, they want to get clear on if you can do this role well and you want to get clear on, is this organization a good fit for you and a place you can grow professionally. Here is a great resource with more question examples.



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