

US NEWS 50 Worst of the Worst (and Most Common) Job Interview Mistakes

1. **Arriving late.**
2. **Arriving too early.**
3. **Lighting up a cigarette, or smelling like a cigarette.**
4. **Bad-mouthing your last boss.**
5. **Lying about your skills/experience/knowledge.**
6. **Wearing the wrong (for this workplace!) clothes.**
7. **Forgetting the name of the person you're interviewing with.**
8. **Wearing a ton of perfume or aftershave.**
9. **Wearing sunglasses.**
10. **Wearing a Bluetooth earpiece.**
11. **Failing to research the employer in advance.**
12. **Failing to demonstrate enthusiasm.**
13. **Inquiring about benefits too soon.**
14. **Talking about salary requirements too soon.**
15. **Being unable to explain how your strengths and abilities apply to the job in question.**
16. **Failing to make a strong case for why you are the best person for this job.**
17. **Forgetting to bring a copy of your resume and/or portfolio.**
18. **Failing to remember what you wrote on your own resume.**
19. **Asking too many questions.**
20. **Asking no questions at all.**
21. **Being unprepared to answer the standard questions.**
22. **Failing to listen carefully to what the interviewer is saying.**
23. **Talking more than half the time.**
24. **Interrupting your interviewer.**
25. **Neglecting to match the communication style of your interviewer.**
26. **Yawning.**
27. **Slouching.**
28. **Bringing along a friend, or your mother.**
29. **Chewing gum, tobacco, your pen, your hair.**
30. **Laughing, giggling, whistling, humming, lip-smacking.**
31. **Saying "you know," "like," "I guess," and "um."**
32. **Name-dropping or bragging or sounding like a know-it-all.**
33. **Asking to use the bathroom.**
34. **Being falsely or exaggeratedly modest.**
35. **Shaking hands too weakly, or too firmly.**
36. **Failing to make eye contact (or making continuous eye contact).**
37. **Taking a seat before your interviewer does.**
38. **Becoming angry or defensive.**
39. **Complaining that you were kept waiting.**
40. **Complaining about anything!**
41. **Speaking rudely to the receptionist.**
42. **Letting your nervousness show.**
43. **Overexplaining why you lost your last job.**
44. **Being too familiar and jokey.**
45. **Sounding desperate.**
46. **Checking the time.**
47. **Oversharing.**
48. **Sounding rehearsed.**
49. **Leaving your cell phone on.**
50. **Failing to ask for the job.**