

7 THINGS THAT TURN OFF POTENTIAL EMPLOYERS



Summary: You already know not to have typos on your resume, but there are seven other things you probably weren't aware of that turn off employers.

There are the obvious things to avoid when preparing for an interview and while at the interview, but there are seven other things that you probably didn't even realize were bad to do.

1. Talking about money before you are hired is a big turn off. By bringing up money during the interview, you are telling the employer that money is your priority instead of doing a good job. Although the pay can be important because we all have bills that must be paid, wait until you are actually hired to discuss salary.
2. **Social media accounts** tell employers what your true character is like, so keep it professional. Pictures from last night's party and blatantly crude language are the obvious things that you don't want to be posting for the world to see, but it's the things that you don't realize look bad that are sending red alerts to employers. A bad customer service experience that you continually complain about shows immaturity and impatience. Or tweeting that you have no desire to study for your finals can show employers that you lack drive and desire. Always think before you post.
3. Taking notes **during an interview** may seem like a good idea, but it's off-putting to the interviewer. You should be able to listen and remember the things they are telling you, like on a first date. You wouldn't take notes on a first date because you are trying to form a personal relationship.
4. Disguising a strength as a weakness is just annoying. Don't try to claim that a weakness of yours is eating healthy. Employers want to know that you can admit to your weaknesses and that you have a plan to work on those weaknesses. Being able to understand your flaws means that you know when you need to fix your mistakes and own up to them.
5. Always having an answer is not a good thing. If you can't admit that you don't know something then chances are you will go to great lengths to cover up something by pretending you do know instead of asking for help. Being independent and self-sufficient are good qualities to have, but wanting to learn is just as good. You can easily get caught up in a lie if you pretend to know what your interviewer is talking about; saying "I don't know" is a smarter option.
6. Not having a **LinkedIn profile** looks bad. When a potential employer goes to do a **Google** and LinkedIn search but gets no results, they will think you aren't putting forth enough effort to get your name into the professional market. Creating a profile is a great way to showcase any work or projects you have done as well as connect with others in your industry. If you lack a profile, an employer will just move on to the next resume.
7. Prepare for interviews and do your research. Don't ask obvious questions that can be found on the company's webpage. When you show up to an interview, show that you have done your homework by studying the LinkedIn profile of those who are interviewing you and asking relevant questions about the information posted there.

Photo: cvinside.co.uk