

## Don't let bad habits creep in

YOUNG workers keen to make their break into the workforce must take care not to reveal their bad habits during the job interview.

Property industry firm Edge Recruitment marketing manager Jo Kiley reveals some of the don'ts which can affect an applicant's success.

- **SMELLING** like cigarettes:  
Interviews are nerve-racking and some candidates may like to have a quick smoko before they meet but smelling like cigarettes is unpleasant – as is overuse of heavy perfumes to cover it up.
- **USING** a mobile phone:  
A candidate's phone should be switched off during an interview.
- **AVOIDING** eye contact:  
Candidates who avoid eye contact during an interview seem uninterested and un-focused.
- **NOT** knowing the interviewers name:  
Candidates who arrive at an interview not knowing who they are meeting indicate they are unprepared and disorganised.
- **OVERUSE** of piercings:  
Wearing large or obvious piercings to an interview is inappropriate, especially for client-facing roles. Until a candidate is aware of the workplace dress code, piercings should be avoided.
- **FIDGETING**:  
Excessive fidgeting and playing with teeth or hair will make a candidate seem distracted and nervous

Keep in mind:

- **Jo Kiley** says acting professional is essential to interview success
- Arriving late is not a good first impression and personal presentation is very important, she says.
- Candidates also need to pay attention to their body language while in the hot seat "No chair swinging. You would be surprised how many people do this during an interview."

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