



# MASTER THE VIDEO INTERVIEW

**Video interviewing is a growing trend, with big organizations like Google, Apple, Facebook and Twitter leading the way. Just like in-person interviews, success on video boils down to one word: preparation!**



Video interviewing—conducting a job interview from a remote location using video technology—is becoming more popular among hiring organizations and recruiters, mainly because it’s more efficient. It’s easier and faster for them to schedule, interview, and narrow down a candidate pool.

Interviewing by video can benefit candidates as well, including leveling the playing field for those who do not live in the employer’s area, and the ability to interview from a familiar, comfortable space.

Video interviews can be live or pre-recorded. For a live interview, you might be sent a link or get a call. For pre-recorded video interviews, also called one-way interviews, you will be sent login information, and you will record your responses to interview questions that have been pre-recorded or appear in writing on the screen. There is often a time limit for your answers, and you may be given more than one chance to record each answer.

## *How to prepare for your big on-camera moment*

**PREPARATION IS KEY!**

Preparation is the key to performing well in your video interview. It’s not all that different from an in-person interview—you’ll want to dress appropriately and be prepared for likely questions and topics—but there are some things you can do to make sure your moment on the screen goes well.

*See our “[Tips for Interview Prep](#)” [handout for help](#)*

## Set the stage properly

- Use a laptop or desktop computer if possible, connected to a reliable wi-fi network.
- Choose a quiet space to eliminate distractions—minimize the chance for noise of any kind, including roommates, pets, traffic, and devices like televisions and phones.
- Put a blank wall behind you. You want the interviewer to see just you. Nothing else.
- Light yourself from the front. Backlighting will make it harder for a clear view of you.
- Place the screen lens at eye level, directly in front. If you're looking down at your computer, you're looking down at the interviewer.
- Know how to mute your device ahead of time. You never know when you'll need it!

## Test your set-up

Do a video test of your set-up with a friend or family member to make sure your video and audio work properly. Have them ask you a few questions.

## Dress for success

Dress for a video interview exactly the way you would for an in-person—professionally! That means head to toe. Resist the impulse to wear old jeans.

## Rock the interview!

- Quit all unnecessary software programs to optimize streaming.
- Start setting up the connection early. Give yourself time in case there's a glitch.
- Print out your notes and organize them in front of you.
- Use a chair that helps you sit up straight. Have a glass of water within reach.
- Talk to the camera lens, not the image on the screen. Just like in an in-person interview, eye contact is important!

### InterviewStream: Practice Makes Perfect!

InterviewStream is a video mock interview system that allows you to practice common interview questions on your computer, laptop or mobile device anywhere, any time. You can choose from over 25 mock interviews created by the Career Center, or select your own set of questions. There's no limit on the amount of interviews you can take. Afterwards, consider conducting a self-assessment or asking for feedback from a faculty member or the Career Center.

Go to [depaul.interviewstream.com](https://depaul.interviewstream.com)