

# ***WALKING THE WALK - INVESTMENT BANKING DRESS FOR WOMEN***



# Why is Dress Important

- “Looking the part” is an important part of any interview or internship – especially in investment banking
- There are some standard best practices you should adhere to look this part



- Excerpt from one of our partner firms’ handbooks:

*Clothes make the man or woman, as the saying goes. People are primarily influenced by visual stimuli. The color anthracite emits competence, warmth and seriousness; the perfection in a person’s appearance to the outside world can create an atmosphere of internal tranquility and security.*

# Women's Business Formal

	Do's	Don'ts
<b>Suits</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>□ Dark coordinated suits, properly fitted</li> <li>□ Both pant and skirt suits are appropriate</li> <li>□ Always keep a blazer at your desk, even if other women are not wearing full suits</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>□ Should not be too tight</li> <li>□ Don't wash your suit – dry clean!</li> <li>□ No capris or cropped pants</li> </ul>
<b>Blouses</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>□ Light colors (blue, grey, white)</li> <li>□ Wear a light camisole under button up shirts</li> <li>□ Should be washed / dry cleaned after each wear</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>□ No low cut shirts</li> <li>□ No very tight shirts</li> <li>□ No sleeveless shirts without a blazer or sweater covering arms</li> </ul>
<b>Skirts</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>□ No more than one inch above the knee</li> <li>□ Comfortably fitting</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>□ No short or tight fitting skirts</li> <li>□ No high splits</li> </ul>
<b>Shoes</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>□ Neutral heels or flats are appropriate (black is generally most acceptable)</li> <li>□ Heels should be no more than 3"</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>□ No platforms</li> <li>□ No open toed shoes or sandals</li> </ul>
<b>Accessories</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>□ Handbag should be neutral neat</li> <li>□ Belts should be worn when applicable</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>□ Avoid logos on bags</li> </ul>



Tip: Keep a neutral cardigan at your desk – it gets cold at the office

Tip: If you are short I recommend always wearing comfortable heels to meetings and networking events – you don't want everyone to be looking down at you

# Women's Business Formal (cont'd)

	Do's	Don'ts
<b>Nails</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>□ Should be short and manicured in neutral colors</li> <li>□ Flesh tones or very light pinks</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>□ No long or acrylic nails</li> <li>□ No chipped nails</li> </ul>
<b>Pantyhose</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>□ Pantyhose can be worn</li> <li>□ Neutral colored</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>□ No designs or runs</li> </ul>
<b>Jewelry</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>□ If worn, should be minimal conservative classic</li> <li>□ Pearl or stud earrings are most appropriate</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>□ No costume jewelry</li> <li>□ No dangling earrings</li> </ul>
<b>Hair</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>□ Should be neat and away from your face</li> <li>□ Natural hair can be worn but should be neat and pulled back</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>□ No brightly dyed hair or ombre</li> <li>□ Don't fidget or play with your hair</li> </ul>
<b>Makeup</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>□ Makeup should be natural</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>□ No bright eye shadows, lipsticks or heavy makeup</li> </ul>
<b>Other</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>□ Tattoos or body piercings should not be visible</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>□ No heavy perfumes or scented lotions</li> </ul>



Tip: Keep an extra pair of pantyhose, a Tide Stick, a pair of flats, and a safety pin at your desk – just in case!

# Business Casual Spectrum



