The way you dress can play a big role in your professional career. Part of the culture of a company is the dress code of its employees. Some companies prefer a business casual approach, while other companies require a business professional dress code.

**BUSINESS PROFESSIONAL ATTIRE FOR MEN**

Men should wear business suits if possible; however, blazers can be worn with dress slacks or nice khaki pants. Wearing a tie is a requirement for men in a business professional dress code. Sweaters worn with a shirt and tie are an option as well.

**BUSINESS PROFESSIONAL ATTIRE FOR WOMEN**

Women should wear business suits or skirt-and-blouse combinations. Women adhering to the business professional dress code can wear slacks, shirts and other formal combinations. Women dressing for a business professional dress code should try to be conservative. Revealing clothing should be avoided, and body art should be covered. Jewelry should be conservative and tasteful.
COLORS AND FOOTWEAR

When choosing color schemes for your business professional wardrobe, it's advisable to stay conservative. Wear "power" colors such as black, navy, dark gray and earth tones. Avoid bright colors that attract attention. Men should wear dark-colored dress shoes. Women can wear heels or flats. Women should avoid open-toe shoes and strapless shoes that expose the heel of the foot.

GOOD HYGIENE

Always practice good hygiene. For men adhering to a business professional dress code, this means good grooming habits. Facial hair should be either shaved off or well groomed. Clothing should be neat and always pressed. Women should avoid makeup that stands out in a distracting manner. Hair should be well-maintained.

WHAT NOT TO WEAR

Never wear jeans, athletic apparel or athletic footwear. Offensive T-shirts, distracting jewelry and rips in clothing are not appropriate in a business professional dress code. Women adhering to a business professional dress code should avoid shirts that expose cleavage and back areas. Shorts are never allowed in a business professional dress code. Women should wear pantyhose or stockings as not to expose their bare legs. Head wear is not permitted in a business professional dress code unless it is for religious significance.