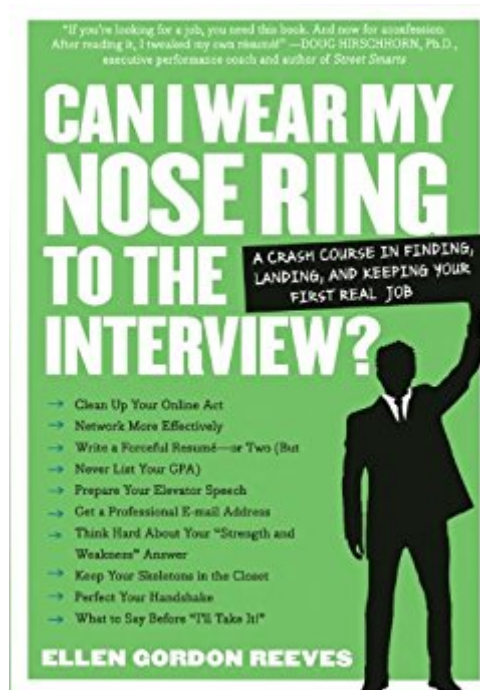


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Can I Wear My Nose Ring To The Interview?: A Crash Course In Finding, Landing, And Keeping Your First Real Job



Synopsis

A witty, friendly, unexpected job hunter's bible that finally answers the real questions. Yes, if you're wedded to your nose ring, wear it to the interview. No, you shouldn't be e-mailing out hundreds of résumés. Writing with enormous authority and a compelling, lively voice, Ellen Reeves brings together her lifetime of experience of hiring, counseling, and résumé-doctoring into an essential guide for young job seekers. *Can I Wear My Nose Ring to the Interview?* takes readers step-by-step through a process that was always tough, but is today especially challenging. Begin the search with a professional mind-set—get organized, and set yourself up with business cards, a respectable e-mail address, and a working cell phone. The importance of networking and the rule of three—try to make three e-mails or phone calls a day, but never more than that. The "elevator speech"—hone your pitch to the length of an elevator ride and be prepared to use it at the most unexpected times. The art of writing cringe-free cover letters and killer résumés—from timelines, hooks, and grammatical do's and don'ts to why you should never use the phrase "References available upon request," never include your GPA, and never, ever make a typo. How to dress for an interview, including why to put on your business clothes when interviewing at home, over the phone. Things to be honest about: citizenship and past salary range. And things not to say: "I want this job because I need health insurance." Then once you're in, how to negotiate salary, what to expect in a review, and basic first job common sense: take initiative, be humble and helpful, never use your boss as a confidant, and always say "I'll find out" instead of "I don't know." Now you're on your way.

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Customer Reviews

I read this book in anticipation of hearing Ellen lecture about her book and finding a place in the job market. Little did I know that not only would this book be a key tool in securing a job, it also gave me the courage to negotiate the salary that was being offered up by 7%; needless to say in a recession and the lack of courage I thought I had in myself this is nothing short of a miracle. One important element in this book is self-confidence which is easier to talk about than being able to portray to a stranger in a high pressure situation. But what CAN I WEAR MY NOSE RING...accomplishes is to rationally break down everything you need to know into bite-sized pieces so that everything is digestible from the get-go, so it when it comes to actually applying that knowledge, you're more prepared for a job interview (or any tense situation really) than you could possibly imagine. TRUE STORY: After several rounds of job interviews, I received a phone call while sitting in a Starbucks from a lovely woman in Human Resources offering me the position. The only thing I can recall was being stunned--she kept talking but I didn't hear a word she said after "We'd like to offer you the position". It was between complete excitement and awe that I found myself thinking, "Okay, what's the next step?" In Ellen's book she says to graciously thank the person who offers you the job and politely ask them if they may send you an email that in detail, outlines the entire offer and includes a salary offer, requirements of the position and benefits. You're asking for this information because you need time to consider the offer. After I said this, the human resource rep was stunned for a moment, surprised that I had even thought of this, and said absolutely.

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