

Looking for the positives

If you had an excellent interview but didn't get the job it doesn't necessarily mean you weren't good enough and should set your sights lower. Many factors contribute to the hirer's decision and if the successful candidate had slightly more relevant experience than you, that's probably what secured them the job. Interviewing is a learning curve; you should be tailoring your CV to each role, even if they are very similar, so that your most relevant skills and experience are the most prominent.

Ask yourself these questions and think about what it was that compromised your success:

- **Did I show enthusiasm for the role and the prospect of working for the organisation?**

If the hirer gets the impression you don't know much about the company or care what the role involves, then they're not likely to consider you, even if you are qualified for the job.

- **Was I properly prepared?**

If the interviewer asked you questions that you

couldn't answer, you now know what areas you need to practise and improve on.

- **How was my communication and body language?**

If it's possible that you came across in the interview as closed and uncommunicative then perhaps you're not feeling very confident. Work on your composure and practise answering questions with clear, concise responses.

Some interviewers provide feedback to candidates after the interview and you should take on board what they say. Even though you



were unsuccessful this time, you can probably highlight where you went wrong and rectify these mistakes for your next interview.

If you're interviewing for a role in a very competitive field don't be disheartened if you're met with more than one rejection. Every interview is good practice and you should learn something each time. Even being called in for an interview is a positive step. **PG**

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