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# Getting ready for Round 2

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**SHARLENE:** I am going for a second interview with a company, and I really want the job.

I am nervous because I have had several interviews and second interviews, but I am just not getting an offer.

Am I ruining it somehow in the second interview?

Can you give me some advice on what to say or do so I get this job, or is there anything I should be avoiding?

Help! What am I doing wrong?

CONFUSED JOB SEEKER

**DEAR CONFUSED JOB SEEKER:** Interviews are daunting, even if the job is crappy and you don't want it, the term interview can be as nerve-racking as speaking in public.

First of all, if you are getting the interview, your resumé is great. Give yourself a big checkmark for that.

Secondly, if you are getting the second interview, give yourself another check.

So, there could be a few



Ask Sharlene

things happening in the second interview.

Simply speaking, you could be wrong for the job!

The employer is looking for someone who can do the job and is going to be a good fit with the corporate culture.

If the interviewer determines you are not a fit, then so be it, you are not the fit, good thing he or she figured that out in the second interview and not after you started the job!

That is the purpose of the second interview, so don't take it personally, not every job is perfect for every person.

Another thought is that perhaps you are being too relaxed or too stiff in the second inter-

view. The key is to be honest and be you, without being too concerned about giving the right answers.

You should never second guess your answers, or try to figure out what the interviewer is looking for.

On the flip side, maybe you become too comfortable in a second interview and might even do something that is turning the interviewer or supervisor off, such as swearing, smelling like smoke, or perhaps dressing too casually.

You may not realize that you have a nervous habit, such as clicking a pen or tapping your foot, which may become more irritating in a second interview, but was overlooked in the first interview.

I would suggest that you role play interview situations and questions with someone you know who will be honest and critical without being hurtful, like a good friend or family member.

The only other thing that

might help is for you to research the company, the vision and the position thoroughly before you go to a second interview.

You certainly should have some idea about what is to be expected of you by the second interview.

But be ready with some good in-depth questions for the interviewer and show you have looked into the organization and you understand the role.

If you do all of this and are still unsuccessful, ask the interviewer for feedback on your interviews to help you to improve, and rectify for the next round.

Sharlene Massie is the CEO of About Staffing Ltd., a dynamic personnel agency specializing in direct-hire and temporary placements. Questions for Sharlene? Visit the About Staffing website at [www.aboutstaffing.com](http://www.aboutstaffing.com), and click on the link under the Sun logo. This article may be reproduced or transmitted if done so in its entirety, including this copyright line: Copyright 2012, by About Staffing Ltd., all rights reserved.

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Please forward your resumé to [vbory@tri-venture.net](mailto:vbory@tri-venture.net) by October 30, 2012

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