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How Do I Prepare for a College Interview?

In short, there's only thing you need to do: research.

1. **You are applying to that school for a reason, so be ready to discuss your reasons.** If you don't know much about the school and are just applying because mom/dad told you to, you have a family legacy, etc. you need to develop a deeper understanding of what the school has to offer.
2. Next, **think about why those reasons make the school a good personal fit.** What are your goals? How will attending that school help you reach your goals?
3. Finally, the interview is a fantastic opportunity to get your questions answered. **Prepare for the interview by developing thoughtful questions.** When else do you have an opportunity to have a representative's undivided attention? Make sure you take advantage of it! You want the interviewee to remember you for your thoughtful questions and deep engagement in the conversation.

Here are some other practical tips:

- Practice, practice, practice. Practice with a friend, in front of the mirror, with a parent, etc.
- Dress well.
- Research the interviewer. Perhaps he/she attended the same school as you parent. This could be a great ice breaker.



Want to Learn More?

For tips on how to answer common interview questions, see that section under Interview resources.