

The Importance of Appreciation: How and Why to Follow Up With Employers After an Interview

Displaying both motivation and good manners is critical when you're on the job hunt. Ninety-one percent of managers in an [Accountemps survey](#) said it's helpful for job candidates to share their appreciation after an interview.

In a follow-up question, 87 percent of those polled said email is an appropriate way to express thanks, while 81 percent said a phone call was acceptable. Less popular approaches included a handwritten note (38 percent), social media (27 percent) and text message (10 percent).

Here are some tips on following up with finesse:

Keep it short and sweet. Limit your note to a focused and personalized paragraph or two, or a few minutes on the phone. Express your appreciation, but also succinctly reassert your strong interest in the job and reiterate your most relevant selling points. Show your engagement by referencing something specific you and the interviewer talked about.

Strike while the iron is still hot. Regardless of which medium you choose, touch base within 24 to 48 hours of your interview while the details of your conversation are still fresh in the interviewer's mind.

Thank them all. Many companies involve multiple team members in the interview process. If you interviewed with several people, it's best to follow up by phone with your main contact, likely the hiring manager. But consider sending a thank-you card or email to each individual you met with. You never know who could wield significant influence in the hiring decision.

Don't go overboard. No matter how much you want the position, don't be a pest. Follow up once and then back off. Repeatedly calling or writing won't likely help your cause. The hiring process can drag on for any number of reasons, so it pays to be polite and patient.

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