

## Male Uniform Standards



Your image is very important while looking for a job and after you are hired or contracted. Often, you are the first company representative the clients (passengers) will interact with, so how you present yourself will have a lasting impression.

Many flight operations have established uniform standards and guidelines and/or provide uniforms for employees. Independent contractors typically are given compliancy guidelines such as suit color, dress shirt color, if beards are allowed, etc.

If you have not been provided with any guidelines, it is recommended to always lean towards the conservative side, rather than the high-fashionable side. A classic dark colored suit is always a winner.

Your most important purchase will be a suit of quality. However, it doesn't have to be expensive ... just look expensive. Remember, even though this is a business suit, it's still a "uniform" and stains, spills and tears can happen. The keys are high quality fabric and comfort.



## The Suit

Your most important purchase will be a suit of quality. However, it doesn't have to be expensive ... just look expensive. Remember, even though this is a suit, it's still a "uniform" and stains, spills and tears can happen. Natural fibers are the best including wool, silk and tweed. These fabrics hold shape much longer than synthetics. Again, as with women's professional attire, the patterns should be plain and in conservative colors.

Recommended Colors:  
Choose Black, Navy Blue or Charcoal.

Make sure the trouser legs are long enough to cover the tops of your shoes. This is referred to in the men's attire industry as a "break".

Jacket sleeves should be long enough to extend over your wrists.

## Dress Shirts

The best shirts for traveling are drip dry or wrinkle free. They should be starched and pressed with all the buttons attached. Avoid loud colors and patterned shirts. Crisp white or light muted colors are recommended.

Wear only long sleeved dress shirts unless otherwise informed. Never roll your sleeves up during service - leave them buttoned and cuffs in place.



## Neck Tie

When purchasing a tie, make sure it is of the finest quality and blends with the colors you are wearing. It should be long enough to reach your belt and may be worn with a small tie-tack. Avoid wearing a bow-tie unless it is company policy, or required for a formal occasion. It's best to keep the style and colors more towards the conservative to subtle style, avoiding being attention grabbing patterns and colors.

## Vest (Waistcoat)

Basically, your vest should match - or at least flow cohesively with - your suit jacket and trousers. Most men prefer to wear a vest in the same color as the rest of their suit. Waistcoats have buttons down the front and you should always button them up, except for the bottom button. Traditionally, the bottom button is left undone and it's usually considered a fashion faux pas if you wear the vest otherwise.

## Belts

Belts should be either plain black or brown leather and of a slim width. The belt buckle should be gold or silver and a small profile. Save the Cowboy belts for your overnight. Remember, belts (if visible) are at client level while they are seated, they should be in pristine condition and not scratched or worn in appearance.

## Shoes & Socks

Shoes should be leather and either black or brown. They should be highly polished and free of scuff marks. It's recommended that you carry a traveler's shoe polish kit in your tote bag for last minute touch ups. Boots are not recommended, unless otherwise directed.

Socks should always be worn with suits and trousers no matter what the movie stars and fashionistas dictate. Dark colors are preferred so they match your suit pants or slacks and be long enough to cover your visible leg when you sit down.

## Underwear

Boxers, briefs, boxer briefs - your call. Cotton is the best choice for underwear and is suitable for most climates.

## Jewelry

Men's jewelry should be kept to a minimum. Wedding bands, rings, watches, aviation lapel pins and tie tacks are all acceptable. The majority of flight departments are very conservative regarding attire. Therefore, if you have a pierced ear or ears, it's recommended to inquire if this is acceptable or remove the earring(s) while working.

Any other visible piercings should be removed.

## Hygiene

You must shower or bathe everyday and there is no exception to this rule! Don't forget you are going to be sharing a tiny cabin with a number of passengers and crew possibly for hours. Your hair should be neatly trimmed, likewise your beard or mustache (if applicable).

Avoid fragrant aftershave lotions or colognes as the aromas from these can be distressing or allergic to passengers. Your teeth should also be clean and white and without visible defects.