Bragging vs. Promotion: How to not sound arrogant in an interview

Everybody has that friend whose favorite topic is themselves. You’re probably thinking about that person right now, aren’t you?

In the job interview process, you will inevitably be asked to talk about your strengths, and it's important to do so without sounding arrogant or annoying -- yes, it's possible, so pass this on to THAT friend. Understanding how to pitch yourself will also be valuable during performance reviews and check-ins with your employer. Your supervisor needs to know what you bring to the company. Here are a few tips to help...
you promote yourself without bragging:

1. **Don't compare yourself to others -- emphasize your own accomplishments.** Even if you've done better work than your colleagues, talk about how you've exceeded your own goals or surpassed your own numbers from the previous year (if you're participating in a yearly review). This will exhibit personal growth, rather than arrogance in putting your coworkers or classmates down.

2. **Share your ideas.** When interviewing, a potential employer might ask what skills you have from which his/her company could benefit. If you have adequately researched the business, take the initiative to share how you could improve a process, add a service, or solve a problem. This shows your employer that you are invested in the company long-term and that your skills are worth their time and money.

3. **It's okay to have an opinion.** Though arrogance is often associated with having a strong opinion, don't be afraid to use your voice. Observation is a valuable quality in an employee -- and your employer will recognize that. If he/she asks "how you feel" about a topic, pause for a moment and tactfully express your opinion. There are always improvements that can be made, so rather than declining response because the company/problem/environment is "perfect," speak your mind -- just do so in a gracious and humble way.

For more great suggestions, visit [Vault!](https://www.vault.com/)

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**Upcoming Events**

**Info Sessions**

**Workshops**
BMO Capital Markets - 2018 Summer Analyst Information Session
Monday, April 17
4:00 pm, Huff House 107
Join BMO at Huff House for their Investment Banking information session. It will be a great opportunity to learn more about BMO, the energy group, and the upcoming fall recruiting season. Rising Juniors and Seniors (current Sophomores and Juniors) from all majors are welcome to attend. RSVP.

Citi Investment Banking 101
Monday, April 17
6:00 pm, Huff House 107
Join representatives from Citi’s Investment Banking team to learn more about their Investment Banking Summer Analyst Program in Houston’s Global Energy Group. Their goal is to provide a 101 on analyst programs and internships and answer any questions you have about the industry or the recruiting process. Food will be provided. They look forward to seeing you there. RSVP.

Credit Suisse Information Session
Wednesday, April 19
4:00 pm, Sewall 307
Info session for students interested in Oil & Gas investment banking. Members from the Credit Suisse Houston office will be on campus to discuss jobs in the investment banking industry and go over career opportunities in the space. RSVP.

Ace the Case – Bain & Company
Thursday, April 20
7:00 pm, Humanities 117
Join Rice Business Society and Bain & Company for a presentation on mastering the case interview process, including a discussion on how to prepare and excel, as well as an interactive practice case. RSVP.

National Book Awards Festival
Monday, April 24
7:00 pm, Sam Houston State University (LSC Ballroom)
Rep. John Lewis, American Civil Rights Movement icon, to visit SHSU with his co-authors, Andrew Aydin and Nate Powell, of the graphic trilogy, March: Book Three National Book Awards Festival at SHSU. Register for Free Tickets HERE.

Jobs and Internships
Unique opportunities you might not find in Handshake

The NSF I-Corps Regional Program at Rice University will be held Tuesday, April 25 through Friday, May 5. Rice University is offering a regional NSF I-Corps program to facilitate the commercial evaluation of academic research and innovation, and develop potentially eligible teams for the national NSF I-Corps program and a $50,000 I-Corps team grant. Over nine teams will be introduced to the fundamental I-Corps principles, helping teams explore the potential value of their research or innovation, and quickly and effectively validate their commercialization strategy. Benefits of Participation: develop entrepreneurial skills, improve odds for commercial success, validate your business model, establish product-market fit, achieve eligibility to apply for $50,000 I-Corps team grant. Learn more or apply.
Deadline: April 19, 2017
Cluster: Arts, Communications, and Entertainment
Summer 2017 Design and Digital Internship (The Foundation for Defense of
Democracies, a Washington, DC Think Tank)
The Design and Digital Team is seeking a full-time intern for the summer. This hybrid position focuses on: 1). Graphic design work for print, web, and motion graphics to support organizational research and policy expressed through reports, policy briefs, congressional testimony, and events. Design products include infographics, books, animations, FDD branding materials, media kits, brochures, etc. 2). The position also focuses on the development of social media content and its corresponding strategy, hands on assistance with audio/visual production (in support of organizational podcasts, and broadcasted FDD events and T.V appearances), as well as photography, website editing, and website development. Learn more or apply here.
Deadline: April 17, 2017
Cluster: Arts, Communication, and entertainment / Public Policy, Government, and Law

Financial Advisor (AXA Advisors New York)
Become a financial professional with AXA Advisors, LLC. To qualify, you should have a strong business background and a personal history of success. You should be a self-starter, possess unequivocal honesty and integrity and be highly motivated in helping others achieve financial independence. Learn more or apply here.
Deadline: April 20, 2017
Cluster: Finance, Consulting, and Enterprise

Physician Office Assistant (Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, New York)
In this role, you will use your strong customer service and multi-tasking abilities to support a practice by providing administrative support to the clinical team. You ensure patients are assisted in a timely and courteous manner by functioning as the primary contact for the practice where you are responsible for scheduling patients tests, appointments, and procedures. You will update and maintain the electronic medical records (EMR), coordinate with clinical staff, and submit information to payers for pre-certification approvals. This role will prepare you for a successful career and allow you to follow a variety of paths within the Center. Learn more or apply here.
Deadline: April 16, 2017
Cluster: Sciences and Health

Private Equity Research and Marketing Intern
Hastings Equity Partners is a private equity firm with offices in Houston and Boston focused on investing in lower, middle-market businesses in the energy sector. The Intern will be responsible for directly supporting Hastings business development activities with all tasks associated with company and intermediary specific research and marketing. The role also has the possibility of starting prior to the end of the school year and carrying over into the following semester on a part-time basis. Learn more or apply here.
Deadline: April 21, 2017
Cluster: Finance, Consulting, and Enterprise
DOG: I think that job interview went well!
*looks in mirror and sees ear was inside out the whole time*

Son of a