

The Brand Called YOU Branding Yourself for the Interview

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"It's not enough to be the best at what you do, you've got to be the *only one* that does what you do."

-Author?

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A brand should be memorable.









If you can't communicate what makes you different, you've got a big problem.

To be remembered after the interview you have to stand out during the interview.





"Each job seeker is a distinctive brand; the combination of her skills, experience and education. To successfully land a position, the job seeker must advertise his or her product and tailor it to needs of the prospective employer. The key is making one's brand relevant."

-The Power of Branding, Jennifer Sullivan, <u>CareerBuilder.com</u>

Starting now you are no longer defined by just your degree or job description.

Consider the possibility that <u>you are a</u> <u>brand</u> – where the promise of hiring you offers something as unique as McDonald's, Monster, Apple or Amazon.

Just as companies brand themselves for consumers, you can brand yourself to show why YOU offer a superior product versus the competition. Marketers call this "product positioning."

When you have the opportunity to communicate your skills, what will <u>you</u> be remembered for?



COMMUNICATIONS BRIEF

*This brief should guide all brand communications.
Why are we communicating?
To get hired!
Who is our audience?
What do they currently think?
What would we like them to think?
What is the single most persuasive idea we can convey?
Why should they believe it?



1. Get To Know Your Customer

Candidates who demonstrate knowledge of a company and the specific position being offered, in resumes, cover letters and interviews tend to get noticed.

Websites, industry sources and social pages of key hiring managers help you customize your efforts.

2. Get Your Customer to Know YOU

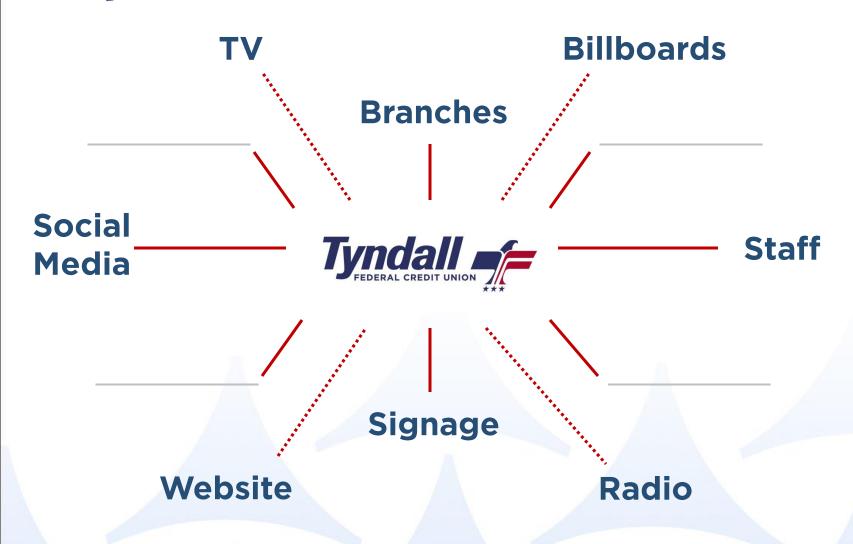
Promote your product. How do your skills, experience and education make you a better fit for the employer than those you are competing with?

Create a Communications Brief for Brand YOU.

3. Interview Tips

- Hand over a resume.
- Start with a question, not an answer.
- Try to limit your responses to 30 seconds. Never talk longer than 2 minutes.
- Present yourself appropriately for the position.
- Follow up, fast.

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