

## 5 Tips for a Great Interview

### 1. Plan Your Questions

Create a list of guiding questions and share them with your partner before recording. Don't confine yourself to this list, though; let the conversation flow naturally. Start with some simple warm-up questions ("How long have we known each other?" "Where did you first meet \_\_\_\_?") and keep your questions open-ended (avoid "yes" or "no" answers). Listen attentively and ask follow-up questions.

### 2. Relax and Be Yourself

Treat the interview as an opportunity for you and your partner to reflect on the important moments or people in your lives. There's no right or wrong thing to talk about. Be curious, attentive, and respectful. Keep it casual and let the conversation guide you.

### 3. Make It a Meaningful Conversation

Avoid treating your guiding questions as a script. Follow threads that may seem off-topic if they interest you. Enjoy yourself and get the most out of the conversation with your partner—your listeners will, too.

### 4. Contextualize

Keep in mind that listeners may not be familiar with the people, places, or events mentioned by you or your partner. Add context where needed. For example, if a colleague is brought up, you could clarify, "For listeners who aren't familiar, our colleague \_\_\_\_ is a surgeon specializing in \_\_\_\_ and we have known them for \_\_\_\_ years...."

### 5. Encourage Reflection

As your conversation is winding down, ask your partner reflective questions that draw upon the topics already discussed. Questions like, "What advice would you give to someone in a similar situation?" or "Looking back now, is there anything you would do differently?" open the floor for reflection and a deeper connection and provide a natural end point for the interview.

