

Wayfair Data Engineer Interview Guide – Experienced 3+

Round 1: Online Assessment (Hackerrank)

This round was conducted on Hackerrank and focused on coding and SQL skills.

- **Key Takeaways:**

- Understand SQL concepts thoroughly, including joins, aggregations, and window functions.
- Practice coding challenges that emphasize logic building and data manipulation.

Round 2: Technical (Coding and SQL)

SQL Query: Unique User Sessions

- **Scenario:** Write a query to identify unique user sessions.
- **Table Schema:**
 - user_id
 - start_timestamp
 - end_timestamp

SQL Query: Transaction and Product Analysis

- **Tables Provided:**
 - Transactions: Contains product_id, user_id, and sale_timestamp.
 - Products: Contains product_id and product_name.

Tasks and Query Solutions:

1. **First Transaction:**

Retrieve the earliest sale_timestamp for each product.

```
SELECT
    p.product_id,
    p.product_name,
    MIN(t.sale_timestamp) AS first_transaction
FROM Products p
JOIN Transactions t ON p.product_id = t.product_id
GROUP BY p.product_id, p.product_name;
```

2. Latest Transaction:

Retrieve the most recent sale_timestamp for each product.

```
SELECT
    p.product_id,
    p.product_name,
    MAX(t.sale_timestamp) AS latest_transaction
FROM Products p
JOIN Transactions t ON p.product_id = t.product_id
GROUP BY p.product_id, p.product_name;
```

3. Total Units Sold:

Calculate the total number of transactions (units sold) for each product.

```
SELECT
    p.product_id,
    p.product_name,
    COUNT(t.sale_timestamp) AS total_units_sold
FROM Products p
JOIN Transactions t ON p.product_id = t.product_id
GROUP BY p.product_id, p.product_name;
```

Round 3: Design Round

Core Objective

Design a structure (data model) that allows efficient querying of movies based on multiple search criteria such as:

- Movie title
- Genre
- Actor
- Director

Additionally, the system should:

1. **Support scalability:** Be flexible enough to add new search keys (e.g., studio, language) in the future.
2. **Optimize querying:** Enable efficient searches without significant performance bottlenecks.

Key Tasks

1. Identify the Main Entities:

- Movies
- Genres
- Actors
- Directors

2. Establish Relationships Between Entities:

- A movie can have multiple genres, actors, and directors (many-to-many relationships).
- These relationships will require link tables to map movies with their associated genres, actors, and directors.

3. Define the Goal of the Data Model:

- Design tables that store data logically and allow fast retrieval of information.
- Handle scalability so the system can accommodate additional search keys or attributes (e.g., studio, country).

4. Support Efficient Search Operations:

- Ensure users can query movies using one or more criteria (e.g., "Find all Sci-Fi movies directed by Christopher Nolan").
- Include indexing and relationship management for performance optimization.

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<https://www.glassdoor.co.in/Reviews/Wayfair-Reviews-E134525.htm>

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