



Preparing for your Rubrik Interview

Congratulations for making it to the onsite/phone screening rounds at Rubrik. We appreciate your interest in Rubrik. Below is some information about us, our core values, and some tips you may find helpful in preparing for your interviews at Rubrik

About Rubrik

Rubrik delivers instant application availability with data protection, search, analytics, archival and copy data management in the Hybrid Cloud. Enterprises benefit from Rubrik's market-leading Cloud Data Management platform with simplicity, instant data access, app mobility, policy-driven automation, ransomware protection, and analytics at scale

At Rubrik, you'll work with a world-class team that has built products like Google Search and Maps, YouTube, Facebook and Apple iOS.

Here are some links that will give you an idea about engineering at Rubrik and the product itself:

[An introduction to Rubrik](#)

[Architecture Blog](#)

[Rubrik Inc. on Medium](#)

[Introducing Rubrik Polaris SaaS Platform. A Unified System of Record.](#)

Rubrik Core Values

Culture can make or break a company and is core to its success. At Rubrik we value the culture that has been created. We have a high standard for excellence as we build a community of talented people who individually inspire leadership and collaboratively share ideas with each other. The secret to our success is the way we work together to exemplify our core values: RIVET.

- **Relentlessness:** Never give up. Solve the hardest problem by taking risks.
- **Integrity:** Be honest. Do what you say, and say what you do - even when no one is watching.

- **Velocity:** Move fast. Move quickly and decisively to conquer challenges. Actions are louder than words.
- **Excellence:** Be your best. Do your life's best work and leave your mark.
- **Transparency:** Be open. Share information to drive smarter decisions and engender trust.

Interviewing at Rubrik

Interview Process

- You will have 1-2 phone screens followed by up to four rounds of on-site interviews
- Each round will focus on one or more of the following core competencies:
 - Algorithms & Data Structures
 - Problem solving
 - Systems basics
 - Coding/testing skills
- The phone screen is a one hour talk with a potential coworker. Bulk of the time will be spent doing coding exercises in a collaborative editor. You can use this opportunity to ask anything about Rubrik that you are curious to know.
- The on-site rounds are typically one hour long. The interviewer may talk to you about interesting things on your resume, skills, motivation etc. Each round will typically require you to code in an editor or on the whiteboard.
- For coding exercises, you can use the language of your choice. However, C++ and Java/Scala are preferred. In general, most interviewers prefer languages that support threads and better yet, provide a memory model, because those two things make it easy to talk in common terms without overuse of pseudocode and additional assumptions.
- You will typically not be asked puzzles or problems which require a trick. The exercises will test computer science fundamentals, your ability to write efficient algorithms, make profitable trade-offs, effectively problem solve and think about edge cases.
- Example problem for algorithms round: Implement a function to insert a node in a left complete binary tree. While a linear solution may be a good starting point, you may be asked to think about finding a more optimal approach and perform time/space complexity analysis for the same
- In a Systems basics round, expect to be tested on building blocks of program execution, such as multi-threading, synchronization primitives, scheduling, memory, IO, time keeping etc. Example problem: Implement a thread-safe data structure which can keep track of number of incoming requests grouped by IP Address over a time window. Add support for grouping by other attributes such as BrowserAgent.

Interview Tips and How to Prepare

- Review your Computer Science fundamentals- time and space complexity analysis, sorting, searching, hash-tables, graphs etc.
- Know about processes, threads and concurrency. Review your operating system and system architecture concepts – condition variables, semaphores, mutexes, memory, IO, scheduling,

time-keeping, caches etc. Know how to use synchronization primitives in your favorite programming language.

- Prepare for the coding interviews by practicing interview-style coding questions in a timed way.
- During the interview, ask questions if you don't understand some aspect of the question. Interviewers often keep the questions vague on purpose.
- For coding questions, produce clean, efficient code in reasonable amounts of time. You may be asked to solve a programming problem in an editor or on the whiteboard, do let the interviewer know if you prefer one over the other.
- State your assumptions and invariants. Break down the problem and make progress by attacking the parts.
- While answering questions, try to keep the problem at the center of your thought process. Using known patterns or adapting one to the problem is encouraged so long as it doesn't require force fitting. If you are unable to find a natural fit, prefer thinking from scratch.
- Expect to be asked questions about your current and previous projects, and technologies listed on your resume.
- Having good test cases to reinforce the correctness of your code is extremely desirable.