

Jobs

Career Advice

Recruitment Solutions

About Us

Work For Us

Contact Us

All locations

Search for jobs

7 killer interview questions



While no two job interviews will follow the exact same format, there are some questions that are very popular among employers when screening potential candidates.

By preparing confident answers to some of the more common interview questions, you can give yourself the edge over other potential candidates.

blue background
Get up a targeted
job alert ►

More career advice

Blue-
Escalator

Finding the right job
for you

women-
computer

Tips for Skype
interviews

How to resign
professionally

The complete
interview guide

Jobs



Career Advice



Recruitment Solutions



About Us

Work For Us

Contact Us



Show that you have the ambition and determination to make the most of every job you have held to get where you want to be.

Always relate this back to the position you're interviewing for and be realistic in terms of your aspirations. Avoid telling the interviewer that you want their job.

What are your strengths/weaknesses?

This question is often seen as challenging by many candidates, even those with significant experience. However, if approached correctly it is easily possible to avoid 'bragging' when discussing your strengths or seeming excessively negative when talking about your perceived weaknesses.

Strengths

Based on the job description, choose three examples of traits the employer is looking for and give examples of how you have used these strengths in a work situation. Ideally, include a mixture of tangible skills, such as technical or linguistic abilities, and intangible skills, such as management experience.

Weaknesses

The best approach here is to pick a trait that you have already made positive steps to address.

"Consider how you have approached your perceived weaknesses in the past and what you have done to address them," commented

Jobs



Career Advice



Recruitment Solutions



About Us

Work For Us

Contact Us



"The job description should give you a good indication of what they are looking for," added Janine Blacksley.

"Make sure you address the particular qualities the employer has stated they are looking for and provide specific examples of what you have done so far in your career that demonstrates how you are particularly suited for the role."

Tell me about yourself / your work experience

This is usually the opening question for most interviews and can be one of the most important. First impressions are key, so keep it brief – know your CV inside out and focus on delivering a one to two minute advertisement for yourself, highlighting the key achievements in your employment history. Know what you want to say and how you are going to say it beforehand.

"Begin your answer with an overview of your highest qualification then run through the jobs you've held so far in your career," added Janine Blacksley.

"You can follow the same structure as your CV, giving examples of achievements and the skills you've picked up along the way. Don't go into too much detail - your interviewer will ask you to expand on any areas where they'd like more information."

Why do you want this job?

Jobs



Career Advice



Recruitment Solutions



About Us

Work For Us

Contact Us



What are your salary expectations?

While you should never mention salary unless asked or prompted, it's important to understand the value of someone with your skills. Be flexible - indicate that you are willing to negotiate for the right opportunity and confirm that you value the position strongly.

"All too often, problems arise from pricing yourself out of the position or stating a figure less than the company is willing to pay. If a guideline salary has been provided with the job description, you could mention this and say it's around the amount you're looking for," Janine Blacksley continued.

What skills or experience do you offer that will help you succeed in this role?

You should use the interview as an opportunity to say something interesting about your skills and experiences that relate back to the role at hand. Remember that interviewers will be looking for you to demonstrate key skills, so prepare examples in advance that you can call on when required.

Examples of the key attributes employers look for include:

- Project management skills
- Problem solving
- Managing stakeholders
- Demonstrating sound technical knowledge, backed up by good business understanding

Jobs

Career Advice

Recruitment Solutions

About Us

Work For Us

Contact Us

inside out and focus on delivering a one to two minute advertisement of yourself.

Share this:



Negotiate a
higher salary ▶

Are you earning your
full potential? ▶

More career
advice ▶

Latest jobs



BNP PARIBAS

Head of Credit Risk
Up to £80,000 + Excellent benefits
Solihull

[Jobs](#)

[Career Advice](#)

[Recruitment Solutions](#)

[About Us](#)

[Work For Us](#)

[Contact Us](#)



Azure DevOps engineer (with Azure AD B2C & Sentine
£500-560 per day Outside IR35
Fully Remote



Technical Resourcing/Recruitment Specialist
£400 - £450 per day
London

[Sitemap](#)

[Key Content](#)

[Offices](#)

[Locations we operate in](#)

[Home](#)

[Investors](#)

[London \(Head](#)

[Africa](#)

Jobs



Career Advice



Recruitment Solutions




About Us

Work For Us

Contact Us

 Instagram

logo in grey

 Glassdoor

Logo

Malaysia



Mexico

Middle East

New Zealand

Philippines

Portugal

Singapore

South Africa

South Korea

Spain

Switzerland

Taiwan

Thailand

The Netherlands

United Kingdom

United States

Vietnam