Job Interviews

What to expect in Facebook iOS Engineer interview

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May 11

I had my phone screen last week and I'm waiting to hear back. I'm preparing for a round of onsite interviews, in case I get called back. I'm kind of lost and don't really know where to start. I'm looking for some guidance on how to prepare for my potential upcoming interviews. Any advice would go a long way.

Engineer   Interview Process   System Design   Computer Science   Interview tips

Questions

1. Should I expect questions regarding general CS knowledge, my work experience or system design?

   50 words minimum.

2. For preparation, what should I begin with? Any tips?

   50 words minimum.

1 Answer

E egxp07   Facebook
May 12

+ Ask

1. Should I expect questions regarding general CS knowledge, my work experience or system design?

   You should be prepared for all of them. You need to know how to solve basic algorithm problems, and also need to know how to explain it to the interviewer while writing the code. On behavior interviews, the interviewer will ask about your previous work so you should be prepared.

2. For preparation, what should I begin with? Any tips?

   First of all, you have to know about the area you are applying for. For iOS, you have to be familiar with the language(ObjC or Swift), an apps life cycle(UIAppDelegate), delegation, protocols, GCD, ARC, etc.

   Once you are familiar with your focus area, try practicing actual problem solving. There are lots of sites that helps

you train these skills, but for me I used Leetcode. I don't think you need to try out the paid exercises such as company specific questions. Just try some easy, medium questions until you get familiar with it, and then try out some hard questions. We normally don't ask hard questions so if you can't solve it it's totally fine.

Facebook uses whiteboards instead of laptops so you should be familiar with writing code on a whiteboard. We will all die without auto completion so don't worry if you don't know the exact name of the method, just tell the interviewer about the method you are trying to use.

We are NOT finding someone who already knows the best way to solve a question. We want to see how you approach the question. So while writing on the whiteboard, you must talk what you are thinking. Say you need to solve 'A'. You could say something like, "I'm thinking about using 'B' technique here, but in this case side effect 'C' could happen. But I'll approach with 'B' and tackle with 'C' later".

For behavior questions, google something like "Tech behavior questions" and check out the questions. Write down your thoughts about the questions. Don't try to memorize your answers, but try to be familiar with the question so when the interviewer asks the question you can say how you think about it without hesitation.

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I appreciate the insight! This was my first time interviewing with Facebook so it was helpful having this information. I'm still waiting to hear back but I feel good about how I did.

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