

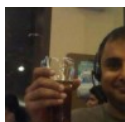
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75 Important Tableau Interview Questions and Answers in 2021

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professionals, everyone has found an application for Tableau in their field. Tableau is used most widely in the field of consulting and business management, and several of the most descriptive graphs that are now showcased publicly are made using Tableau. Tableau has a humongous market share among business intelligence software, and this share has been on the ascendant for some time now.



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The primary advantage that Tableau provides to its users is its ease of handling. Most domestic users have been using software such as Microsoft Excel and other parts of the Microsoft Office suite to create graphs and other pictorial representations for decades. This is because making graphs in this software is no more difficult than the simple click of a button. With Tableau, users get not just an easy way to create graphs and other pictorial representations, but these representations are also much better and more descriptive. You also get to get into the nitty-gritty of how these pictures are made and customize them as per your need.



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for an interview for the role of a data scientist or any similar position, you might need to go through resources such as tableau scenario-based interview questions and answers and other tableau interview questions for preparation. Here are some of the major tableau interview questions and answers you are likely to come across.



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1. TABLEAU INTERVIEW QUESTIONS FOR EXPERIENCED



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1. What are data types? What data types does Tableau support?

Data types refer to the kind of data that a user can enter into Tableau as an input. Each data type is treated differently by Tableau, and the data type of a field decides the operations that can be conducted on it.

The data types supported by Tableau are:

Text

Date

Date and Time

Numerical

Boolean

Geographical



1. What are the dimensions and measures in Tableau?



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1. What is Discrete and Continuous in Tableau?

In Tableau, a Discrete dimension or measure is one in which each entry is treated as separate and different from the other entities. Product Names, Countries, etc., are examples of discrete dimensions. On the other hand, a Continuous dimension or measure is one that is treated as a part of a series. This includes dimensions such as Dates and Years.



1. What are Filters in Tableau?

In Tableau, filters can be used to restrict the amount of data that you can view at any point in time or the amount of data that you include in your analysis. For example, if you contain ten years' worth of profit data for your company but want to show only the last three years, you can use a Filter to ensure the same.

1. What are the different filters that can be used in Tableau?



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[Context Filters](#)[Extract Filters](#)[Data Source Filters](#)[Table Calculation Filters](#)

1. What is joining in Tableau?

When working with data, it is very seldom that we have to deal with only one data set. Often, the same data can be distributed across two or more datasets, and you might need to merge or take an intersection of the datasets in order to facilitate their analysis. This activity is known as Joining.

1. What are the different types of Joins in Tableau?

The different types of Joins in Tableau as follows:



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Outer: In the final table, all values from both tables are included, and the matches are merged.

Union: In this, a simple union is done, and the values of one table are appended to another.

1. Compare Blending and Joining in Tableau.

The primary difference between Blending and Joining in Tableau arises from the source of the data. In Joining, data will typically emanate from the same source, such as two Excel worksheets. The data will have the same dimensions and measures regardless of where it comes from. On the other hand, in Blending, the data will have different sources. When data from an SQL server is to be combined with data from an Excel sheet, it is termed as Blending. The dimensions and measures in both data sources may be different.

1. What is the difference between an Extract and a Live Connection?

An Extract reflects the part of the data source that was added to Tableau at the time that it was added. If a change has been made to the data source after its addition to Tableau, this change will not be reflected. A Live Connection represents the data source as it is at present, and all changes in the original data source will be reflected in Tableau as well.





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2) TABLEAU DEVELOPER INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

Tableau developers are a recent position that several companies have created. The existence of this position is a testament to the huge role that Tableau has begun to play in businesses in various domains. If you are appearing for the role of a Tableau developer, let us look at some Tableau developer interview questions.



1. What are Groups in Tableau?

A Group in Tableau is a collection of categories that can be used to create a single overarching subcategory. An example can be considered from the Superstore data set, in which several different product subcategories are present. You can create a group of any number of these subcategories and create a single category for analysis.

1. What are Sets in Tableau?

A Set is similar to a group but deals with the output rather than the input. A Set is a collection of the output values associated with a particular category or group of categories. In the superstore



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A Parameter is a dynamic value that saves you the inconvenience of having to change your filter repeatedly. You can create a Parameter in place of constant values in your filters, reference lines, and calculations and make changes in these from the Dashboard itself.

1. What is a Heat Map?

A heat map is a qualitative method of the visualization and comparison of data. Using a heat map, you can compare the quantum method of measures across various categories within a table itself without needing to create a graph or chart. In general, higher values will be shown in darker shades of red, while lower values will tend toward the blue end of the spectrum. However, Tableau does allow you to change colors and shades.

1. What is a Treemap?

A treemap allows you to quantitatively analyze data based on the size of the pictorial representation. The basic unit of a treemap is a rectangle. A large rectangle represents the sum of all values of your chosen measures. This rectangle is then divided into further smaller rectangles based on the value of the measure in each of the categories of your chosen dimension.





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contains the entirety of the data to be analyzed as well as the analysis.

1. What is the difference between a Tableau Worksheet and Workbook?

A Tableau Worksheet contains raw data, which can be an extract of the original source or a live connection to the data. It contains rows and columns which have values of measures and dimensions.

A Tableau Workbook is a collection of sheets in Tableau. These sheets may be workbooks, dashboards, or stories.

1. What is the difference between a Tableau Dashboard and Story?

A Tableau Dashboard may be considered to be a group of pictorial representations based on data derived from multiple worksheets. In a Dashboard, you can arrange multiple views to convey a central message.





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Very often, in Tableau, you may need to present multiple graphs in the same Cartesian plane. These graphs may have to be derived from different measures. You can do so with a blended y-axis. The caveat to incorporating a blended axis is that the unit and scale of the two measures must be the same.

1. What is a dual-axis?

A dual-axis is used to plot two measures with different units on the Cartesian plane. Typically, one y-axis will be located on the left and the other on the right. You will need to determine the scales for both axes independently.

3) TABLEAU ADMIN INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

As the impact of Tableau has grown, so has the requirement of specialist roles to handle several different aspects of Tableau. Most companies use the server version of Tableau to ensure seamless access across the organization. The Tableau Server is handled by the Tableau admin. If you feel this is the right job for you, let us look at some Tableau admin interview questions.

1. What are the different user roles in Tableau?





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Publisher

Interactor

Viewer

Unlicensed



1. What is the use of user roles in Tableau?

User roles determine how a particular user interacts with a Tableau Workbook. Especially at the enterprise level, user roles are essential since the number of people who actively work on a task is generally much fewer than the number of people who will be viewing the workbook. User roles restrict editing rights and allow the Workbook to be maintained in its original form. Changes can be carried out only by authorized persons.

1. What are the disadvantages of using a context filter in Tableau?



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There are several different file extensions that Tableau has led to the creation of, and each of them serves a separate purpose. These file extensions are as follows.

TDE: Tableau Data Extract

TPS: Tableau Preferences

TWBX: Tableau Packaged Workbook

TDS: Tableau Data Source

TDM: Tableau Bookmark

TDSX: Tableau Packaged Data Source

TMS: Tableau Maps Source





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database, capable of instance query response reception and predictive performance. It does not utilize the memory of the system to a great extent.

1. What is the difference between embedded and published data sources?

An embedded data source is a source that I associated with a particular workbook. It cannot be used by other workbooks unless it is imported into them. In contrast, a published data source may be considered a global source that multiple workbooks can utilize.

1. What is serialization?

Serialization is the process of the conversion of an object or data structure into a bit sequence. This aids in the storage of files as well as their transfer across a network.

1. What are the different types of authentication in Tableau?





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A Page Shelf is a capability offered by Tableau which allows a user to control the way the viewers can study the data. The views created by the user are divided among a number of pages, each of which may deal with a different theme. The pages are generally modular and can be flipped through.

1. What are the row and column limitations for the import of data in Tableau?

There are no row or column limitations for importing data into Tableau. Additionally, there are also no limitations to file size.

4) TABLEAU SERVER INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

Since in a large organization, you will likely be working on a Tableau Server, this is a topic you must know about. Here are some Tableau Server interview questions.

1. What is data modeling?

Data modeling is used to refer to the analysis and interpretation of data. It uses advanced data informatics tools in order to determine the relationship between several extracts of data and come



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marks. You can interact with shelves by dragging the fields to be analyzed into them as well as the fields that will act as the analysis filters.

1. What is a Tableau Reader?

A Tableau Reader is a standalone software that can allow users to read Tableau files. However, users cannot interact with the files in order to edit them or create connections to other Tableau files.

1. What is a Hierarchy?

In Tableau, a hierarchy can be used to manage data. Especially when your data set is considerably large, hierarchies – either pre-created or created by the user – can be useful in managing data and analyzing it more efficiently.

1. What is a Tableau Server?





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1. What are Tiled and Floating Dashboards?

A Tiled Dashboard contains only a single layer, on which views can be arranged with well-defined borders in rectangular form. In a Floating Dashboard, there is no restriction on where views can be placed. There are multiple layers, and views are allowed to overlap.



1. What do you mean by VIZQL?

VIZQL is used to refer to Visual Inquiry Language and is a blend of VIZ and SQL. It is identical in nature to SQL, but a major difference is that it does not convert queries into SQL commands but rather into images.

1. How is Tableau Different from traditional business intelligence tools?

The primary difference between Tableau and traditional BI is in the amount of knowledge required to use them. You do not need coding or BI knowledge in order to analyze your data using Tableau. Additionally, traditional BI tools do not have predictive powers like Tableau and also do not support



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There are several Tableau elements that, when not used prudently, can cause a performance reduction. The greatest among these elements is the Filters. Filters can take long minutes to yield results if your data is large and contains a significant number of queries. A live connection generally needs to refer to the original source of data for most commands and hence extracts work much better performance-wise. Similarly, a query to a wrong or unavailable data source can also cause a lag.



1. Is it possible to view the SQL commands generated by Tableau?

Yes, it is possible to view the SQL commands generated by Tableau. If your workbook has a live connection to a data source, you may go to the My Tableau Repository, generally located in My Documents, and check log.txt and tabprotosrv.txt. If you were working on a data extract, you might check tdeserver.txt.

1. What is a bookmark in Tableau?

A bookmark is a convenient method to share your work in a limited amount of time. It contains only a single spreadsheet that can be shared.



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1. What are the limitations of Tableau?

A major limitation of Tableau is that the columns cannot be defined individually. Additionally, it is hard for users to control the selection and sorting of columns in a worksheet.



5. ADVANCED TABLEAU INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

Tableau is an easy software, and having basic knowledge of Tableau does not differentiate you from any other candidates. For your knowledge of Tableau to be a differentiator, it must have an advanced level. Here are some advanced Tableau interview questions.

1. What are the advantages of using Tableau?

There are several advantages that come with using Tableau for data analysis. Tableau can be much faster than other BI software and is also much easier to use. It allows you to establish a direct connection with your data and makes publishing and sharing easy.

1. What are the components of a Tableau Server?



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Data engine

Backgrounder

Repository

Search and license

Application server

VIZQL server



1. What are data extract files?

Data extract files are Tableau files that contain either a whole dataset or a part of a dataset. They can be useful if you are looking to transfer a copy of your dataset across a network. They also improve the performance of Tableau. Tableau data extract files have the extension TDE.

1. What are user functions?



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Tableau is among the first BI software to offer the capability to picturise data in the form of maps. In a map, you are not restricted to just individual countries or continents. Rather, you can create custom groupings of countries known as custom territories.

1. What is a mark card?

A mark card is a panel in Tableau that can be used to control the visual features of the view. You can change the color, labels, font size, type, and detail of the view using the mark card.

1. List the products that Tableau offers.

Tableau has four main offerings. These four offerings are as follows.

Tableau Prep

Tableau Desktop

Tableau Server

Tableau Online





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Slowly ever-changing dimension

Chop chop ever-changing dimension

Shrunken dimension

Junk dimension

Unchanged dimension

Degenerated dimension

Inferred dimension

Conformed dimension

Role enjoying dimension



1. What do you mean by a role enjoying dimension?

A role enjoying dimension is a dimension that is used for multiple purposes in the same workbook. An example of such a dimension can be the date in an eCommerce dataset.



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[Actions](#)[Filters](#)[Changing views](#)[Calculated fields](#)[Auto updates](#)

1. How are Palantir and Tableau different?

Among the major differences between Tableau and Palantir lies in the applications for which they are used. Palantir is used for computer science problems involving large amounts of data in fields such as security and fraud detection. On the other hand, Tableau is a data visualization software that is used for business intelligence applications.

1. How do you add a custom color in Tableau?



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RANK and INDEX are used for different purposes. RANK is utilized to assign an index or key to an entry on the basis of its value. INDEX assigns this number to an entry on the basis of its location in the table.

1. Is it possible to automate reports in Tableau?

Yes, Tableau has an effective mechanism to automate reports. When you are uploading a report to the Tableau Server, you will receive an option to schedule reports. Using this functionality, you can communicate how often or when you want data to be refreshed.

1. In case of the license expiry of a workbook owner, does access to the workbook cease for all users?

In case a workbook owner's license expires, the user role of the owner will change to Unlicensed. The owner will then not be able to access the workbook, but all others who had access to it will be able to. The Site Admin can also transfer ownership so that there is no failure of extracts.

1. Can R and Tableau be used together?





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1. What is the greatest number of tables that you can join in Tableau?

You cannot join more than 32 tables in Tableau.

1. What are filter actions?

The relationship between source sheets and action sheets is described through filter actions. If a guided logical path is being built in a workbook or dashboard, filter actions can be of great use to a developer.

6. TABLEAU INTERVIEW QUESTIONS FOR EXPERIENCED PROFESSIONALS

Experienced professionals must never stop learning, and despite tableau being new software, they must make an effort to get a grasp on its basic concepts. Here are some Tableau interview questions for experienced professionals.

1. Where are global filters applicable?





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1. What are the methods of forecasting available in Tableau?

The only method of forecasting available in Tableau is exponential smoothing.



1. What is the application server in Tableau?

In Tableau, authentication and authorization are provided through the application server. The permissions for mobile as well as web versions of Tableau are handled through this server.

1. What is a measure filter?

A measure filter makes it possible to filter a field based on the values included in it. Data can be modified using aggregated values in a measure filter.

1. What is LOD?



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Bins are equidistant collections of data defined by the user. The data that is eligible for a bin is assigned to it, and views are then created accordingly. Bins are most typically used in histograms.

1. What is a backgrounder?

A backgrounder is a specific application for handling background tasks associated with Tableau. It uses extra memory available in the processor in order to complete background activities such as refreshing extracts, communicating notifications, and handling background assignments.

1. What is disaggregation in Tableau?

Disaggregation is used to study every entry in the source of data. It is especially useful when conducting a study of outliers or when both dependent and independent data is involved.

1. What are the types of data sources that are compatible with Tableau?





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Google BigQuery, Microsoft Azure, and other cloud systems

Database connection sources

1. What are the types of LODs?

There are three primary types of LODs, which are as follows.

Fixed LOD

Include LOD

Exclude LOD

1. What is a Fixed LOD?

A fixed LOD is an expression used for the computation of values without making an explicit reference to any dimensions.





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1. Can you define custom regions in Tableau that are not defined by country borders?

No, Tableau does not currently provide the capability to define borderless custom regions.

CONCLUSION

The above Tableau interview questions make it evident that Tableau is a complex software, and there are many facets to it. They are sure to make you a better candidate for any job that requires Tableau as a necessary skill. To learn more about data and business analytics, sign up for courses from [Jigsaw Academy](#) and build a career in the field.

If you are interested in making a career in the Data Science domain, our 11-month in-person [Postgraduate Certificate Diploma in Data Science](#) course can help you immensely in becoming a successful Data Science professional.

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