Mastercard Data Engineer Interview Guide – Experienced 5+

1. **Application**
2. **Screening Round**
3. **Technical Round**
4. **Techno-Managerial Round**
5. **Document Collection**
6. **Salary Negotiation**
7. **Offer Release**

1. Application Phase

- **Referral:** A friend referred me for the Senior Data Engineer position at Mastercard, which significantly streamlined the process.
- **Portal Application:** I received an email to formally apply through the company's career portal.
- **Acknowledgment:** Within two days, I got confirmation that my application was being considered. This timely response set a positive tone for the journey ahead.

Pro Tip: Leverage your network for referrals whenever possible. It can help your resume stand out and ensure quicker processing.

2. Screening Round

- **HR Discussion:** Four days after applying, HR reached out for an initial screening call.
- **Topics Covered:**
  - Reasons for seeking a job change.
  - Current and expected compensation.
  - Availability for a two-month notice period.
- **Interview Process Briefing:** HR explained the structure and number of interview rounds to expect, which helped me prepare better.

What Interviewers Look for:

- Clarity in career goals and reasons for change.
- Alignment with company timelines and expectations.

3. Technical Round

- **Duration:** 1 hour and 10 minutes.
- **Focus Areas:**
    1. **SQL:**
        - Worked on transactional data challenges.
        - Tasks included using aggregate and window functions, with the interviewer providing hints for tricky parts.
    2. **Python:**
        - Solved problems related to arrays and strings (LeetCode easy level).
        - Emphasis was on explaining the approach and logic used.
    3. **Project Discussion:**
        - Shared insights into my current projects, particularly on Spark optimizations I had implemented.

Example Questions:

- Write a query to find the second-highest salary from a table.
- Solve a Python problem to reverse the vowels in a string.

Key Takeaways:

- Demonstrate strong command over SQL and Python.
- Provide clear, step-by-step explanations for coding problems.

4. Techno-Managerial Round

- **Duration:** 1 hour and 20 minutes.
- **Participants:** Hiring Manager and a Senior Data Engineer.
- **Challenges Faced:**
    1. **Live SQL Coding:**
        - Solved a hard-level query within 20 minutes, ensuring all test cases passed.
    2. **Live Python Coding:**
        - Tackled intermediate-level problems and successfully answered most of them.
    3. **Spark Discussions:**
        - Explained Spark architecture, focusing on jobs, stages, and tasks.
        - Discussed optimization strategies such as cache, persist, repartition, and coalesce.

4. **Behavioral Questions:**
   - Addressed scenarios like conflict resolution, learning new tools, and overcoming challenges.

What Interviewers Look For:

- Depth of technical knowledge in Spark and coding.

- Ability to handle live challenges under pressure.

- Strong communication and problem-solving skills.

Key Question Examples:

- Explain the difference between repartition() and coalesce() in Spark.

- How would you handle a conflict with a teammate during a high-stakes project?

5. Document Collection

- Submitted all required documents for verification, signaling the process was nearing its conclusion.

Tip: Keep your documents updated and organized to ensure a seamless submission process.

6. Salary Negotiation

- Discussed and finalized the compensation package, ensuring it aligned with my expectations and industry standards.

Tip: Research salary benchmarks for similar roles in the industry to confidently negotiate your package.

7. Offer Release

- Received the official offer letter, marking the successful completion of the process.

Glassdoor Mastercard Review –

https://www.glassdoor.co.in/Reviews/Mastercard-Reviews-E3677.htm

Mastercard Careers –

https://careers.mastercard.com/us/en

Subscribe to my YouTube Channel for Free Data Engineering Content –

https://www.youtube.com/@shubhamwadekar27

Connect with me here –

https://bento.me/shubhamwadekar

Checkout more Interview Preparation Material on –

https://topmate.io/shubham_wadekar