Media.net Data Engineer Interview Guide - Experienced 3+

Interview Process

Recruiter Discussion

The initial conversation with the recruiter covered my background, technical skills, and familiarity with Spark, which, despite being listed in the job description, wasn't mandatory.

Technical Round 1

Duration: 1 Hour

Format: SQL and DSA Questions

- **SQL**: Case study involving bank liabilities, loans, and balances requiring extensive use of JOINs and CASE statements.
- DSA: Array-based problem where I provided both brute-force and optimized solutions.

Outcome: Cleared this round.

Technical Round 2

Duration: 1 Hour

Format: System Design with Lead Data Engineer

Scenario: Design a system for storing large datasets and solving the Two-Sum problem.

Key Questions:

- How to store massive data in a distributed system?
- Handling node failures.
- Data access strategy for clients.
- Mapper and Reducer design for solving Two-Sum.

I successfully answered the first three parts using my understanding of HDFS and MapReduce.

Outcome: Cleared this round.

Technical Round 3

Duration: 1 Hour

Format: Data Modeling and SQL with Lead Data Engineer

Problem Statement: Design a music platform recommending new artists to users.

Key Tasks:

- 1. Create data models for storing users, artists, and related data.
- 2. Handle dimension changes.
- 3. Write a SQL query to find users to recommend specific artists.

This round focused on clarifying assumptions and discussing multiple approaches with the interviewer. I completed the query based on my data model.

Outcome: Cleared this round.

Technical Round 4

Duration: 1.5 Hours

Format: System Design with Director of Engineering

Scenario: Design a real-time message stream processing system.

Key Concepts:

- Distributed processing and fault tolerance.
- Handling node failures.
- Reading and repartitioning data.

I discussed concepts from Kafka and my experience with Akka, focusing on event sourcing and gossip protocols.

Outcome: Cleared this round.

Hiring Manager Round

Duration: 30 Minutes

Focused on understanding my career aspirations and providing an opportunity to ask questions about Media.Net.

Conclusion

Key Takeaways:

- 1. Sharing learnings and projects online can attract recruiters.
- 2. Don't self-reject if unfamiliar with some technologies in a job description.
- 3. Clarify interview expectations with recruiters to prepare effectively.

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https://www.glassdoor.co.in/Reviews/Media-net-Reviews-E1042683.htm

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