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7 Front-End Developer Interview Questions and Answers

Whether you are preparing to interview a candidate or applying for a job, review our list of top Front-End Developer interview questions and answers.

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How do you ensure that your website design or web application is accessible and user-friendly?

Front end developers need a strong grasp of usability and accessibility when they're designing experiences for end-users. This question gives you insight into their knowledge of these standards and best practices. What to look for in an answer:

First-hand experience implementing usability and accessibility standards
A drive to create a web experience that's accessible to all end users
Ways that the applicant has implemented usability and accessibility in their previous projects

Example: "I test my web applications on various browsers and devices to check whether the experience is usable on all devices. I also use popular screen reading software and other assistive solutions to see whether it's accessible for all potential users."

What are your favorite features of HTML5, and how have you implemented them in your front end development projects?

Front end developers spend a lot of time using HTML5 when they're putting together web designs and have access to a wide range of features that can save development time and improve the end product. What to look for in an answer:

In-depth knowledge of HTML5 features
Clear explanation of how the applicant used HTML5 in past projects
Creative usage of HTML5 features

Example: "I enjoy the way HTML5 handles multimedia support compared to previous versions. I use this feature to develop a front end design that incorporates videos and audio as an essential part of the experience without worrying about it not loading properly or breaking the page."

? How do you structure your CSS and JavaScript to make it easier for other developers to work with?

✓ Front end developers often work on code created by previous employees or operate as part of a team. This question gives you an idea of whether they can create websites or web applications that will be understandable by other employees. What to look for in an answer:

Experience with code organization and code commenting
First-hand knowledge of what happens when code isn't commented appropriately
A willingness to make things easier on the other development teams

Example: "I organize my stylesheets with sections for each site component. Each section has comments throughout the code so other developers can change it."

? Can you explain the concept of a CSS float and provide an example of its usage?

✓ This technical question quizzes the applicant on their understanding of a common CSS element. This basic question is a good way to screen the interviewee and ensure that they're more than acquainted with CSS. What to look for in an answer:

A concrete definition of CSS floats
Examples of how the applicant uses this element in their code
Confidence in explaining this technical concept to any audience

Example: "A CSS float tells the browser to put a particular element to the right side or the left side of the container. I use floats when I'm developing a page that dynamically resizes based on the user resolution."

? What's your process for addressing browser-specific rendering problems? Do you find that a certain browser is more challenging to work with than others?

✓ Front end developers have to introduce browser-specific hacks into web applications and pages due to the way each application handles rendering. This common process should be a familiar one for the people you interview. What to look for in an answer:

Examples of browser-specific workarounds
Understanding of how browsers render apps and pages
Knowledge of troubleshooting browser-specific problems

Example: "I often have to change the DIV positions on web pages for Microsoft Edge. This browser is the most problematic one for me, as I don't run into issues on Chrome or Firefox nearly as often."

? What resources do you use to learn about the latest in front end development and design?

✓ Technology and standards change constantly in front end development. Applicants who have an "always-be-learning" approach can learn new ways to improve the development process and improve the experience for end users. What to look for in an answer:

Examples of publications the applicant reads
Participation in open source or personal front end development projects
Enrollment in continuing education workshops or online courses

Example: "I have several subscriptions to front end development magazines and participate on the Stack Overflow forums. These resources help me learn about the latest innovations in front end development."

? What are your favorite types of front end development projects to work on? What do you like about them?

✓ This question gives you insight into the personal preferences of the front end developer. Some applicants may prefer to only work on website projects, while others enjoy being involved in web application teams more. What to look for in an answer:

A strong opinion on their favorite types of development
Enthusiasm for the project types they describe
Examples of their favorite front end development projects

Example: "I recently worked on a web application for a local hospital. It streamlined the patient intake process and I loved knowing that my work helped patients get the help they needed faster."

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