



Software Engineer Interview Expectations

In general, our interviews are 45-minutes in length. You will be with an engineer one-on-one and answer technical questions. Discussion with the engineer is encouraged throughout the interview! If you have specific questions related to next steps or our decision timeline, please direct those to your recruiter.

Helpful Coding Tips:

- Reacquaint yourself with core CS concepts and topics related to development at scale
- Answer the questions in the language that you feel most comfortable with; we do not have a preference!
- Check for edge cases and test to make sure that your code; keep your solutions concise and efficient
- If the interviewer gives you hints to improve your code, take them and run with them

Other Tips:

Prepare for technical questions involving coding, design patterns, and more specific questions to your skills set and experience. Take time to review core computer science concepts (data structures, algorithms, binary trees, linked lists, object-oriented analysis/design, etc.) as well as subjects pertaining to the scale of our technology.

Practice Writing code by hand on paper or whiteboard and practice explaining your thought process out loud. Create a working solution (even if it feels inefficient at first) and then iterate rather than immediately trying to jump to the clever solution or waiting until you've thought of the perfect solution. **Tip:** If you cannot explain your solution clearly in 5 minutes, it's probably too complex for the interview.

Discuss your solution. If the interviewer gives you hints, be ready to discuss them against other options and implement them if appropriate. Ask clarifying questions and communicate your thought process to your interviewer to demonstrate your problem-solving ability.

Complete your solution. Done is better than perfect, but be able to identify any bugs and assumptions. The interviewer will be looking for an intersection between speed and accuracy. [Again, be sure to check your edge cases and test your code!](#)

Explain your motivation for pursuing this opportunity. Be prepared to answer the question "Why Facebook?"

Interview Practice and Preparation:

Facebook's Coding Console

Our engineers here at Facebook came up with a list of questions to give you an idea of what may be asked in your interview and have developed a homegrown coding console to help candidates practice and prep for upcoming technical interviews.

Additional Coding and Interview Practice

- [Example Interview Questions](#)
- [HackerRank](#)
- [Interview Cake](#)
- [Top Coder](#)
- [LeetCode](#)

Video Tutorials

- [Prepping for your technical interviews](#)
- [Crush Your Coding Interview - FB Live](#)

Other Resources

- [Facebook Careers Blog](#)
- [Facebook Engineering Blog](#)
- [Prepping for your Technical Screen](#)
- [Prepping for your Onsite \(FT Candidates\)](#) - **remember: omit the Product and System Design section**

Qualities we look for in Engineers:

Drive to help the world connect and build community. Facebook has played a critical part in changing how people around the world communicate and connect. Our engineers are not only talented, but also passionate about solving the challenges associated with connecting the next billion users.

Ownership of projects from start to finish. Facebook engineers are always building new things and have a demonstrated ability of owning projects from start to finish. Our engineers are able to take on every aspect of a project from design and development to implementation and support..

Daringness to be bold. Facebook engineers have consistently taken on challenging projects throughout their careers. When you speak with engineers on our team you'll hear stories about time they weren't quite sure about how they were going to accomplish the project, but dared to be bold, iterate quickly and find a solution. Our engineers love working complex projects which are not always clear cut. They embrace uncertainty, take risks and learn from failure.