



Round 1-Initial Assessment Interview

Here is a rundown of what to expect during your Initial Assessment with DoorDash, as well as some information/resources on how to further prepare:

Part I: Technical Exercise | 30-minutes on CodePair platform using Zoom video conference

In the Technical exercise, Interviewer #1 will be asking you 2 - 4 data processing questions. We will be assessing your syntax and logic. You will be expected to write up your solutions live and will need to have a computer with Internet access. The test is an open book, and *you will be able to use the internet at any point during the session.*

You will use the CodePair platform (included in your calendar invite confirmation) to conduct the exercise. The majority of our team uses SQL, as SQL is a huge part of the technology that the teams rely on. However you're welcome to write solutions in the language that you indicated as preference. **This exercise will be conducted in SQL. Please notify your recruiter or coordinator prior to scheduling your interview if you prefer to use Python or R.**

You can use this website to familiarize yourself with the formatting before the screening: [Hackerrank](#)

Part II: Case Study | 30-minute using Zoom video conference

In the Case study, you will be asked about general DoorDash business. We are 3-sided Marketplace (Consumers, Merchants, Dashers) & a "last-mile" delivery service. The case will likely ask you to break down a vague data science problem. We want to make sure you understand this industry and domain. If you move on to the final virtual OnSite, you will have 3 more business cases that will be specific to the role/team you may join. We will share more details about that later.

Research and understand the data & metrics a company like DoorDash looks into to preserve the health of our business & products.

The Case Study will give us a sense of your overall data science calibration. Interviewer #2 will present you with an *applied business problem related to a real-world DoorDash scenario* (ex: "DoorDash has launched a monthly subscription product, DashPass, How would you measure whether or not it is performing well?)." A DoorDash Data Science team member possesses the following:

- 1. Great communication. Think of the case study as a conversation with the interviewer. Try not to jump between different concepts without context.
- 2. Asks clarify questions to understand the context of the problem + thinks high level before diving into details
- 3. Provides more than 1 creative + relevant hypothesis to the problem
- 4. Operationalizes the steps needed to be taken to solve the problem
- 5. Defines specific data needed to explore the problem
- 6. Provides necessary experimentation, predictive analysis or statistical analysis to dig deeper
- 7. Provides a few recommendations based on the results of the analysis to drive the business decisions + resolve the problem
- 8. Shares how this will impact the business
- 9. Shares tradeoffs that can occur for each recommendation, like cannibalizing users or network effects

*Although we do not provide the exact content of the questions upfront (in order to gauge your raw analytical approach and to keep the process unbiased), you should expect to be assessed on the following:*

Business/Product Intuition	Structured Thinking
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>You should define your key success metrics; always ensure to relate them back to the business/how to drive insights/recommendations forward.</li><li><i>As we operate in a 3-sided marketplace, we need to always consider the needs of merchants, dashers and consumers.</i> Think like a user; reflect on what’s important to you as a customer and how the merchant and dasher might impact your experience.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><i>Ask clarifying questions!</i> We are looking for team members that are curious and engaged; asking clarifying questions to the interviewer often helps to obtain the needed context that allows you to craft the strongest responses.</li><li>Remember there isn’t a “right” answer for any of the case studies interviews, so think critically about how to address the problem.</li></ul>
Depth of Solution	Organization & Clarity
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>You should start by developing a high level approach then breaking the problem into component parts.</li><li>The interviewer may also ask you questions about your approach (intended to dig deeper); however you should ensure that you are still guiding the conversation by explaining your solution in detail.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>As you answer the questions in the case study, try to organize your thoughts to express your intuition with clarity. It is assumed that you are solving the solution in real time ("thinking out loud"), however, you should try not to jump between different concepts without context.</li></ul>

You can also review this blog post [\(The Undervalued Skills Candidates Need to Succeed in Data Science Interviews\)](#) written by one of our Senior Managers for a great perspective on this interview!

We are excited to get to know you better & GOOD LUCK!  
  
-The DoorDash Analytics Team