Certified Master Safe Technician (cmst) Interview Questions

1. Share an experience in which you've successfully learned how to handle a new piece of equipment?
2. Share your approach when disassembling mechanical or electrical locking devices, and repair or replace
worn tumblers, springs, and other parts, using hand tools.
3. What is the most challenging part of moving picklocks in cylinders to open door locks without keys?
4. What kind of experience do you have installing safes, vault doors, and deposit boxes according to
blueprints, using equipment such as powered drills, taps, dies, truck cranes, and dollies?
5. Share an experience you had in dealing with a difficult person and how you handled the situation.
6. Describe a time when you successfully serviced, repaired, or tested a machine or device that operates
mainly by mechanical principles.
7. Tell me about a recent experience you've had working with your hands.
8. Tell me how you organize, plan, and prioritize your work.
9. Share an example of a time you had to gather information from multiple sources. How did you determine
which information was relevant?
10. Provide an example when your ethics were tested.
11. Share an example of when you went above and beyond the "call of duty". (Look for answers that show the
candidate is dependable.)
12. Name a time when you cut new or duplicate keys using impressions or code key machines.
13. Give me an example of when you thought outside of the box. How did it help your employer?
14. What have you found to be the best way to insert new or repaired tumblers into locks to change combinations?

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15. Name a time when your patience was tested. How did you keep your emotions in check?
16. How do you balance cooperation with others and independent thinking? Share an example. (Try to
determine if the candidate has a cooperative attitude or is otherwise good-natured.)
17. Provide a time when you dealt calmly and effectively with a high-stress situation.
18. Tell me about the last time you monitored or reviewed information and detected a problem. How did you respond?
19. Tell me about your last experience doing repair work. How did you determine what tools you needed?
20. Share a time when you willingly took on additional responsibilities or challenges. How did you
successfully meet all of the demands of these responsibilities? (Make sure the candidate is a self-starter and
can demonstrate some initiative.)
21. Describe an experience when you unlocked cars and other vehicles.
22. Name a time when you installed alarm and electronic access system
23. Tell me about your qualifications for and your experience handling vehicles and/or mechanized
equpiment.
24. Name a time when your creativity or alternative thinking solved a problem in your workplace.
25. Describe a time when you successfully serviced, repaired, calibrated, or tested a device that operates
mainly by electronic principles.
26. Walk me through how you would repair and adjust safes, vault doors, and vault components, using hand
tools, lathes, drill presses, and welding and acetylene cutting apparatus.
27. Tell me about the last time you performed routine maintenance on equipment. How did you determine
when and what type of work was needed?

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28. Share an experience in which you conducted a test of a product, service, or process and successfully
improved the quality or performance.
29. Share an experience in which your willingness to lead or offer an opinion helped your company.
30. Please share an experience in which you presented to a group. What was the situation and how did it go?
31. Share an experience in which you successfully coordinated with others. How about a coordination effort
that was not as successful?
32. Share an experience in which your understanding of a current or upcoming problem helped your company
to respond to the problem.