

Wait Staff Interview Questions

1. Tell me about a recent experience you've had working with your hands.
2. 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.)
3. Provide an experience in which you were sensitive to someone's needs or feelings. How did your helpfulness affect your work environment?
4. Share an experience in which you wiped tables and seats and set tables.
5. Provide an experience in which you successfully scraped and stacked dirty dishes.
6. Name a time when your patience was tested. How did you keep your emotions in check?
7. Share an experience in which you effectively cleaned up spilled food or drink.
8. Share an example of when you went above and beyond the "call of duty". (Look for answers that show the candidate is dependable.)
9. Provide an experience in which you effectively performed serving, cleaning, and/or stocking duties.
10. Provide a time when you dealt calmly and effectively with a high-stress situation.
11. Describe an effective method you have used to maintain an adequate supply of items, e.g. clean silverware.
12. Provide an example when your ethics were tested.
13. Share an experience in which you filled beverage or ice dispensers.
14. Provide an experience in which you effectively kept supplies of food and equipment stocked at tables or service bars.
15. How do you stay fit in order to perform physical activities that are required in the workplace?

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16. Provide a time when you worked in a rapidly evolving workplace. How did you deal with the change? (Make sure the candidate is flexible.)

17. Share an experience in which personal connections to coworkers or others helped you to be successful in your work. (Make sure candidate works well with others.)

18. Share an experience in which you effectively assisted a waiter or waitress in serving food.

19. Tell me about a time when you developed your own way of doing things or were self-motivated to finish an important task.

20. Share an experience in which your attention to detail and thoroughness had an impact on your last company.

21. Share your experience running a cash register.

22. 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.)

23. Share an effective method you have used to garnish foods and to make them visible and accessible.

24. Provide an experience in which you washed glasses and/or serving equipment.

25. Share an experience in which your willingness to lead or offer an opinion helped your company.

26. Provide an example of when you were persistent in the face of obstacles.

27. Share an example of when you established and accomplished a goal that was personally challenging. What helped you succeed?

28. What is the key to success when communicating with the public.

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29. Describe your experience mixing and preparing flavors for mixed drinks.

30. Name a time when your creativity or alternative thinking solved a problem in your workplace.

31. Share an experience in which you successfully coordinated with others. How about a coordination effort that was not as successful?

32. Provide an experience in which your ability to actively find ways to help people improved your company or your own work ethic.

33. Share an experience in which you successfully shared a difficult piece of information. (Make sure that the candidate has open lines of communication.)

34. Provide an example when you were able to prevent a problem because you foresaw the reaction of another person.

35. Describe a time when you successfully provided personal assistance to a coworker or patron.

36. What have you found to be the best way to monitor the performance of your work and/or the work of others? Share a time when you had to take corrective action.

37. Provide an example of a time when you were able to demonstrate excellent listening skills. What was the situation and outcome?