

Apprentice Interview Questions

1. Tell me about a recent experience you've had working with your hands.

2. Describe an experience when you performed rough-ins, repair and replaced fixtures and water heaters, and locate, repair, or removed leaking or broken pipes.

3. What have you found to be the best way to measure, cut, thread and assemble new pipe, placing the assembled pipe in hangers or other supports?

4. Give me an example of when you thought outside of the box. How did it help your employer?

5. Tell me about an experience in which you analyzed information and evaluated results to choose the best solution to a problem.

6. Share an experience in which your diligence of inspecting equipment, structures, or materials helped you identify a problem or the cause of a problem.

7. Tell me about the last time you monitored or reviewed information and detected a problem. How did you respond?

8. Share an experience in which you've successfully learned how to handle a new piece of equipment?

9. How do you stay fit in order to perform physical activities that are required in the workplace?

10. What are some long-range objectives that you developed in your last job? What did you do to achieve them?

11. Describe a time when you successfully serviced, repaired, or tested a machine or device that operates mainly by mechanical principles.

12. Tell me how you organize, plan, and prioritize your work.

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

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14. 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.)

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

16. What kind of experience do you have installing gas burners to convert furnaces from wood, coal, or oil?

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

18. Provide an example when your ethics were tested.

19. What is the most challenging part of requisitioning tools and equipment, selecting type and size of pipe, and collecting and transporting materials and equipment to work site?

20. Share an experience you had in dealing with a difficult person and how you handled the situation.

21. Name a time when your patience was tested. How did you keep your emotions in check?

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

24. Name a time when you excavated and graded ditches, and lay and join pipe for water and sewer service.

25. Provide a time when you dealt calmly and effectively with a high-stress situation.

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

27. Provide an experience in which you were sensitive to someone's needs or feelings. How did your helpfulness affect your work environment?

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

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

30. Share an example of when you went above and beyond the "call of duty". (Look for answers that show the candidate is dependable.)

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

32. Tell me about your qualifications for and your experience handling vehicles and/or mechanized equipment.

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

34. 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.)

35. Tell me about your last experience doing repair work. How did you determine what tools you needed?

36. Name a time when you identified strengths and weaknesses of alternative solutions to problems. What was the impact?

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