

## Violin Mechanic Interview Questions

1. Share an experience in which you conducted a test of a product, service, or process and successfully improved the quality or performance.

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

3. Describe methods you have found helpful to play instruments to evaluate their sound quality and to locate any defects.

4. What is the most challenging part of inspecting instruments to locate defects, and to determine their value or the level of restoration required?

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

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

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

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

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

10. Provide an example when your ethics were tested.

11. Name a time when you adjusted string tensions to tune instruments, using hand tools and electronic tuning devices.

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

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

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14. What kind of experience do you have comparing instrument pitches with tuning tool pitches in order to tune instruments?

15. Name a time when you adjusted felt hammers on pianos to increase tonal mellowness or brilliance, using sanding paddles, lacquer, or needles.

16. Walk me through how you would string instruments, and adjust trusses and bridges of instruments to obtain specified string tensions and heights.

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

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

19. 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.)

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

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

22. Describe methods you have found useful to shape old parts and replacement parts to improve tone or intonation, using hand tools, lathes, or soldering irons.

23. Tell me about a time when you successfully determined the cause of an operating error at your company and solved the problem.

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

25. Name a time when you refinished instruments to protect and decorate them, using hand tools, buffing tools, and varnish.

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26. 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.)

27. Share your approach to mix and measure glue that will be used for instrument repair.

28. Share an experience in which your ability to consider the costs or benefits of a potential action helped you choose the most appropriate action.

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

30. Share an experience in which your understanding of a current or upcoming problem helped your company to respond to the problem.

31. What kind of experience do you have soldering or welding frames of mallet instruments and metal drum parts?

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

33. Provide an experience that demonstrates your ability to manage time effectively. What were the challenges and results?

34. Tell me about the last time you performed routine maintenance on equipment. How did you determine when and what type of work was needed?

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

36. Describe an experience when you repaired breaks in percussion instruments such as drums and cymbals, using drill presses, power saws, glue, clamps, grinding wheels, or other hand tools.

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

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38. Walk me through how you would strike wood, fiberglass, or metal bars of instruments, and use tuned blocks, stroboscopes, or electronic tuners to evaluate tones made by instruments

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

40. What kind of experience do you have assembling and installing new pipe organs and pianos in buildings?

41. Have you ever cut new drumheads from animal skins, using scissors, and soak drumheads in water to make them pliable? Share an example.

42. Describe a time when you successfully persuaded another person to change his/her way of thinking or behavior.

43. Describe a time when you were able to select the best tool to do a job. How did you use reasoning skills to make the best choice?

44. 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.)

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