

Launching Pad Mechanic Interview Questions

1. Describe what procedures used to examine and inspect aircraft components, including landing gear, hydraulic systems, and deicers to locate cracks, breaks, leaks, or other problems.
2. Walk me through how you conduct routine and special inspections as required by regulations.
3. Explain which methods are used to Inspect completed work to certify that maintenance meets standards and that aircraft are ready for operation.
4. Share with me how you read and interpret maintenance manuals, service bulletins, and other specifications to determine the feasibility and method of repairing or replacing malfunctioning or damaged components.
5. What have you found to be the best way to maintain repair logs, documenting all preventive and corrective aircraft maintenance?
6. Explain ways to best maintain, repair, and rebuild aircraft structures, functional components, and parts such as wings and fuselage, rigging, hydraulic units, oxygen systems, fuel systems, electrical systems, gaskets, and seals.
7. Walk me through a test operation of engines and other systems, using test equipment such as ignition analyzers, compression checkers, distributor timers, and ammeters.
8. In your opinion, how often should you obtain fuel and oil samples and check them for contamination?
9. Share an experience you had in dealing with a difficult person and how you handled the situation.
10. Share an experience in which you successfully shared a difficult piece of information. (Make sure that the candidate has open lines of communication.)
11. Tell me about your qualifications for and your experience handling vehicles and/or mechanized equipment.
12. Tell me about a recent experience you've had working with your hands.
13. Tell me how you organize, plan, and prioritize your work.

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14. Share an experience when you applied new technology or information in your job. How did it help your company?

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

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

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

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

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

20. Would you consider analyzing data or information a strength? How so?

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

22. Describe an experience where you checked for corrosion, distortion, and invisible cracks in the fuselage, wings, and tail, using x-ray and magnetic inspection equipment. How did you handle a failed inspection?

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

24. Expound on how to Inspect airframes for wear or other defects.

25. Provide a time when you were able to identify a complex problem, evaluate the options, and implement a solution. How did the solution benefit your employer?

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26. Provide an example when your ethics were tested.

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27. What is your experience in replacing repairing worn, defective, or damaged components, using hand tools, gauges, and testing equipment?

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28. Share with me how to measure parts for wear, using precision instruments.

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29. Walk me through how you disassemble engines and inspect parts, such as turbine blades and cylinders, for corrosion, wear, warping, cracks, and leaks, using precision measuring instruments, x-rays, and magnetic inspection equipment.

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30. Tell me about your experience assembling and installing electrical, plumbing, mechanical, hydraulic, and structural components and accessories, using hand or power tools.

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31. In your opinion, how do you determine repair limits for engine hot section parts.

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32. Share an experience where you reassembled engines following repair or inspection and reinstall engines in aircraft.

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33. Share an experience in which you oversaw the assembly, fabrication, construction, maintenance, or modification of equipment. How did you communicate to the staff what you wanted?

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34. What methods have you found helpful in locating and mark dimensions and reference lines on defective or replacement parts, using templates, scribes, compasses, and steel rules?

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35. Expound on how to Install and align repaired or replacement parts for subsequent riveting or welding, using clamps and wrenches.

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36. What are your skills when it comes to modifying aircraft structures, space vehicles, systems, or components, following drawings, schematics, charts, engineering orders, and technical publications?

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37. Share an experience where you had difficulties reading and interpret pilots' descriptions of problems to diagnose causes. How did you resolve the issue?

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38. Tell me about listening to operating engines to detect and diagnose malfunctions such as sticking or burned valves.

39. Describe some techniques used to remove or install aircraft engines, using hoists or forklift trucks.

40. Describe an experience where you examined engines through specially designed openings while working from ladders or scaffolds, or use hoists or lifts to remove the entire engine from an aircraft.

41. Walk me through how to service and maintain aircraft and related apparatus by performing activities such as flushing crankcases, cleaning screens, and lubricating moving parts.

42. Name some effective ways to clean, strip, prime, and sand structural surfaces and materials to prepare them for bonding?

43. 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.)

44. Explain how to fabricate defective sections or parts, using metal fabricating machines, saws, brakes, shears, and grinders.

45. Share your experience when doing Inventory and requisition or ordering supplies, parts, materials, and equipment.

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

47. How well do you clean, refuel, and change oil in line service aircraft?

48. Describe how you would remove or cut out defective parts or drill holes to gain access to internal defects or damage, using drills and punches.

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

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50. Tell me of a time where you had to accompany aircraft on flights to make in-flight adjustments and corrections. How did it go?

51. 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.)

52. Share how you would remove, inspect, repair, and install in-flight refueling stores and external fuel tanks.

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

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

55. Walk me through how you trim and shape replacement body sections to specified sizes and fits and secure sections in place, using adhesives, hand tools, and power tools.

56. How well do you cooperate and communicate with other workers to coordinate fitting and alignment of heavy parts, or to facilitate processing of repair parts?

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

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

59. Tell me how you would clean engines, sediment bulk and screens, and carburetors, adjusting carburetor float levels.

60. Describe an experience in which you successfully controlled the operation of a difficult system. What made you successful?

61. 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.)

62. Please share with me an example of how you helped coach or mentor someone. What improvements did

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you see in the person's knowledge or skills?