

Industrial Designer Interview Questions

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

2. Share an experience in which conferring with others helped you to establish an effective design concept for a manufactured product.

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

4. 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?

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

6. Share an example of a time you had to gather information from multiple sources. How did you determine which information was relevant?

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

8. Please share an experience in which you presented to a group. What was the situation and how did it go?

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

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

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

12. Tell me about a time when your ability to analyze needs and product requirements helped you create an effective design or make an informed decision to benefit your company.

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

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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. 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?

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

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

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

19. Tell me about the sketches you have prepared. What techniques have you used?

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

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

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

23. 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.)

24. 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.)

25. How would you rate your writing skills? (Ask for an example that demonstrates great writing skills.)

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

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

28. Provide an experience in which you effectively modified a design to conform with customer specifications, production limitations, or changes in design trends.

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

30. Share an effective approach to working with a large amount of information/data. How has your approach affected your company?

31. Share an effective method you have used to coordinate the fabrication of models or samples and the drafting of working drawings and specification sheets from sketches. Provide an experience.

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

33. 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.

34. What factors do you consider when evaluating the feasibility of design ideas?

35. In your experience, what is the key to ensuring your company was compliant with all laws, regulations and standards that were applicable to your area of responsibility?

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

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

38. Share an experience in which conferring with a customer helped you to effectively modify a product.

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39. Provide an experience in which you developed or modified manufacturing procedures to improve product quality.

40. What factors do you consider when investigating product characteristics?

41. Provide an example when your ethics were tested.

42. Share an effective method you have used to research and make cost estimates and itemized production requirements.

43. Share an experience in which you were able to generate a new design or modify a current design to better serve the needs of your customers.

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

45. Share an experience in which you participated in new product planning or market research.

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

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

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

49. What factors do you consider when coordinating the look and function of product lines?

50. Tell me about an effective model you fabricated, using hand or power tools.

51. Share an experience in which you supervised the work of assistants. What methods made you successful?

52. Describe an effective graphic you designed for use on a manufactured material or packaging.

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

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

55. Provide an effective method you have used to advise corporations on issues involving corporate image projects or problems. Share an experience.

56. Please share an experience in which you successfully taught a difficult principle or concept. How were you able to be successful?

57. 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.)

58. Name a time when your advice to management led to an improvement in your company or otherwise helped your employer.

59. Share an effective method you have used to obtain perspective and generate design concepts. Provide an experience.

60. Tell me about effective industrial standards and/or regulatory guidelines you have developed.

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

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

63. Tell me about the last time you oversaw the work of someone else. How did you effectively motivate, develop, and direct the worker(s)?

64. Provide an example of a time when you successfully organized a diverse group of people to accomplish a task.

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65. Share an experience in which you used new training skills, ideas, or a method to adapt to a new situation or improve an ongoing one. (Look for the candidate's ability to learn.)

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

67. Share a time when you successfully used scientific rules or methods to solve a problem at work.