

## Design Engineer Interview Questions

1. Give me an example of when you thought outside of the box. How did it help your employer?
2. Provide an effective method you have used to prepare reports, sketches, drawings, specifications, proposals, and/or budgets.
3. What is the most challenging part of budgeting for you?
4. Name a time when your advice to management led to an improvement in your company or otherwise helped your employer.
5. In your experience, what is the key to developing a good team? (Look for how they build mutual trust, respect, and cooperation.)
6. Provide an example of a time when you successfully organized a diverse group of people to accomplish a task.
7. Share an experience you had in dealing with a difficult person and how you handled the situation.
8. Share an experience in which you successfully shared a difficult piece of information. (Make sure that the candidate has open lines of communication.)
9. 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?
10. Tell me how you organize, plan, and prioritize your work.
11. Share an experience when you applied new technology or information in your job. How did it help your company?
12. Tell me about an experience in which you analyzed information and evaluated results to choose the best solution to a problem.
13. Would you consider analyzing data or information a strength? How so?

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14. 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?

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

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

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

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

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

20. 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?

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

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

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

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

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

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

27. Provide an example when your ethics were tested.

28. 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.

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

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. 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.)

32. Share an experience in which your advice on water quality or water issues benefited your company.

33. Describe an effective environmental or land reclamation project you designed and/or supervised. What methods made you successful?

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

35. Share an experience in which discussing plans with clients, contractors, or other personnel helped you reevaluate and improve plans.

36. Tell me about an effective agricultural machinery component or equipment you designed using computer-aided design technology.

37. Provide an example of when you set expectations and monitored the performance of subordinates. What guidance and direction did you find most effective?

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38. Describe an experience in which you identified the educational needs of your students and successfully developed a way to teach/train them.

39. Tell me about a food processing plant or related mechanical system you designed.

40. 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.)

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

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

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

44. Describe an effective rural electric-power distribution system, irrigation system, drainage system, or flood control system which you planned and/or directed the construction of. How did it conserve soil or water?

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

46. Please share with me an example of how you helped coach or mentor someone. What improvements did you see in the person's knowledge or skills?

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

48. Provide an effective method you have used to ensure adequate performance of agricultural machinery and equipment.

49. Tell me about a structure for storage, shelter, or processing which you designed. What methods did you use?

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50. Share an effective method you have used to supervise food processing or manufacturing plant operations.
51. Tell me about a time when you developed your own way of doing things or were self-motivated to finish an important task.
52. Share a time when you successfully used scientific rules or methods to solve a problem at work.
53. Tell me about an educational program you successfully conducted to improve agricultural productivity. What methods led to your success?
54. Provide a time when you dealt calmly and effectively with a high-stress situation.
55. Name a time when your patience was tested. How did you keep your emotions in check?
56. Share an experience in which your willingness to lead or offer an opinion helped your company.
57. Share an experience in which meeting with a client helped you to discuss and effectively meet their needs.
58. Please share an experience in which you successfully taught a difficult principle or concept. How were you able to be successful?
59. Describe a sensing, measuring, or recording device you designed which improved your study of plant or animal life.
60. Describe a time when you successfully persuaded another person to change his/her way of thinking or behavior.
61. Provide an example when you were able to prevent a problem because you foresaw the reaction of another person.
62. Tell me about your last experience recruiting, interviewing, or hiring an employee. What techniques did you find most effective in finding the right person for the job?
63. Describe a time when you successfully serviced, repaired, or tested a machine or device that operates

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mainly by mechanical principles.

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

65. Describe a time when you successfully serviced, repaired, calibrated, or tested a device that operates mainly by electronic principles.

66. Describe an experience in which your ability to work well with others and reconcile differences helped your company or employer. (Make sure the candidate knows how to negotiate.)

67. 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.)

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

69. 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.

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

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

72. 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.)

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

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

75. Tell me about a time when your ability to analyze needs and product requirements helped you create an

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effective design or make an informed decision to benefit your company.