

Laboratory Machinist Interview Questions

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

2. What factors do you consider when selecting tools, machines, and materials to be used in machinery work? Share an experience.

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

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

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 you conducted a test of a product, service, or process and successfully improved the quality or performance.

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

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

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

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

11. Share an experience in which you used your knowledge of mathematics and instruments to calculate dimensions and tolerances.

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

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

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

15. Provide your experience aligning and securing holding fixtures, cutting tools, attachmets, accessories, and/or materials onto machines.

16. Provide an effective method you have used to ensure that completed units are effective and conform to specifications.

17. Provide an experience in which you effectively set up, adjusted, and operated basic, specialized, and/or advanced machine tools.

18. Share an experience in which you used machine tools to effectively machine parts to specifications.

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

20. Share an experience in which you set controls to regulate machining and/or entered commands to retrieve, input, and edit computerized machine control media.

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

22. Share an experience in which your observation of a machine helped you to effectively diagnose a malfunction. How did you resolve it?

23. Provide an experience in which your knowledge of mechanics, shop mathematics, metal properties, layout, and/or machining procedures helped you to effectively maintain industrial machines.

24. Provide an experience in which conferring with numerical control programmers helped you to ensure that a new program or machine would function properly and/or that the output would meet specifications.

25. Tell me about an effective method you have used to ensure that work pieces are properly lubricated and/or cooled.

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26. Share an experience in which conferring with engineering, supervisory, and/or manufacturing personnel helped you to be more effective in your work.

27. Describe the methods you use to determine the methods and sequences of operations needed to fabricate products.

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

29. 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.

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

31. 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.)

32. Share an experience in which you ensured operational efficiency of equipment. What methods made you effective?

33. Provide your experience programming computers and electronic instruments.

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

35. Tell me about effective work procedures which you established for fabricating new structural products.

36. 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?

37. Provide an example when your ethics were tested.

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38. 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.)

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

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

41. Share your experience fitting and assembling parts to make or repair machine tools.

42. Tell me about an effective fixture, tooling, or experimental part which you designed to meet a special engineering need.

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

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

45. Provide your experience dismantling machines and equipment and replacing defective parts.

46. Describe your experience setting up and operating metalworking, brazing, heat-treating, welding, and/or cutting equipment.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

54. Share an experience in which you recommended a change to experimental procedures which improved efficiency or adaptability to setup and production.

55. 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?

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

57. Share an experience in which you installed repaired parts into equipment and/or new equipment.

58. Provide an effective method you have used to advise clients about the materials being used for products.

59. Share an experience in which you effectively prepared sketches for the illustration of product appearance.

60. Share an experience in which you supported a metalworking project through planning, fabrication, assembly, inspection, and/or testing. How did your knowledge of machine functions, metal properties, and mathematics help you to be effective?

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

62. 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?

63. Provide an experience in which you tested experimental models under simulated operating conditions.

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| 64. 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.) |
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| 65. Share an experience in which you installed experiemental parts or assemblies into machines or mechanisms. |
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| 66. Tell me about your last experience doing repair work. How did you determine what tools you needed? |
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| 67. 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? |
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| 68. Share an experience in which you successfully coordinated with others. How about a coordination effort that was not as successful? |
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| 69. Would you consider analyzing data or information a strength? How so? |
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| 70. Provide an experience that demonstrates your ability to manage time effectively. What were the challenges and results? |
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| 71. Share an experience you had in dealing with a difficult person and how you handled the situation. |
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| 72. Share an experience in which your understanding of a current or upcoming problem helped your company to respond to the problem. |
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| 73. Please share an experience in which you presented to a group. What was the situation and how did it go? |
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| 74. 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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| 75. 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? |
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| 76. What are some long-range objectives that you developed in your last job? What did you do to achieve |

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them?

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

78. 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.

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

80. 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.)

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

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