

Manufacturing Operator Interview Questions

1. Describe the process used to align and position materials being joined in order to ensure accurate application of adhesive or heat sealing.

2. Share the techniques used to start machines, and turn valves or move controls to feed, admit, apply, or transfer materials and adhesives, and to adjust temperature, pressure, and time settings.

3. How would you perform test production runs and make adjustments as necessary to ensure that completed products meet standards and specifications?

4. Describe your experience measuring and mix ingredients to prepare glue.

5. Share your experience observing gauges, meters, and control panels to obtain information about equipment temperatures and pressures, or the speed of feeders or conveyors.

6. Describe an experience removing jammed materials from machines and readjust components as necessary to resume normal operations.

7. Explain the importance of maintaining production records such as quantities, dimensions, and thicknesses of materials processed.

8. Tell me about what methods you use to mount or load material such as paper, plastic, wood, or rubber in feeding mechanisms of cementing or gluing machines.

9. Tell me about reading work orders and communicate with coworkers in order to determine machine and equipment settings and adjustments, and supply and product specifications.

10. How experienced are you in monitoring machine operations to detect malfunctions; report or resolve problems.

11. Explain ways to adjust machine components according to specifications such as widths, lengths, and thickness of materials and amounts of glue, cement, or adhesive required.

12. Share how you would examine and measure completed materials or products to verify conformance to specifications, using measuring devices such as tape measures, gauges, or calipers.

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13. Please clarify how to depress pedals to lower electrodes that heat and seal edges of material.

14. Walk me through the process of transporting materials, supplies, and finished products between storage and work areas, using forklifts.

15. What techniques do you use to clean and maintain gluing and cementing machines, using solutions, lubricants, brushes, and scrapers?

16. Tell me how you remove and stack completed materials or products, and restock materials to be joined.

17. Describe your experience filling machines with glue, cement, or adhesives.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

30. 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.)