

Costume Shop Manager Interview Questions

1. What have you found to be the best way to provide assistance to cast members in wearing costumes, or assign cast dressers to assist specific cast members with costume changes? Share an example.

2. Please share a method you have found effective when arranging costumes in order of use to facilitate quick-change procedures for performances.

3. Walk me through how you design or construct costumes or send them to tailors for construction, major repairs, or alterations.

4. What is the most challenging part of collaborating with production designers, costume designers, or other production staff to discuss and execute costume design details?

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

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

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

8. 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.)

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

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

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

12. Describe an experience where you provided managers with budget recommendations and take responsibility for budgetary line items related to costumes, storage, or makeup needs.

13. How do you stay up to date with new or improved techniques to study books, pictures, or examples of

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period clothing to determine styles worn during specific periods in history? Share an example.

14. What is your process when reviewing scripts or other production information to determine a story's locale or period, as well as the number of characters and required costumes?

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

16. 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.)

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

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

19. Describe a time when you successfully provided personal assistance to a coworker or patron.

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

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

22. How do you make sure the appearance of costumes on stage or under lights to determine whether desired effects are being achieved?

23. 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.)

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

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. What is the most challenging part of monitoring, maintaining, or securing inventories of costumes, wigs, or makeup, providing keys or access to assigned directors, costume designers, or wardrobe mistresses/masters?

27. What kind of experience do you have directing the work of wardrobe crews during dress rehearsals or performances? Share an example.

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

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

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