

Construction Labor Interview Questions And Answers Guide.



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Construction Labor Job Interview Preparation Guide.

Question # 1

Explain me what is OSHA compliance?

Answer:-

OSHA stands for Occupational Safety and Health Act; its motive is to fulfill the health and safety requirement of employees and workers. It is a standard for health and safety that is followed by every industrial segment and corporate offices throughout U.S.A.

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Question # 2

Tell me what is reinforced concrete?

Answer:-

Reinforced concrete have steels bars or mesh in them, which gives extra strength to the construction.

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Question # 3

List out some of the checking's, done at the completion of construction?

Answer:-

Some of the checking done on the exterior of the construction is

- * Utility connections
- * Drainage
- * Retaining walls
- * Compaction of fill material
- * Caulking at opening
- * Storm sewer system
- * Safety provision (terraces, porches, areaways)
- * Accessory buildings
- * Pavement edging
- * Protection against moisture penetration
- * Design of dwelling structure

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Question # 4

Tell me what is progress payment?

Answer:-

It is a payment done by owner to the contractor; it is a difference between the completed work and material stored and a pre-determined schedule of values or unit costs.

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Question # 5

Explain what is Architect-Prepared Contract?

Answer:-

Architect- Prepared Contract is an agreement prepared in-house by the architect between owner and architect, and often reviewed by an attorney, before its execution. It is a legal contract, and it includes all terms and conditions including adequate legal protection for both the parties.

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Question # 6

Explain what things architect have to take care of before starting any project?

Answer:-



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- * Whether the owner has proper planning permission
- * Whether the building has a certain listed grade approved
- * Knowledge of building appliances and materials that includes the cost as well
- * Need to take environmental factors into consideration

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Question # 7

Tell me what are wooden shingles?

Answer:-

Wooden shingles are rectangular in shapes, and they are like slats or sheets that are nailed to the exterior surface. Shingling is a traditional weather proofing method for building.

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Question # 8

Explain me what things you need to take care of before building a kitchen island?

Answer:-

Before you start building a kitchen island, you need to take care of

- * Design the kitchen island according to the need- if it is only for cooking purpose then use less space, but if it is also for eating then design it accordingly
- * List out what appliances you need for your kitchen island
- * How high the counter should be
- * How much storage space should you required
- * Working sides surrounding the kitchen island should have 42 inches of space as a minimum around the kitchen island. Don't plan Kitchen Island if it makes your kitchen more congested.

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Question # 9

Explain me what is your greatest weakness?

Answer:-

I cannot refuse someone straightforwardly (This is a positive weakness - actually it will go in favor of you)

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Question # 10

What are your salary expectations as Construction Labor?

Answer:-

I am willing to get my salary as per company's policy

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Question # 11

Tell me of a situation in which you had little or no direction. How did you deal with it?

Answer:-

Situations such as these arise often. Construction workers all have their own specialties and there are times when we do not get much direction. In a situation such as these, I make use of my own judgment as much as possible along with keeping in contact with customers to ask for periodic feedback.

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Question # 12

Tell us what is the construction task that you feel you are best at?

Answer:-

I believe I am best at cement spreading. Being a perfectionist I do not stop until the assigned surface is consistent and smooth

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Question # 13

Do you know what are the responsibilities of a construction manager?

Answer:-

The responsibilities of a construction manager are

- * • Cost Estimates
- * • Pre-purchase of selected materials
- * • Selection of bidders for bidding phase
- * • Analysis of proposals
- * • Construction contract negotiations
- * • Construction Scheduling and Monitoring
- * • Cost control of construction
- * • Construction supervision

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Question # 14



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List out some of the software used in the construction sector to estimate cost and monitoring expenses?

Answer:-

- * Tally System
- * Sage
- * Maxwell System
- * Premier construction software
- * eTakeoff
- * Construction partner, etc.

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Question # 15

Explain different types of roof systems?

Answer:-

- * Slate or Stone roofs
- * Wood shingle roofs
- * Metal roofing systems

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Question # 16

Tell me what is zoning permit?

Answer:-

Zoning permit is a document issued by governing urban authority permitting land to be used for a particular purpose.

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Question # 17

Tell me how you can turn off the display for dimension in CAD?

Answer:-

The display of your dimensions can be turned off in CAD for that you have to go under Floor Plan View and follow the following steps

- * In floor plan active, select Tools - Display Options
- * Scroll down to the dimensions- Automatic and Dimensions- Manual layers and remove the checkmarks from the Disp column
- * When you click OK, the display of the dimensions in your plan will be turned off

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Question # 18

Tell me what are the problems one might face while having a Cantilever balcony?

Answer:-

Cantilever balcony are usually unsupported and extend outwards, so the problem with Cantilever balconies are

- * Excess deflection or bounce
- * Weakness of the deck structure
- * Rot and water damage to the interior of the house
- * Unevenness inside the house
- * Can't use the balcony for gardening or other purposes as it is not designed to lift excess amount of weight

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Question # 19

Tell us why should we hire you as Construction Labor?

Answer:-

I am physically fit and possess a high energy to perform manual work efficiently

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Question # 20

Please explain how do you deal with situations where customers have problems with the quality of your work?

Answer:-

It is not always possible to satisfy everyone. However, it is our job to make sure that they are happy with what we do. If a customer has issues with the quality of my work, I confer with him to determine what went wrong and then take all measures to ensure I correct it.

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Question # 21

Tell me what do you know about us and our work?

Answer:-

WE MAKE is a well known construction company and you have some really impressive buildings to your credit. You work mainly in concrete and cement structures but also provide services in glass fittings, pipe laying and installation of electrical systems

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Question # 22

Tell me what is demising walls?

Answer:-

Demising wall is used for the boundary that separates your land or house from neighbor's house

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Question # 23

List out some of the common problems that architect have to tackle it?

Answer:-

- * When client is not sure about what they want
- * When there is a limited budget
- * When customer requires custom design at standard design cost
- * When architect has to work with limited space

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Question # 24

Tell me what is your greatest strength as Construction Laborer?

Answer:-

I am a dynamic person and work with full dedication

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Question # 25

Tell me what are the skills you have developed during your previous construction worker job?

Answer:-

When I joined as a construction worker I had very little knowledge of mixing materials. Over the past 4 years I have learnt a lot about the types of building materials, their specifications and required quantities to generate specific quality and compositions of construction blocks as per demand of the target structure

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Question # 26

Tell us have you ever had an on-the-job injury? Describe what happened and the measures you would take to ensure that it does not happen again?

Answer:-

Earlier on in my career, I fell from a high rise building that I was performing construction work on. I had been too sure of myself and decided not to fasten my harness because I was "only" 20 feet above the ground. I fell down and landed on my back. I was lucky not to break my back. But from then on, I realized that even if one is 2 feet above the ground, a harness is essential.

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Question # 27

Tell me for what building Built-on balconies are preferable? What are the advantages?

Answer:-

Built on balconies are mainly designed for retrofitting older buildings. This free standing balcony is supported in front of the facade on four columns. They are backed to the wall with brackets.

The advantage of built-on balconies are

- * Old balconies can be dismantled, and the new ones can be erected immediately in front of the facade without disturbing the inner structure of the building
- * The work takes place outside of the house, so there is no interference to the interior of the building

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Question # 28

Tell me how you can use different dimension tools in CAD? What are the different dimensions available?

Answer:-

If you are using CAD and want to use dimension tools, then go to CAD>Dimensions and you can have access to a wide range of dimensions like

- * Manual dimensions
- * Interior dimensions
- * Auto exterior dimensions
- * Auto interior dimensions
- * End to end dimensions
- * Point to point dimensions
- * Angular dimensions
- * Display temporary dimensions
- * Moving objects using dimensions

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Question # 29

Tell me what are the phases inspections are done by local authority while construction?

Answer:-

Various inspections during the construction includes



- * Site Inspection
- * Pre-construction or first construction Inspection
- * Foundation inspection (before placing of concrete)
- * Framing inspection (before insulating or covering frame)
- * Insulation inspection (After insulation is completed)
- * Final inspection (after all construction is completed, and permits are received)

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Question # 30

For the construction project what capital cost has to be taken in consideration?

Answer:-

- * Land acquisition (Assembly, holding and improvement)
- * Planning and feasibility studies
- * Construction (Material, equipment, and labor)
- * Construction financing (Bank loan)
- * Insurance and taxes during construction
- * Owner's general office overhead
- * Inspection and testing
- * Equipment and furnishing not included in the construction
- * Field supervision, architectural and engineering design

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Question # 31

For you, what is the most enjoyable and most difficult part of this job as Construction Labor?

Answer:-

I enjoy installing various systems into constructional structures specially the electrical ones since I find them very amusing and like to see how they work. The part I find difficult is when the plan changes after half or full has been done. Design modifications usually involve breaking down of a portion of construction and when redone its neatness is compromised

In my previous role I have been mainly responsible for cement mixing, loading and unloading of material and spreading concrete mixtures to dry and form structures. Fine tasks might vary a little but I believe the core duties I have mentioned are all required by the position in question as well and my experience will give me an edge over other inexperienced candidates

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Question # 32

Explain me what is the ideal size of the living room ranges from small to large size?

Answer:-

- * Very small size living room= 7x10ft (for two seater sofas on one side of the room)
- * Small living room= 10x13ft (for two 2 seater sofa)
- * Medium living room= 12times18 (for 3 Seater sofa)
- * Large living room= 15times20 (for 4 seater or 5 seater sofa)

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Question # 33

Tell us how important is it to be able to read and interpret blueprints and electrical drawings?

Answer:-

There is nothing more important than being able to read and interpret blueprints and electrical drawings. This is because all activities of a construction worker depend on these two. If one cannot read and interpret these, one cannot plan and execute construction activities.

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Question # 34

List out the potential risk factors for workers on the construction site?

Answer:-

Potential risk factors for worker on the construction site

- * Falls from heights
- * Scaffold and Trench collapse
- * Electric shock and arc blast
- * Repetitive motion injuries
- * Not using personal protective equipment correctly

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Question # 35

List out some of the software program that can be useful for architect?

Answer:-

- * AutoCAD
- * Revit
- * 3DS Max
- * Sketchup
- * Photoshop
- * Adobe creative suites



- * Microsoft office
- * Digital Media

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Question # 36

List out the types of roofs?

Answer:-

- * Half hipped roof
- * Dutch gable roof
- * Skillion roof
- * Gambrel roof
- * Gull wind roof
- * Mansard roof
- * Bell cast roof
- * Sawtooth roof
- * Monitor roof, etc.

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Question # 37

Explain me how do you manage the safe use of construction equipment?

Answer:-

I have been especially trained in the use of tools and equipment that is used in a laborer's work. I can read manuals and ensure that I read and re-read safety instructions before I use a new tool or equipment.

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Question # 38

Explain me how will your previous work experience support you in this job?

Answer:-

In my previous role I have been mainly responsible for cement mixing, loading and unloading of material and spreading concrete mixtures to dry and form structures. Fine tasks might vary a little but I believe the core duties I have mentioned are all required by the position in question as well and my experience will give me an edge over other inexperienced candidates

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Question # 39

Tell me why do you want this job as Construction Labor?

Answer:-

I want this job because I want to deliver my skills and expertise to maximize the efficiency of construction projects

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Question # 40

Tell me how to build the floor to ceiling bookcase?

Answer:-

To build a floor to ceiling bookcase

- * First measure the distance between the floor and ceiling
- * Cut two boards of the length of that distance
- * Cut two boards with the width you require
- * Attach top and bottom boards to the side with 2 inch nails. Keep a gap about one or two inches between each nail
- * Attach top and bottom boards to the side boards with 2 inch nail. This will create a frame of your bookcase. Add the shelves to the bookcase the way you want and then paint it.

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Question # 41

Tell me what are the skills required to become an architect?

Answer:-

- * Conceptual understanding of designing models
- * Basic knowledge of computer and architect related software programs
- * Engineering ability
- * Business aptitude
- * Legal knowledge
- * Designing 3D models

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Question # 42

Tell me what is Critical Path Method (C.P.M)?

Answer:-

Critical Path Method is strategy and method of representing the respective tasks and activities involved in the construction through a symbolic diagram.



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Question # 43

Tell me what are the common ways of demolition?

Answer:-

- * Hydro-demolition
- * Pressure Bursting
- * Dismantling

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Question # 44

Explain what are the composition of a landfill?

Answer:-

For secure landfill, there are four critical elements

- * The bottom liner
- * A leachate collection system
- * A cover
- * Natural hydrogeologic settings

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Question # 45

Explain what does a construction cost covers and what does not?

Answer:-

A construction cost covers material, labor, equipment and services, contractor's overhead and profit and other direct construction costs. While, it does not cover compensation paid to the architect, consultant or engineers, cost of the land and other cost that is owner's responsibility.

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Question # 46

Explain me which are the top apps for you civil engineer?

Answer:-

Some of the best apps

- * Evernote
- * STEEL
- * Dropbox
- * Instagram
- * Sketchbook
- * Photoshop Express
- * Flipboard
- * Magic Plan
- * Houzz
- * AutoCAD Ws

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Question # 47

Do you know what are the key responsibilities of a construction worker?

Answer:-

Major responsibilities of a construction worker include breaking up concrete using jackhammers, operating drill machines as needed, shoveling construction material into cement mixers, positioning and aligning concrete and steel structures, signaling heavy machinery operators for correct placement of portable structures and setting up and removing of scaffoldings for support.

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Question # 48

Tell me what is the difference between built area and super built up area?

Answer:-

- * Built up area: It includes your carpet area plus area covered by walls, pillars and ducts. It is usually 10% more from the carpet area
- * Super built up area: It includes your built up area plus the area that you use as building amenities like passage to lift, stairs and lifts, gym, club, etc.

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Question # 49

Explain what should be the standard roof height like to be?

Answer:-

For inhabited building, standard height for roof should be one or two storeys tall. If you don't need to make roof taller and yet you want make it look bigger from outside use a mansard roof containing multiple floors. The roof of the room can be adjusted by changing its pitch or by adding a parapet.

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Question # 50

Tell us what is the most recent skill that you have learned?

Answer:-

I had worked with almost everything except building scaffolding which I had the opportunity to learn three months ago for a construction project.

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Question # 51

Explain what is labor and material payment bond?

Answer:-

It is a bond between the owner and the main contractor. Where a contractor guarantees for payment to the owner if he fails to pay for all labor, materials, equipment's or services in accordance with the contract.

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Question # 52

Explain what are the different types of foundation?

Answer:-

Three main types of foundation are

- * Basement: In this a basement is prepared first on top of it building is constructed
- * Crawl space: A crawl space is a raised foundation, it is built above the ground, just allowing enough space to crawl underneath
- * Slab: In this foundation, concrete is directly poured into the pit made in the ground.

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Question # 53

Tell me what is the release of lien?

Answer:-

Release of lien is a written document executed by an individual or firm supplying labor, material or professional service on a project, which release his mechanic's lien against the project property.

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Question # 54

Explain me how would you rate your mathematical skills?

Answer:-

My numeracy skills are fairly good. I can easily calculate required percentages of various construction materials to be added in the mixture. I am also well versed in calculating cost estimates based on the given market rates and client's construction plan

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Question # 55

Do you know what is flashing?

Answer:-

Flashing is an extended construction that is done to seal and protects joints in a building from water penetration. Flashing is installed at the intersecting roofs, walls and parapets.

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Question # 56

Tell us how do you measure your performance as labourer?

Answer:-

I believe that I am highly qualified for this position as I have performed quite well over the years. With a lot of experience over the past nine years, I would rate myself at least an 8 on a scale of 10.

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Question # 57

Tell me what is structural frames or systems?

Answer:-

Structural frames are a load bearing assembly of beams and columns on a foundation. Normally, the columns and beams are generally fabricated off site and assembled on site.

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Question # 58

Tell me what is Hybrid Foundation?

Answer:-

Hybrid Foundation is usually used for high rise building, it contains both soil supported mat and piles. This type of foundation is helpful in reducing the amount of the settlement.



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Question # 59

Explain me what made you choose the profession of a laborer?

Answer:-

To be honest, I came into this profession by sheer chance. I was an ace student in shop class in high school and when I graduated from high school, I realized that this was my vocation. I have been working as a laborer ever since.

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Question # 60

Tell me what is alternate bid?

Answer:-

Alternate bid is the amount stated in the bid to be deducted or added from the base bid amount. Alternate bid is proposed when there is a use of alternate materials or methods of construction.

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Question # 61

Tell me what is change order request?

Answer:-

Change order request is a written document issued or given by the owner, requesting an adjustment to the contract sum or an extension of the contract time. Usually, it is issued by the architect or owners representative.

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Question # 62

Tell me what is 1/8 on the architect ruler denotes?

Answer:-

1/8 on the ruler is infact a scale that converts 1/8 inch on to the drawing to 1 foot. It would represent a drawing with a scale of 1/8"= 1 foot.

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Question # 63

Do you know what is floating slab foundation?

Answer:-

A floating concrete foundation is a type of mat foundation that consists of the hollow mat formed by a grid of thick reinforced concrete walls between two thick reinforced concrete slabs.

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