# Excel Interview Questions And Answers Guide.



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## **Excel Job Interview Preparation Guide.**

#### Question # 1

Name five characteristics that describe you?

#### Answer:-

Here are a few you could choose from:

Hard working, strong willed, persistent, intelligent, adept, amicable, friendly, collaborative, eager, humble.

#### Question # 2

What type of people do you not work well with?

#### Answer:-

Be very careful answering this question as most organization employ professionals with an array of personalities and characteristics. You don't want to give the impression that you're going to have problems working with anyone currently employed at the organization. If you through out anything trivial you're going to look like a whiner. Only disloyalty to the organization or lawbreaking should be on your list of personal characteristics of people you can't work with. **Read More Answers.** 

#### Question # 3

Tell me about a time when you had to give someone difficult feedback In Excel?

#### Answer:-

By asking this question, your interviewer hopes to learn whether you can communicate effectively, address issues in the workplace and motivate others during difficult times. Giving negative feedback requires honesty, thoughtfulness and tact. Answering this question well can help show an interviewer that you would be a good fit for a managerial position or a position that involves working closely with others.

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#### Question #4

Tell me about a decision you made recently and how you reached it In Excel?

#### Answer:-

The key is to show that you put a lot of thought (weighing out the pros and cons) but were able to be decisive. Be sure to explain your logic in arriving at the decision. Read More Answers.

#### Question # 5

Describe a time when you put your needs aside to help a co-worker understand a task. How did you assist them? What was the result?

#### Answer:-

The key is to show that the mentoring of a co-worker was first a higher priority than the task you had at hand (remember, you want to show that you focus on highest priority tasks first). Then, describe in detail how you helped them not only complete the task but learn to do it on their own. You want to teach them HOW to fish and not to simply fish for them.

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#### Question # 6

When were you most satisfied in your job In Excel?

#### Answer:-

I'm a people person. I was always happiest and most satisfied when I was interacting with community residents, making sure I was able to meet their needs and giving them the best possible comfort in a tough situation. It was my favorite part of the job, and it showed. Part of the reason I'm interested in this job is that I know I'd have even more interaction with the public, on an even more critical level.

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#### Question #7



#### Do you have any blind spots?

#### Answer:-

This question is often meant to trick candidates since acknowledgment of blind spots would indicate they were aware of them. Also, do not disclose bad habits or other personal concerns. Let the interviewer find out about your personal flaws through the course of the interview without directly stating these flaws.

#### Question # 8

Why did you leave your last job In Excel?

#### Answer:-

Regardless of why you left your last job make sure to stay positive. Always smile and focus on the positive reason such you were seeking the opportunity to expand your career opportunities, your interest in working with a new firm that provided greater opportunity, you desired to work in a new location, etc. Don't reference previous job problems or differences with management that caused you to leave. If you stay positive, your answer may help you. If you're negative, you will likely decrease your chances of getting the job for which you're interviewing.

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### Question # 9

How long do you want to work for us if we hire you?

#### Answer:-

Here being specific is probably not the best approach. You may consider responding, "I hope a very long time." Or "As long as we're both happy with my performance."

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#### Question # 10

Why was there a gap in your employment In Excel?

#### Answer:-

If you were unemployed for a period of time, be direct and to the point about what you've been up to (and hopefully, that's a litany of impressive volunteer and other mind-enriching activities, like blogging or taking classes). Then, steer the conversation toward how you will do the job and contribute to the organization: "I decided to take a break at the time, but today I'm ready to contribute to this organization in the following ways."

#### Read More Answers

#### Question # 11

Think about the changes you have seen and tell me how you handle change?

#### Answer:-

You can cite personal life changes, work place changes, career changes, technology change, industry change. The key is to discuss how seeing or experiencing that change has helped your development. For example, the recent changes in social media has broadened my horizons and helped me learn new forms of efficient marketing.

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#### Question # 12

Are you willing to work in shifts?

#### Answer:-

If the job calls for shifts that vary, be ready to do that for your work. If you aren't open to that, then explain why and see if they can adjust it for you. Read More Answers.

#### Question # 13

Describe your management style?

#### Answer:-

Try to avoid specific classifications, whatever it may be. Organizations usually prefer managers who can adapt their skills to different situations.

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#### Question # 14

What five words would be describe you as Excel?

#### Answer:-

The hiring manager requests this of you because she wants to know more about your individual personality. This list can reveal a lot to her about who you are and how you might fit into the workplace. Your answer also gives the manager an indication of your self-perception, which is a good indicator of the type of employee you will be.

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#### Question # 15

What is your greatest achievement outside of work In Excel?

#### Answer:-

This is a great opportunity for you to discuss how you've given back to the community, how you've achieved in a competitive extracurricular activity (think sports or clubs), how you've mentored others, and so forth.



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#### Question # 16

Who has been an inspiration for you?

#### Answer:-

Cite your role models (possible examples could be your parents, people successful in the industry, world leaders, etc)

#### Read More Answers.

Question # 17

#### Who are your heroes?

#### Answer:-

Have at least one person you consider a hero or role model. Be ready to explain why they are a hero to you and how they've inspired you to be a better person. Read More Answers.

#### Question # 18

What do you consider to be your greatest strength?

#### Answer:-

There isn't any right answer. Just make sure to make your response positive and true. A few good examples include: Your ability to solve complex problems, Your ability to work well on a team, Your ability to shine under pressure, Your ability to focus in chaotic situations, Your ability to prioritize and organize, Your ability to cut through the fluff to identify the real issues, Your ability to influence other positively. If your strength relates to the position in question that will be more beneficial - but again be honest, don't create a strength for yourself just because you think it will sound good.

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#### Question # 19

If you had enough money to retire would you?

#### Answer:-

Just be honest. If you would retire then say so. But since you can't retire, and the interviewer already knows this, simply answer that since you can't this is type of work you prefer doing. However, if you wouldn't retire if you had the money then explain why. Work is an important element of happiness for most people and many won't retire even when they can.

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#### Question # 20

Tell me about a time you failed?

#### Answer:-

Everyone has failed, so don't play dumb or claim you've never messed up In Excel. Think of a time when a work-related situation didn't turn out quite as you had hoped. An interviewer is interested in seeing how you took responsibility for your failure, what you learned from it, and how you would prevent similar failures from happening again.

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#### Question # 21

Do you think you are overqualified for this position In Excel?

#### Answer:-

No matter your previous job experience or educational background, be sure to tell the interviewer you have the knowledge and skills to successfully execute the job responsibilities.

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#### Question # 22

What are ideas or initiatives you've led and what was the outcome?

#### Answer:-

Describe your most unique ideas and initiatives that had the best results for the company. Make sure you highlight your creativity, your results, your diligence and your ability to execute.

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#### Question # 23

Who are your role models? Why?

#### Answer:-

If possible, cite role models you're truly passionate about - passion is contagious and will show you're being genuine. If the role model is in the same or similar industry as the company in an executive level position, even better.

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#### Question # 24

Why did you choose your major in college or tech school?



#### Answer:-

People usually choose their major based on their passions or the career path they want to head towards. Read More Answers.

#### Question # 25

What type of mentors do you seek out and why?

#### Answer:-

Think of your top 3 mentors and what attributes they exhibit that you want to emulate. Common attributes include passion, desire, will, leadership, ability to influence others, intelligence.

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#### Question # 26

What are the qualities of a good leader In Excel? A bad leader?

#### Answer:-

A good leader provides constructive criticism, motivates and inspires, coaches the mentee to be successful with their set of skills, and encourages them to push themselves. A bad leader only cares about his/her own interests and does not look out for the success of his/her staff.

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#### Question # 27

If someone had to say something negative to you, what would they say?

#### Answer:-

Again, be honest about sharing a story here about someone who may not have gotten along with you in the office here and explain how you were able to fix that relationship or change your attitude/action to be a better person / coworker.

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#### Question # 28

How has school prepared you for this job role?

#### Answer:-

Think back to how you've interacted with your peers to develop social skills, how you've worked with classmates on projects to develop teamwork and collaborative skills, how you've developed discipline through studying, how the courses have helped your creativity, and how the classes you've taken have impacted your analytical / problem solving / reasoning skills.

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#### Question # 29

What are three positive characteristics you wish you had?

#### Answer:-

The key here is to be honest about your wish list but then to describe how you plan on developing or growing those characteristics so that it becomes a reality. For example, I wish I had a stronger work ethic and I am reading a book right now about how to instill a better discipline around getting work done efficiently. Read More Answers.

#### Question # 30

What do you know about our competition?

#### Answer:-

Make sure you do your research on their competitors. You can find this by going to yahoo finance and click on their competitors (if they are public). From there research the news on them and go to their websites to understand their positioning on solutions and vision. You can also research local regional companies that are their competition (if it's a smaller private company on a regional scale) by simply typing in similar product offerings in the Google search followed by the city. Make sure you know their competitor's vision, products, culture, and how they are differentiated against their competition (and if they're not, how they could be) Read More Answers.

#### Question # 31

How do you deal with conflict in the workplace In Excel?

#### Answer:-

When people work together, conflict is often unavoidable because of differences in work goals and personal styles. Follow these guidelines for handling conflict in

- the workplace. \* 1. Talk with the other person.
- \* 2. Focus on behavior and events, not on personalities.
- \* 3. Listen carefully.
- \* 4. Identify points of agreement and disagreement.
- \* 5. Prioritize the areas of conflict.
- \* 6. Develop a plan to work on each conflict.
- \* 7. Follow through on your plan.
- \* 8. Build on your success.

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#### Question # 32



#### What do you think of your previous boss?

#### Answer:-

Do not belittle or talk badly of your last boss - it will come off as being petty. Instead, talk about the positive lessons you were able to learn from your last boss. Read More Answers.

Question # 33

#### What is your biggest fear?

#### Answer:-

Don't try to sugarcoat the answer by listing something ambitious as a fear, unless you truly mean it (for example: I fear being a great leader) - Share your real fears but discuss how you would overcome them.

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#### Question # 34

Why were you fired?

#### Answer:-

OK, if you get the admittedly much tougher follow-up question as to why you were let go (and the truth isn't exactly pretty), your best bet is to be honest (the job-seeking world is small, after all). But it doesn't have to be a deal-breaker. Share how you've grown and how you approach your job and life now as a result. If you can position the learning experience as an advantage for this next job, even better.

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#### Question # 35

Why do you feel you will excel at rhis job?

#### Answer:-

This question presents an excellent opportunity for you to discuss your education, qualifications and personal traits. You might say something like "I studied property management as well as behavior during my college years and I have two years' experience in real estate.

I can gauge the homes or apartments in which clients will be interested based solely upon the needs of their families. Finally, my organizational skills will allow me to schedule appointments or showings confidently and arrive for them punctually." This shows your interviewer that you have all of the skills necessary to become successful not only for yourself, but also for your employer.

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#### Question # 36

Do you have the ability to articulate a vision and to get others involved to carry it out?

#### Answer:-

If yes, then share an example of how you've done so at work or college. If not, then discuss how you would do so. Example: "I would first understand the goals of the staff members and then I would align those to the goals of the project / company. Then I would articulate the vision of that alignment and ask them to participate. From there, we would delegate tasks among the team and then follow up on a date and time to ensure follow through on the tasks. Lastly, we would review the results together."

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#### Question # 37

What is the most important lesson / skill you've learned from school?

#### Answer:-

Think of lessons learned in extra curricular activities, in clubs, in classes that had a profound impact on your personal development. For example, I had to lead a team of 5 people on a school project and learned to get people with drastically different personalities to work together as a team to achieve our objective.

#### Question # 38

What's been your biggest failure to date?

#### Answer:-

Describe your biggest failure and discuss what you've learned from it and ideally how you've been successful since because of that lesson.

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#### Question # 39

Why are you interested in this type of job In Excel?

#### Answer:-

You're looking for someone who enjoys working with the elderly, or a caring, sociable, and nurturing person.

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#### Question # 40

How important is a positive attitude to you?

#### Answer:-

Incredibly important. I believe a positive attitude is the foundation of being successful - it's contagious in the workplace, with our customers, and ultimately it's the difference maker.



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#### Question # 41

How do you feel about this company's vision?

#### Answer:-

First find out where the company envisions itself in 3-5 years. If you can't find the vision of the company, that's probably a big question mark on the company itself. Once you do, identify how those company's visions align to your personal values and goals and then articulate how tightly correlated that is to the interviewer. For example - this company wants to be the #1 provider of green technology in the world and I feel strongly about that vision because we've got a chance to collectively impact the world to become a greener society and save our clients at the same time!

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#### Question # 42

How articulate are you in expressing your ideas?

#### Answer:-

One of the best ways to answer this question is clearly articulate three points that demonstrate how articulate you are (and in a sense show that in a live setting) - for example: "I would say I'm articulate because one, I typically gather my thoughts before speaking, two, I organize my thoughts well, and three I'm concise when making a point.

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#### Question # 43

If I talked to your three biggest fans, who would they be and why?

#### Answer:-

If you can reference three professionals with executive titles (CXO, VP, Director, Manager), that carries a lot of weight. Make sure you highlight how you've helped them achieve their biggest objectives and how that's made them your fan.

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#### Question # 44

How do you ensure all of your work gets accomplished in a productive manner?

#### Answer:-

The key is to prioritize what's important in your work and to stay organized to accomplish the tasks. A strong work ethic also helps.

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#### Question # 45

What does quality work mean to you?

#### Answer:-

Quality work to be is about doing work to the require or set standard, which is very important when it comes to warehouse operations. Read More Answers.

#### Question # 46

How do you keep each member of the team involved and motivated?

#### Answer:-

Many managers mistakenly think that money is the prime motivator for their employees. However, according to surveys by several different companies, money is consistently ranked five or lower by most employees. So if money is not the best way to motivate your team, what is? Employees' three most important issues according to employees are:

\* Respect

\* A sense of accomplishment

\* Recognition

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#### Question # 47

What does "thinking outside the box" mean to you?

#### Answer:-

It means not doing things exactly the same way as everyone else. You've got to challenge the status quo and bring something new to the business.

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#### Question # 48

Do you think a leader should be feared or liked?

#### Answer:-

Liked. You want to work harder for people that inspire and motivate you. Fear only lasts for so long.

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#### Question # 49

How do you plan to go by an example for your subordinates?



#### Answer:-

Sticking to the rules by yourself, working hard and not mind participating on basic tasks is a good answer. Read More Answers.

#### Question # 50

Tell me about the last time you had to work with someone inside or outside of your department to accomplish a goal?

#### Answer:-

Show that you were communicative with that person and that you were able to collaborate effectively in sharing ideas and work tasks. They want to see that you can be a team player.

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#### Question # 51

How would you go about establishing your credibility quickly In Excel with the team?

#### Answer:-

Fully understand my responsibilities, work hard and exceed expectations, learn as much as possible, help others as much as possible, understand what my teammates' goals and needs are, be on time, and gain a mentor.

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#### Question # 52

What do you expect to be earning in 5 years In Excel?

#### Answer:-

Discuss how you expect yourself to be excellent at your job. Thus, it would be reasonable to expect pay that is based on the merit of your work.

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#### Question # 53

Describe a typical work week for this position In Excel?

#### Answer:-

Interviewers expect a candidate for employment to discuss what they do while they are working in detail. Before you answer, consider the position In Excel you are applying for and how your current or past positions relate to it. The more you can connect your past experience with the job opening, the more successful you will be at answering the questions.

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#### Question # 54

What aspect of supervision do you find the most difficult?

#### Answer:-

Managing different personalities and keeping them focused on the goal at hand.

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#### Question # 55

How would you rate your communication and interpersonal skills for this job In Excel?

#### Answer:-

These are important for support workers. But they differ from the communication skills of a CEO or a desktop support technician. Communication must be adapted to the special ways and needs of the clients. Workers must be able to not only understand and help their clients, but must project empathy and be a warm, humane presence in their lives.

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#### Question # 56

How would you observe the level of motivation of your subordinates?

#### Answer:-

Choosing the right metrics and comparing productivity of everyone on daily basis is a good answer, doesn't matter in which company you apply for a supervisory role.

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#### Question # 57

What is your desired salary In Excel?

#### Answer:-

Bad Answer: Candidates who are unable to answer the question, or give an answer that is far above market. Shows that they have not done research on the market rate, or have unreasonable expectations.

Good answer: A number or range that falls within the market rate and matches their level of mastery of skills required to do the job.

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#### Question # 58



Why are you leaving your current job?

#### Answer:-

This is a toughie, but one you can be sure you'll be asked. Definitely keep things positive-you have nothing to gain by being negative about your past employers. Instead, frame things in a way that shows that you're eager to take on new opportunities and that the role you're interviewing for is a better fit for you than your current or last position. For example, "I'd really love to be part of product development from beginning to end, and I know I'd have that opportunity here." And if you were let go? Keep it simple: "Unfortunately, I was let go," is a totally OK answer.

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#### Question # 59

How would you define success?

#### Answer:-

Success is defined differently for everybody. Just make sure the parameters are defined by you with regards to work life balance, financial gain, career growth, achievements, creating meaningful work / products and so forth. If you can clearly articulate what it means to you that is a strong answer.

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#### Question # 60

There's no right or wrong answer, but if you could be anywhere in the world right now, where would you be?

#### Answer:-

Just be honest about where you'd like to be - you never know - you may end up bonding with the interviewer with the location. However, you want to stress that you want to work out of the location that you're interviewing for.

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#### Question # 61

What problems have you encountered at work?

#### Answer:-

Wow, do we have problems! Where do I begin? Well, most of the problems are internal, just people not working well with each other. I have one person on our team who is a real problem, but it seems like management is afraid to do anything about it. So we all end up having to do extra work to cover for this person, who just doesn't work. We all say that he's retired in place. I think he's just holding on until retirement in a couple years. But he's a real problem. I complain about it--a lot--but nothing ever seems to get done. I've even written negative reviews about the person, hoping he will get canned, but it doesn't happen. I can't wait for him to retire.

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#### Question # 62

What do you know about the company?

#### Answer:-

Any candidate can read and regurgitate the company's "About" page. So, when interviewers ask this, they aren't necessarily trying to gauge whether you understand the mission-they want to know whether you care about it. Start with one line that shows you understand the company's goals, using a couple key words and phrases from the website, but then go on to make it personal. Say, "I'm personally drawn to this mission because..." or "I really believe in this approach because..." and share a personal example or two.

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#### Question #63

What do you know about this department?

#### Answer:-

One good way to find out about the department is to try to "informally" interview the existing employees over coffee (outside of the office) if possible. It's hard if you don't have any connections there, but if you do a great way to learn about it. Other than that, it's often hard to learn about the department so you can turn the table back on them by asking questions to learn about it.

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