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# Initiative Workplace Job Interview Preparation Guide.

#### Question #1

Please tell me what is a workplace?

#### Answer:-

The workplace is the physical location where someone works. Such a place can range from a home office to a large office building or factory. The workplace is one of the most important social spaces other than the home, constituting a central concept for several entities, the worker and his/her family, the employing organization, the customers of the organization and the society as a whole. The development of new communication technologies have led to the development of the virtual workplace, a workplace that is not located in any one physical space.

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#### Question # 2

Give some examples of your initiative work?

#### Answer-

Examples of initiative are as follows:

- \* It inspires the initiative that makes our productivity the wonder of the world.
- \* The bride of good family need do nothing on her own initiative.
- \* It was that personal character and initiative are the prime requisites in political and social life.

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## Question # 3

Please tell me do you have any initiative skills in the workplace?

## Answer:-

Yes, I do possess sound initiative skills. As a matter of fact, due to this skill, I contacted the human resource department before hand and inquired about the prerequisites for the interview.

Though, most of it was mentioned in the interview schedule, I inquired about it still. Due to taking such an initiative, I learnt the need of bringing references and certificates and I have brought it with me.

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## Question # 4

Are you able to work well on your initiative workplace?

## Answer-

Of course you work well on your own initiative. But how can you prove that to the interviewer? This is a closed question but it certainly requires more than a one word answer. It is a great chance for you to roll out a pre-prepared example which ticks all the interviewer's boxes and shows you in a positive light.

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## Question #5

Tell me about a suggestion that you made to your supervisor recently?

## Answer:-

I work in orders and the company was launching a new product. The sales team had in-depth training on it but we had none.

I suggested that the orders department should also receive the training so that we would understand what was being ordered and be able to answer any questions if necessary. It was agreed we would all undergo a short version of the training.

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## Question # 6

Please give examples of using your initiative in your last workplace?

## Answer:

Have you ever had to train a new person into a job role (show them what to do) without being asked. Had to fix a photocopier, fax machine, an important piece of equipment that is in constant use and been able to rectify the problem. Had to take control of a situation, maybe when everyone is out of the office/taken calls/direct



public/take inquiries. Had to ever delegate work/oversee a new employee/take control.

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## Question #7

Do you think that initiative is now sneered in the workplace?

#### Answer:

Part of being a successful member of a work team is being sensitive to the needs and emotional dynamics of other team members. While it is certainly true that a lack of job security in the current work environment has many people feeling anxious, there is always been mixed feeling about colleagues who make the rest of us look bad. I would say you can learn from this recent experience and try to avoid the high profile kind of initiatives that make others defensive.

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## Question #8

Can you define initiative?

#### Answer:

The first step or action of a matter, commencing move or the right or power to begin or initiate something and the ability or attitude required to begin or initiate something is called initiative.

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#### Question #9

How would you develop a career plan for the initiative at workplace?

#### Answer-

Research has shown that people who have a long-term career plan are more likely to take initiative. Professionals who know what they want and where they want to go are far more likely to show initiative at work, especially when the action or decision will help them further their career goals.

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#### Question # 10

How will you build self confidence to develop initiative at workplace?

#### Answer-

It can take courage and a strong sense of self to show initiative, especially if you fear that people may disagree with your actions or suggestions. Set small goals so you can achieve some quick wins and push yourself to do (positive) things that you would otherwise be scared to do this will not only help you build your self-confidence but it will help you build the courage to accomplish bigger, scarier tasks later on.

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## Question # 11

How would you develop rational persistence for the initiative at workplace?

## Answer:-

Persistence is the art of moving forward even when you encounter inertia or difficulty. People who show initiative often encounter difficulties and setbacks along the way, so rational persistence (where you listen to, consider and appropriately modify your direction depending on other people's input) is essential if you want to achieve what you have set out to do.

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## Question # 12

Tell me a time when you showed initiative at workplace with example?

## Answer:-

The recruiter may ask you for an example of a time when you showed initiative in order to find out whether you are capable of coming up with new ideas and thinking creatively in order to solve problems. You can take your example from your work experience, a group project or a skills-related extra-curricular activity.

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## Question # 13

How to sense or check your ideas to develop initiative at workplace?

## Answer-

Imagine that you have come up with a creative way of breaking through a bottleneck in your customer service process. Before you head straight to your boss with your idea, stop and do some homework. Think about the costs and risks associated with the idea.

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## Question # 14

Tell me how would you find balance to develop initiative at workplace?

## Answer:-

While it is important to take initiative, it is just as important to be wise in the way that you use it. In some situations, it can be inappropriate to take initiative and people who generate too much extra work for other people can upset others.

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## Question # 15



Tell me how would you spot opportunities and potential improvements to develop initiative at workplace?

#### Answer:

People who show initiative often do so by spotting and acting on opportunities that their colleagues or leaders have not noticed. They are curious about their organization and how it works and they keep their minds open to new ideas and new possibilities.

You should always be on the lookout for areas in your organization that could use improvement.

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#### Question # 16

Tell me about supporting initiative at workplace?

#### Answer-

Supporting initiative can make working more effective, it helps both the manager and team to get results.

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#### Question # 17

How does using initiative at your workplace help?

#### Answer:-

Using initiative in the workplace is not just a way to help your company be more successful, it is also a way to get your employer to recognize you as a key asset. Regardless of your industry or position, showing initiative will help you stand out from your co-workers who are more comfortable just taking orders. Proper initiative in the workplace can help employers see you as management material.

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#### Question # 18

Why is the initiative important at any workplace?

#### Answer:

Initiative has become increasingly important in today's workplace. You show initiative when you act without being told what to do, persist in the face of inertia and difficulty and see your idea through to a successful conclusion.

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#### Question #19

What are the basic initiative power point at workplace?

#### Answer:-

There are 4 basic power point initiative at workplace which are as follows:

- \* Prevent Obstacles
- \* Improvements
- \* Proactive vs. Reactive
- \* Characteristics

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## Question # 20

How would you prevent obstacles by using initiativeness at workplace?

## Answer:

When you use initiative in the workplace, it can prevent obstacles from arising during certain projects, reports Career ealism. When you think ahead about a problem that might occur, you or your manager can address the problem before it becomes an obstacle.

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## Question # 21

Give an example of preventing obstacles by using initiativeness at workplace?

## Answer:-

If you review a company dress code memo and catch an unclear sentence, clarifying the point before sending out the memo will prevent employees from being confused.

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## Question # 22

What are the improvements for using initiative at workplace?

## Answer.

Whether you use initiative to catch a problem in a product or think of a way to market something for better results, workplace initiative is important because it results in improvements in the product or service that your business delivers. The magazine website reports that one of the best ways you can show initiative in the workplace is to always be thinking about how to improve how the organization runs.

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## Question # 23

How to be proactive and reactive for using initiative at workplace?

## Answer:-



Using initiative at work can make you stand out from your co-workers for the right reasons. Managers appreciate it when you are proactive, rather than reactive. In other words, thinking about an situation and foreseeing problems or ways to improve it is better than just reacting once the problem occurs. The career advancement firm Eat Your Career says that proactive employees cause change, instead of react when change happens.

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#### Question # 24

What are the characteristics for improving initiative at workplace?

#### Answer-

Improving your ability to show initiative in the workplace is as simple as looking at how you work and asking yourself a few key questions, according to job search online. Do you make suggestions at meetings? Have you asked for extra assignments? Have you tried to fix problems before taking them to your supervisor or have you started new assignments before you are told? Are you any good at communicating openly with your supervisor? Managers often notice employees who exhibit these traits. Executives are more likely to promote employees who ask for more responsibility.

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#### Question # 25

Tell me is it hard to take initiative at workplace?

#### Answer:-

Taking initiative is hard:

- \* Since it is taking something beyond your regular work, it requires extra time investment which few people seem to have in today's busy organizations.
- \* It requires risk taking and results may not always be there, so an organization too focused on fixing problems and eradicating failure may actually penalize initiative-takers in many cases.

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#### Question # 26

Please give an example of taking initiative to solve any problem at workplace?

#### Answer:-

Taking initiative to solve specific problems is still one of the best ways of being effective. Example:

If your project has too many requirement changes coming in every week, one way to solve this problem might be to stay in close contact with the product managers and change as quickly as requirements come but effective people probe it further and may realize that things are changing because product manager has been meeting with customers without understanding our own capabilities and hence just passes on the requirements without understanding or validating. They then go one step further and help to the product manager by attending the customer meetings, explaining the product and current plan of record and how it solves all of their problems, provides one on one training to product manager and creating a set of slides for the product manager to understand and use for next time.

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## Question # 27

Tell me about right problems to solve for using initiative at workplace?

## Answer:-

The problem on surface is seldom the problem that requires solving. Effective people spend time in understanding the underlying cause of the problems they see and then resolve them. They also keep in mind their basic goals for solving a given problem and are willing to think holistically all the time.

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## Question # 28

How would you clear goals and measure the success for using initiative at workplace?

## Answer:

Once they pick a problem to solve, effective people define the goals and measure of success very clearly. This helps in scoping the problem and effort requirements. Without clear definitions, most initiatives will end up sucking lots of time with no results to show, causing failures.

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## Question # 29

How would you make sure you can produce results for initiative at workplace?

## Answer:-

Most initiatives take additional time and effort from involved persons. If this is not available or can not be created, even important initiatives can fail. So effective people make sure that people who need to contribute have enough time and resources to do so (by talking to their managers, by inspiring them to work extra hours, by re-prioritizing regularly scheduled work, etc).

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## Question # 30

How would you build and maintain credibility for initiative at workplace?

## Answer:

Initiatives depend on others spending time on work that is not directly assigned to them and sometimes may not even benefit them directly. So the people who take initiatives rely a lot on their own credibility and leadership to get others to work on their initiatives. Building and maintaining credibility is absolute must for sustained initiative-taking. Effective people do so very deliberately, by doing these things:

- \* Being Transparent
- \* Give Credit and take blame
- \* Delivering Results



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#### Question #31

How would you be transparent in building and maintaining credibility for the initiative at workplace?

#### Answer:-

Effective people are transparent about why they pick initiatives and are always willing to explain the benefits of an initiative. Their actions support their reasoning and helps people see that the intention is to really solve a problem and not to take undue advantage of others.

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#### Question #32

How would you give credit and take blame for building and maintaining credibility for the initiative at workplace?

#### Answer:-

Effective people understand that since people go out of their regular work schedule to work on initiatives most of the time, they need positive reinforcement all the time. One of the best ways to do this is to give credit when it is due, rather than taking all the limelight when initiative succeeds. Also, it means taking the blame if things go wrong rather than letting others bear the brunt of someone's ire. This generates the respect and good faith that is needed for people to sign up for initiatives with effective people.

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#### Question #33

How would you deliver results for building and maintaining credibility for the initiative at workplace?

#### Answer-

Best way of building credibility is to make initiatives successful so that others feel good about the efforts they put in. Effective people make sure that the percentage of initiatives that succeed is very high. This is done by picking the right ones and then creating right environment and team to make it successful.

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#### Question # 34

Tell me how would you inspire initiative at workplace?

#### Answer:-

Doing less might be the key to inspiring initiative. If you let employees come up with workplace solutions, their innovation might surprise you. Small businesses owners in particular can benefit from this dedication during the start-up phase and through periods of company growth.

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## Question # 35

Why should you give employees the freedom to take initiative at workplace?

## Answer:

When employees feel they have the latitude to try new endeavors, they probably will. Let employees know they can make changes to the workplace in a way that improves their ability to do their jobs well. Encourage big or small changes depending on what works for your company. You might discover that employees who are free to make their jobs easier will spend more time doing their job and will take the initiative to do it better.

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## Question # 36

Why should you support employee initiatives at workplace?

## Answer:-

Complement and support employee initiative. Implementing a company-wide change that one employee has made will encourage other workers to follow the lead of their colleague. You will also send the signal that employees need not be afraid to try new ideas and go the extra mile. Listening to employees and encouraging them to find solutions to problems they encounter gives them a sense of ownership of their jobs and a sense of accomplishment when their initiative results in real change.

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## Question # 37

List some ideas to show initiative at workplace?

## Answer:-

Consider the following ideas for lighting the fire of initiative in your daily work life:

- \* Always be alert for ways to make something work better. Make the suggestion. Volunteer to take ownership for getting it done.
- \* Take it upon yourself be the first to adopt and implement the newest company policy.
- \* Stay alert for ideas to simplify processes and find new and better ways of doing things. Proactively suggest those improvement ideas. Be the example for implementing those processes.
- \* Stay alert for ways to save money and reduce costs. Raise your hand to communicate those suggestions as quickly as possible.
- \* Reach out to colleagues and team members who need help.
- \* Be the first to volunteer for those tough projects and assignments.
- \* Always think ahead. Preempt likely obstacles with well-thought-out plans that take those obstacles into consideration.
- \* Provide, in advance, the answers to the questions you know are going to be asked. "Think like your boss/manager" and consider all deliverable from their perspective before you submit them. Always review your work from the elevation of "30,000 feet."
- \* Always do your homework, always be prepared. Read the material in advance, research the subject matter in advance, dig in and immerse yourself in the topic at hand.
- \* Deal with problems immediately, take action and be decisive. Get it done and get it behind you as quickly as possible.

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#### Question #38

List a few steps which can be used to develop the initiativeness at workplace?

An initiative is a skill that you can develop. You can do this by following these steps:

- \* Develop a Career Plan
- \* Build Self-Confidence
- \* Spot Opportunities and Potential Improvements
- \* Sense-Check Your Ideas
- \* Develop Rational Persistence
- \* Find Balance

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## Question #39

What are the rules to be initiative at workplace?

#### Answer:-

Here are a couple of other rules about initiative:

- \* Before you take on anything new, make sure that you are doing your assigned job well.

  \* Remember that social initiatives do not count for much. Organizing the company picnic or a blood drive will not get you the kind of recognition you want. They are fine things to do but do them because they bring you satisfaction.
- \* The kind of initiatives that matter to your career are those that relate to the company's critical path. Find out what promotes the company's core mission and tie your initiatives to it.

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#### Question # 40

List some effective things to do for taking initiative at any work?

Here are some of the things effective people do when they taking initiatives:

- \* Right problems to solve
- \* Clear goals and measures of success
- \* Make sure you can produce results
- \* Build and maintain credibility

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