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# Professional Architect Job Interview Preparation Guide.

# Question #1

Why did you leave your last job as Professional Architect?

# Answer:-

Stay positive regardless of the circumstances. Never refer to a major problem with management and never speak ill of supervisors, co-workers or the organization. If you do, you will be the one looking bad. Keep smiling and talk about leaving for a positive reason such as an opportunity, a chance to do something special or other forward-looking reasons.

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### Question # 2

Explain me why do you want to work for this organization?

### Answer:

This may take some thought and certainly, should be based on the research you have done on the organization. Sincerity is extremely important here and will easily be sensed. Relate it to your long-term career goals.

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# Question #3

Why should we hire you as Professional Architect?

# Answer:

Point out how your assets meet what the organization needs. Do not mention any other candidates to make a comparison.

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# Question # 4

Explain what would your previous supervisor say your strongest point is?

# Answer:

There are numerous good possibilities: Loyalty, Energy, Positive attitude, Leadership, Team player, Expertise, Initiative, Patience, Hard work, Creativity, Problem solver

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# Question # 5

Explain me how would you know you were successful on your job?

# Answer:-

Several ways are good measures: You set high standards for yourself and meet them. Your outcomes are a success. Your boss tell you that you are successful Read More Answers.

# Question #6

Explain what have you learned from mistakes on the job?

# Answer:

Here you have to come up with something or you strain credibility. Make it small, well intentioned mistake with a positive lesson learned. An example would be working too far ahead of colleagues on a project and thus throwing coordination off.

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# Question # 7

Explain me what has been your biggest professional disappointment?

# Answer:-

Be sure that you refer to something that was beyond your control. Show acceptance and no negative feelings.



# Read More Answers

### Question #8

Explain me what is your greatest strength(s)?

### Answer:

Don't be afraid to brag about yourself, for example:

"My time management skills are excellent and I'm organized, efficient, and take pride in my work. I am very familiar with the processes and procedures of taking large projects from conceptual design to construction administration.

I have a strong attention to detail and bring a rigorous design ethic to all the projects I work on. I am also very skilled in the use of 2D and 3D computer software for both drafting and rendering for presentation materials and detailed construction documents."

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# Question #9

Tell me are you licensed? Do you plan to be? If so, when?

### Answer:-

Most firms like to see as large a percentage as possible of licensed staff. This can help to give clients confidence in the quality of work.

Do not complain about the cost or amount of work it takes to becoming licensed. Projecting laziness is not a desirable trait for new staff.

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# Question # 10

Explain me what is the value of Enterprise Architecture?

### Answer:-

Enterprise Architecture is a strategic information asset to be used to shape the Enterprise.

It is key to understanding the current investment in IT and efficiently planning and directing future IT investments.

Enterprise Architecture is a tool for identifying opportunities to improve key Enterprise metrics related to things like operational efficiency, IT costs and customer satisfaction.

Enterprise Architecture helps achieve enterprise alignment, manage change, and reduce time-to-market.

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# Question # 11

Tell me how can you evaluate if a solution conforms to the Enterprise Architecture?

# Answer:-

It is important to engage projects during the initiation phase to ensure that architecture compliance processes are included in the project planning.

Once the solution architecture has been defined a compliance assessment should be performed. The compliance assessment ensures the project conforms to the defined Enterprise Architecture. It is also an opportunity to engage project members and get feedback for the Enterprise Architecture.

The compliance assessment includes checklists for hardware, software, applications, information, security, system management and methods and tools. It also documents an overview of the project architecture / design.

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# Question # 12

Tell me what Do You Mean By High Availability?

# Answer:-

Having better service capacity with high availability and low latency is mission critical for almost all businesses.

Availability means the ability of the application user to access the system, If a user cannot access the application, it is assumed unavailable. High Availability means the application will be available, without interruption.

Achieving high availability for a application is not always a easy task. Using redundant server nodes with clustering is a common way to achieve higher level of availability in web applications.

Availability is commonly expressed as a percentage of uptime in a given year.

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# Question # 13

Do you know what is the TOGAF framework?

# Answer:-

The Open Group Architecture Framework (TOGAF) is a framework for enterprise architecture. It provides a comprehensive approach to the design, planning, implementation, and governance of an enterprise architecture.

TOGAF models the enterprise at four levels: Business, Application, Data, and Technology.

TOGAF includes a methodology for defining IT in terms of a set of building blocks. It also contains a set of tools, a vocabulary, recommended standards and list of TOGAF compliant tools.

TOGAF includes a iterative process for enterprise architecture called Architecture Development Method (ADM).

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# Question # 14

Explain me why Did You Choose to Become an Architect?

# Answer:

This may seem like a soft question, but your response will tell your potential employer a lot about your passion and motivation. It can also help them to determine whether you will fit in with the company culture. Were you inspired by a favorite artist or a family member in the field? Are you more drawn to the opportunity to



create art or to contribute to construction? Your response can also give the interviewer clues about what type of building you like to design. If you became an architect because you wanted to create lasting art works, your ideal process and product will look different than it might if you entered the field to design impressive skyscrapers or specific use buildings like sports stadiums or opera houses.

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# Question #15

Explain me what was your greatest accomplishment(s)?

### Answer-

This isn't an opportunity to share your online gaming skills.

Keep it relevant to the role you are applying or use it to bring up a qualification such as:

"Completing my architecture license was my greatest accomplishment, it was the culmination of years of education, work experience and 30+ hours of exams."

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# Question # 16

Explain us how do you propose to compensate for your lack of experience?

### Answer:-

First, if you have experience that the interviewer does not know about, bring that up: Then, point out (if true) that you are a hard working quick learner.

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### Question # 17

Please explain would you be willing to relocate if required?

### Answer:-

You should be clear on this with your family prior to the interview if you think there is a chance it may come up. Do not say yes just to get the job if the real answer is no. This can create a lot of problems later on in your career. Be honest at this point and save yourself future grief.

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# Question # 18

Explain about a problem you had with a supervisor?

### Answer-

Biggest trap of all. This is a test to see if you will speak ill of your boss. If you fall for it and tell about a problem with a former boss, you may well below the interview right there. Stay positive and develop a poor memory about any trouble with a supervisor.

Read More Answers.

# Question # 19

Tell me what irritates you about co-workers as Professional Architect?

# Answer:

This is a trap question. Think real hard but fail to come up with anything that irritates you. A short statement that you seem to get along with folks is great.

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# Question # 20

Explain us are you a team player?

# Answer:-

You are, of course, a team player. Be sure to have examples ready. Specifics that show you often perform for the good of the team rather than for yourself are good evidence of your team attitude. Do not brag, just say it in a matter-of-fact tone. This is a key point.

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# Question # 21

Please explain me what do you know about this organization?

# Answer:-

This question is one reason to do some research on the organization before the interview. Find out where they have been and where they are going. What are the current issues and who are the major players?

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# Question # 22

What experience do you have in this field as Professional Architect?

# Answer:-

Speak about specifics that relate to the position you are applying for. If you do not have specific experience, get as close as you can.

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# Question # 23

Tell me have you ever had to fire anyone? Then how did you feel about that?

# Answer:-



This is serious. Do not make light of it or in any way seem like you like to fire people. At the same time, you will do it when it is the right thing to do. When it comes to the organization versus the individual who has created a harmful situation, you will protect the organization. Remember firing is not the same as layoff or reduction in force.

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# Question # 24

Explain me about your dream job?

### Answer-

Stay away from a specific job. You cannot win. If you say the job you are contending for is it, you strain credibility. If you say another job is it, you plant the suspicion that you will be dissatisfied with this position if hired. The best is to stay genetic and say something like: A job where I love the work, like the people, can contribute and can't wait to get to work.

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# Question # 25

Explain us your management style?

### Answer:

Try to avoid labels. Some of the more common labels, like progressive, salesman or consensus, can have several meanings or descriptions depending on which management expert you listen to. The situational style is safe, because it says you will manage according to the situation, instead of one size fits all.

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### Question # 26

Explain me who do you manage?

### Answer:-

If this applies to your situation describe the staff that you supervise and their roles. An effective way to communicate this is to describe a "typical day" for you on how you manage others.

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# Question # 27

Do you know what is Enterprise Architecture?

### Answer:

An Enterprise Architecture (EA) is a collection of strategic information that describes a business and the information and technologies necessary to operate the business. This includes descriptions of goals, business processes, roles, organizational structures, information, applications and systems.

Enterprise Architecture encapsulates the information necessary to implement new technologies in response to the changing needs of the business.

EA is often broken down into four domains: business, application, data and technology architecture.

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# Question # 28

Tell me what are SOA patterns?

# Answer:-

SOA design patterns are reusable solutions to a commonly occurring SOA design problems.

Some common SOA patterns include:

Enterprise Service Bus - A tool that fosters service communication by providing reliable messaging, message queuing, data transformations and service broker functionality.

File Gateway - A file gateway is placed between a service and legacy flat file. The gateway acts as a mediator and can perform data transformations.

Event Driven Messaging - The service notifies its consumers of relevant events with messages.

Service Callback - A service requires that consumers communicate with it asynchronously. Consumers provide a callback address to which the service can send response messages.

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# Question # 29

Do you know what Is Load Balancing?

# Answer:-

Load balancing is simple technique for distributing workloads across multiple machines or clusters.

The most common and simple load balancing algorithm is Round Robin. In this type of load balancing the request is divided in circular order ensuring all machines get equal number of requests and no single machine is overloaded or underloaded.

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# Question # 30

Do you consider yourself successful person?

# Answer:

You should always answer yes and briefly explain why. A good explanation is that you have set goals, and you have met some and are on track to achieve the others.

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# Question #31

Explain why do you think you would do well at this job?



### Answer:-

Give several reasons and include skills, experience and interest.

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# Question #32

Tell me what is the more important to you the money or the work?

### Answer:-

Money is always important, but the work is the most important. There is no better answer.

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# Question # 33

Tell us are you willing to work overtime? Nights? Weekends?

# Answer:-

This is up to you. Be totally honest.

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# Question # 34

If you were hiring a person for a job, what would you look for?

### Answer:-

Be careful to mention traits that are needed and that you have.

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# Question # 35

Please explain about the most fun you have had on the job?

### Answer.

Talk about having fun by accomplishing something for the organization.

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# Question #36

Tell me what is ITIL?

# Answer:-

Information Technology Infrastructure Library (ITIL) is a set of best practices for IT service management, development and operations.

ITIL gives detailed descriptions of a number of important IT concepts and includes checklists, tasks and procedures that can be tailored for any enterprise.

- \* Some major areas ITIL covers are:
- \* Service Support
- \* Service Delivery
- \* ICT Infrastructure Management
- \* Security Management
- \* Application Management
- \* Software Asset Management

In the Service Support area ITIL covers processes such as Service Desk, Incident and Problem Management, Change Management, Release and Configuration Management.

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# Question # 37

Explain us what position do you prefer on a team working on a project?

# Answer:-

Be honest. If you are comfortable in different roles, point that out.

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# Question # 38

Do you think you are overqualified for this job?

# Answer:-

Regardless of your qualifications, state that you are very well qualified for the position.

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# Question # 39

Tell us what motivates you to do your best on job?

# Answer:

This is a personal trait that only you can say, but good examples are: Challenge, Achievement, Recognition

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# Question # 40



Tell me what has disappointed you about the job?

### Answer:

Don't get trivial or negative. Safe areas are few but can include: Not enough of a challenge. You were laid off in a reduction Company did not win a contract, which would have given you more responsibility.

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# Question #41

Explain what have you done to improve your knowledge in last year?

### Answer:-

Try to include improvement activities that relate to the job. A wide variety of activities can be mentioned as positive self-improvement. Have some good ones handy to mention..

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# Question # 42

Explain have you ever been asked to leave a position?

### Answer:-

If you have not, say no. If you have, be honest, brief and avoid saying negative things about the people or organization involved.

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### Question # 43

Explain me do your skills match this job or another job more closely?

### Answer-

Probably this one. Do not give fuel to the suspicion that you may want another job more than this one.

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# Question # 44

Explain about a time when you helped resolve a dispute between others?

### Answer-

Pick a specific incident. Concentrate on your problem solving technique and not the dispute you settled.

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# Question # 45

Explain about your ability to work under pressure?

# Answer:

You may say that you thrive under certain types of pressure. Give an example that relates to the type of position applied for.

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# Question # 46

Explain me if you had enough money to retire right now, would you?

# Answer:

Answer yes if you would. But since you need to work, this is the type of work you prefer. Do not say yes if you do not mean it.

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# Question # 47

Explain us your work ethic?

# Answer:-

Emphasize benefits to the organization. Things like, determination to get the job done and work hard but enjoy your work are good.

Read More Answers.

# Question # 48

Tell me what Factors Led to Your Biggest Success to Date?

# Answer:-

This question serves several purposes. For one thing, it lets your interviewer see your skill level. It also allows them to see how you feel about your accomplishments. Whether you are excited about your past work or feel that you are capable of more, you don't want the interviewer to get the sense that you feel past projects were beneath you. Instead, speak with confidence about the project, but don't be afraid to explain what you learned and how much you are looking forward to applying your knowledge and experience to a bigger challenge.

This question also gives you the opportunity to show that you really understand the various factors that contribute to the success of a project. You might choose to highlight the importance of an innovative design, strong negotiation skills, detailed plans and schedules or effective and ongoing communication with the client and construction personnel. However you respond, be sure you include plenty of detail about the scope of the work, the problems that were overcome and how you achieved a successful outcome.

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### Question # 49

Tell me what is an Enterprise Architecture Roadmap? What kind of information does it contain?

### Anewor.

An EA Roadmap describes a current and target architecture and a transition plan to achieve the target state.

An EA Roadmap should include the business, application, data and technical architecture for each state.

The Roadmap lists the projects required to implement the proposed architecture. This should include project prioritization, risks and issues, migration strategy, estimated costs, success factors and project measurements.

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### Question # 50

Tell me what Is Scalability?

### Answer:-

Scalability is the ability of a system, network, or process to handle a growing amount of load by adding more resources. The adding of resource can be done in two ways

\* Scaling Up

This involves adding more resources to the existing nodes. For example, adding more RAM, Storage or processing power.

\* Scaling Out

This involves adding more nodes to support more users.

Any of the approaches can be used for scaling up/out a application, however the cost of adding resources (per user) may change as the volume increases. If we add resources to the system It should increase the ability of application to take more load in a proportional manner of added resources.

An ideal application should be able to serve high level of load in less resources. However, in practical, linearly scalable system may be the best option achievable.

Poorly designed applications may have really high cost on scaling up/out since it will require more resources/user as the load increases.

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### Question # 51

Where do you see yourself in five years as Professional Architect?

### Answer:-

This is always a tricky question. Since I am mainly discussing getting a job in an office a response you normally want to avoid is "I want to start my own office". I see this quite often in the architecture world and for good reason, most architects do aspire to own their own firm at some point. While this may be a goal of yours, an interview isn't the time to share.

What the interviewer is looking for is someone to fill the position now but is also looking for a long term commitment. Admitting you would like to jump ship and go out on your own, while admirable, doesn't accomplish this goal.

Every response to these questions needs to reinforce your willingness to join the firm. A more appropriate response might be, depending on the stage of your career, "I would like to get my architecture license to expand my knowledge base" or "I want to lead a residential project".

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# Question # 52

Explain me are you willing to put the interests of the organization ahead of your own?

# Answer:-

This is a straight loyalty and dedication question. Do not worry about the deep ethical and philosophical implications. Just say yes.

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# Question #53

Tell me what kind of salary do you need as Professional Architect?

# Answer:-

A loaded question. A nasty little game that you will probably lose if you answer first. So, do not answer it. Instead, say something like, That's a tough question. Can you tell me the range for this position? In most cases, the interviewer, taken off guard, will tell you. If not, say that it can depend on the details of the job. Then give a wide range.

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# Question # 54

Tell me do you have any other offers? / Are you interviewing anywhere else?

# Answer:-

A lot of architects see this as an opportunity to brag about how many job offers they have. First of all, this should be obvious but the number one rule in an interview is: DO NOT LIE.

If you have other job offers, that is fine go ahead and say so. If not, don't try to leverage your situation. I will discuss a good answer and justification for both responses.

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# Question #55

Tell me how Would You Describe Your Role in Your Last Team Project?

# Answer:-

A successful building project requires coordination with a diverse team. The potential employer is interested in knowing how capable you are of working with others and whether you are likely to recognize their accomplishments or blame them for a project's problems. Most questions invite you to brag a little about your skills and accomplishments, but your response to this question should emphasize the role of others on your team. Describe your responsibilities and demonstrate how the team worked together to achieve your common goal. It's ok to admit that a team member may have been difficult, and this can give you the opportunity to describe how you handle conflict, but your overall response should be positive and show that you understand that you did not achieve success completely on your own.



# Read More Answers.

### Question #56

Explain what is an Architecture Vision? What information does it contain?

### Answer-

The Architecture Vision is created during the project initiation phase of a project. The purpose of the vision is to agree from the start what the desired outcome should be for the architecture

The Architecture Vision is the enterprise architect's elevator pitch. It needs to simply and powerfully sell the benefits of the proposed architecture to decision-makers. It also needs to show how the proposed architecture will support business goals and strategy and stakeholder concerns and objectives.

Typical contents of an Architecture Vision are:

- \* Problem description
- \* Objectives
- \* Process descriptions
- \* Roles and actors
- \* Constraints
- \* IT principles
- \* Architecture overview
- \* Mapping of the proposed architecture to processes and requirements

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# Question # 57

Tell me what things to you not enjoy doing?

### Answer-

This is a dangerous question. You certainly don't want to mention something you will be expected to do nor do you want to speak poorly of your previous company. Try to keep it somewhat vague:

"Often with a large team there can be overlaps with work, so the same work may end up being done twice. This is obviously a waste of time. So it is important that everyone on the team is communicating"

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### Question # 58

Please explain me how you would be an asset to this organization?

### Answer:-

You should be anxious for this question. It gives you a chance to highlight your best points as they relate to the position being discussed. Give a little advance thought to this relationship.

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# Question #59

Tell me are you LEED Accredited or planning to be?

# Answer:-

This is becoming an increasingly asked for qualification.

I recommend anyone in the architecture profession become LEED Accredited. At best it will help your career and open doors, at worst you will learn a new skill and not look uninformed when it comes up in a meeting.

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# Question # 60

Tell me what is the Zachman Framework?

# Answer:-

The Zachman Framework is a framework for Enterprise Architecture developed by IBM in the 1980s.

It provides a way of defining an enterprise according to a 6x6 matrix of architecture documentation. The columns of this matrix ask the questions why, how, what, who, where, when. The rows look at these questions from different levels of detail: contextual, conceptual, logical, physical and detailed.

The Zachman Framework provides a view for Planners, Owners, Designers, Builders and Subcontractors. The basic idea is that the same thing can be described for different purposes in different ways. This creates a holistic view ― it allows different people to look at the Enterprise from different perspectives.

The Zachman Framework has been incorporated into many Enterprise Architecture frameworks. (often as a reference model)

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# Question # 61

Tell me how long would you expect to work for us if we hire you?

# Answer:

Specifics here are not good. Something like this should work: I'd like it to be a long time. Or As long as we both feel I'm doing a good job.

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# Question # 62

Tell me what do the co-workers say about you?

# Answer:

Be prepared with a quote or two from co-workers. Either a specific statement or a paraphrase will work. Jill Clark, a co-worker at Smith Company, always said I was the hardest workers she had ever known. It is as powerful as Jill having said it at the interview herself.



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### Question #63

Explain me about a suggestion you have made as Professional Architect?

### Answer:-

Have a good one ready. Be sure and use a suggestion that was accepted and was then considered successful. One related to the type of work applied for is a real plus Read More Answers.

# Question #64

Explain me what qualities do you look for in a boss?

### Answer:-

Be generic and positive. Safe qualities are knowledgeable, a sense of humor, fair, loyal to subordinates and holder of high standards. All bosses think they have these traits.

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# Question #65

Tell me what is your greatest strength as Professional Architect?

### Answer.

Numerous answers are good, just stay positive. A few good examples: Your ability to prioritize, Your problem-solving skills, Your ability to work under pressure, Your ability to focus on projects, Your professional expertise, Your leadership skills, Your positive attitude.

Read More Answers.

### Question # 66

Tell me what are your Revit / AutoCAD / Sketchup skills on a scale of 1-10?

### Answer:-

Whatever your skill level just make sure you are honest. Many firms complain that staff say they are experts just to get their foot in the door but it soon becomes evident they don't know the software. Offices are now conducting CAD tests to address this.

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# Question #67

Tell us do you know anyone who is working for us?

# Answer:-

Be aware of the policy on relatives working for the organization. This can affect your answer even though they asked about friends not relatives. Be careful to mention a friend only if they are well thought of.

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# Question # 68

Tell me are you applying for other job?

# Answer:-

Be honest but do not spend a lot of time in this area. Keep the focus on this job and what you can do for this organization. Anything else is a distraction.

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# Question # 69

Explain me what kind of person would you refuse to work with?

# Answer:-

Do not be trivial. It would take disloyalty to the organization, violence or lawbreaking to get you to object. Minor objections will label you as a whiner.

Read More Answers.

# Question # 70

Please explain me do you have any blind spots?

# Answer:-

Trick question. If you know about blind spots, they are no longer blind spots. Do not reveal any personal areas of concern here. Let them do their own discovery on your bad points. Do not hand it to them.

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# Question #71

Please explain what is your philosophy towards the work?

# Answer:-

The interviewer is not looking for a long or flowery dissertation here. Do you have strong feelings that the job gets done? Yes. That's the type of answer that works best here. Short and positive, showing a benefit to the organization.

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- 2: Real Estate Analyst Frequently Asked Interview Questions and Answers Guide.
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