

Good Questions to Ask Within an Interview

If there is one way to create a remarkably favorable impression during a **job interview**, it is to ask very **proactive** questions. There are, however, some guidelines about the questions to ask the interviewer, and these will help to keep things on a very professional basis.

This leads most to ask: “So, *what should I ask in the interview?*” The best answer is to “*break up*” the questions into memorable categories. For instance, you can ask “*job specific*” questions such as:

- *What happens during a “typical day” in this position?* – this indicates that you are interested in what it takes to remain busy and **productive** and also what challenges you may face in the position.
- *Were there any strengths that the previous employee possessed that you would like to see in their replacement?* – this shows that you have an open mind and are open to any opportunities for **professional growth**. It also shows that you are very interested in getting the work and being the best employee that you can be.
- *How will my initial efforts be directed?* – this clarifies that you have **personal goals and ambitions**, and want to be sure that the job is in line with them.
- *Do you think that I will need to pursue additional training or develop any further skills in order to help the company remain competitive?* – again, this emphasizes your **willingness** to engage in **professional development** and also adds your desire to **facilitate the growth** of the company too.

The second category of questions can best be described as “*company specific*”, and include:

- *What are the short and long term goals for this company?* – this is a very polite way of saying that you need to know if your job is **secure** and if the company is **stable**.
- *How do you see technology affecting this company?* – again, a very polite way of inquiring about the company’s ability to **endure** and **compete** in the modern market.
- Do a bit of research and ask a question about projects and plans that the company has announced. This shows **initiative** and also that you are taking your career options very seriously.

The last category of questions are “*interview specific*” and can help to bring things to a close while also leaving the interviewer with a favorable impression of your attitude. These include:

- *When should I expect to hear from you?* – this indicates that you feel the interview was a success and that you anticipate a professional response regarding the outcome. Not only will this serve as an example of your attitude, but also that you are extremely **reliable** in your dealings.
- *What are our next steps?* – again, this demonstrates a **level of comfort** with yourself and with the interview. It also allows the interviewer a chance to speak directly about the interview without backing them into a corner. They might say that “*we’ll be in touch,*” which is the universal warning that you may not have gotten the job, or you might get a much more reassuring response, such as “*can I call you later today?*”

To prepare yourself for the entire interview process Regal Resumes has a Mock Interview service where you will learn helpful interview tips and you will be able to watch yourself on the video disk provided. Check our Services page for more information.