

What you should be asking at a job interview

Asking your own prepared questions serves to make a favorable impression with an interviewer. The following questions were designed specifically for a first interview. Choose *at least* 5 that are most relevant to you and the desired position:

- 1. Is this a new position, or would I be replacing someone?
 - a. What were the major strengths/weaknesses of the last person to hold this position?
- 2. What can you tell me about the culture and the environment here?
- 3. What is the #1 thing you demand or want most out of the person that fills this position?
- 4. How many people would I be leading?
- 5. What are the opportunities for advancement?
- 6. What makes this company different from its competitors?
- 7. What is the company's plan for the next five years, and how does this department fit into that plan?
- 8. What is the leadership style of this department head?
- 9. Could you explain your organizational structure?
- 10. What do you most enjoy about your work with this organization / company / agency / firm?
- 11. What are the day-to-day responsibilities for this position?
- 12. Could you describe your company's management style and the type of employee who fits well with it?
- 13. What are some of the skills and abilities necessary for someone to succeed in this job?
- 14. What is the company's policy on providing seminars, workshops, and training so employees can keep up their skills and acquire new ones?
- 15. What particular computer equipment and software do you use?
- 16. What kind of work can I expect to be doing the first year?
- 17. What percentage of routine, detailed work will I encounter?
- 18. How/how often are employees reviewed here?
- 19. Can you describe an ideal employee?
- 20. What do people seem to like the most/least about working here?
- 21. What are the next steps in the interview process?