



Career Services

The 25 Most Popular Behavioral Interview Questions

Actions speak louder than words. At least they do in behavioral-based interviews, which are based on the premise that your past performance is the best predictor of your future success. Interviewers who rely on this style usually ask questions that require specific information rather than general, open-ended queries and build those questions around job descriptions. Here's a list of the directives they use most often.

Tell me about a time when you ...

1. Worked effectively under pressure.
2. Handled a difficult situation with a co-worker.
3. Used your creativity to solve a problem.
4. Missed an obvious solution to a problem.
5. Were unable to complete a project on time.
6. Persuaded team members to do things your way.
7. Anticipated and averted potential problems.
8. Wrote a report that was well-received.
9. Had to make an important decision with limited information.
10. Were forced to make an unpopular decision.
11. Had to adapt to a difficult situation.
12. Tolerated opinions that were different from your own.
13. Felt disappointed in your own behavior.
14. Used your people skills to get your own way.
15. Had to deal with an irate customer.
16. Delegated an assignment or project that succeeded.
17. Surmounted a difficult obstacle.
18. Set your sights too high or too low.
19. Prioritized a complex project.
20. Won or lost an important contract.
21. Had to fire someone for cause.
22. Made a bad decision.
23. Hired the wrong person.
24. Turned down a good job.
25. Were terminated from a job.

Source: Hirsch, Arlene: *101 Proven Time-Saving Checklists to Organize and Plan Your Career Search*