

Interview Questions to Ask a LAMP Stack Developer| Xobin [Downloaded]

We at Xobin reached out to over 70+ Hiring teams to curate the best interview questions. We didn't stop there.

We went ahead to understand what type of answers differentiated the top candidate from the rest. Here is what we've got for you.

Role-specific skills to look for : Knowledge of Complete LAMP, Angular JS, Bootstrap and Node JS, and Express js, expertise in SQL and relational databases.

Soft skills to look for: Analytical, attention to detail, and adaptability.

Pro Tip: Always screen before your interview. Use Online Assessment to screen applicants for a LAMP stack developer position before blocking your time for an in-person interview.

Compilation of LAMP Stack Developer Interview Questions

Role-Based Interview Questions to ask a LAMP Stack Developer



Can you state how can you take a backup of the whole database in MySQL?

Purpose of the question: The question is designed to screen the candidate on their skills as a LAMP stack developer. As data backup is a major MySQL practice. Applicants are expected to know how to deal with data backups and data loss.

What to listen for in candidate response: Good candidates would list out the different types and procedures of data backup in MySQL. The top candidates may also mention which procedure works best in which use cases.



How to destroy or remove a cookie in PHP?

Purpose of the question: The following question is designed to test the knowledge of the candidate about basic PHP functions. Knowledge of various processes related to cookies is crucial for a LAMP Stack developer.

What to listen for in candidate response: Ideal answer would include the procedure and code to destroy cookies.



Do you know what is SQL Injection and how do you deal with that?

Purpose of the question: Web security is extremely critical for a LAMP Stack developer, hence the knowledge of SQL injection and how to deal with it is crucial too.

What to listen for in candidate response: Listen for specific terms that explain the meaning of SQL injection and how can it be dealt with in the best way possible.



What are the types of errors in PHP and can you explain each one of them to us?

Purpose of the question: As a LAMP stack developer who works with PHP on a day-to-day basis, it is common for them to come across errors there. Hence, the following question is designed to test the knowledge of the candidate about the basics of PHP.

What to listen for in candidate response: A good answer would define the 4 types of error in PHP, listen for the specific terms that describe the same.



Can you state the main difference between `mysql_connect` and `mysql_pconnect`?

Purpose of the question: The following question is designed to test the knowledge of the candidate about the basics of MySQL, as `mysql_connect`, and `mysql_pconnect` deal with the connection with the database.

What to listen for in candidate response: A top candidate would list out the specific points that differentiate between `mysql_connect` and `mysql_pconnect`.



What is the difference between a soft link and a hard link?

Purpose of the question: Since Linux is one of the major parts of LAMP stack development, hence this question tests if the candidate knows its basics.

What to listen for in candidate response: Listen for the points that show the difference between soft and hard links.



Do you know what are the current versions of Apache, PHP, and MySQL?

Purpose of the question: Being updated with the latest trends in the market is a sign of a top candidate. Hence, this question is designed to test how updated the candidate

is with the latest trends in their domain.

What to listen for in candidate response: Look for evidence of the understanding of the new trends in the candidate.



What is htmlentities and what are its functionalities?

Purpose of the question: The question is designed to test the candidate's knowledge of PHP and how it helps as a function in web development.

What to listen for in candidate response: Listen for specific terms that explain the meaning and functionality htmlentities.



Give an example of a set of shell commands that will give you the number of "httpd" processes running on a Linux box.

Purpose of the question: As httpd is a commonly used Linux command, therefore this question is designed to test the candidate's knowledge of Linux commands.

What to listen for in candidate response: Look if the candidate gives the right set of shell commands.



How do you tell what process has a TCP port open in Linux?

Purpose of the question: Like the question above, this question too is designed to test the candidate's knowledge of Linux commands.

What to listen for in candidate response: Look for the right set of shell commands.

Situational Interview Questions to ask a LAMP Stack Developer



What are some principles every software developer should follow, in your opinion?

Purpose of the question: Being aware of the responsibility and skills required as a professional is a sign of a top candidate.

What to listen for in candidate response: Listen for the specific skills required for a LAMP stack developer and if the candidate fits the company culture or not.



Can you tell us about a time you were new to a situation or environment?
How did you adapt?

Purpose of the question: Problem-solving skill is extremely critical for this function and with an example, you can understand how the candidate handles difficult situations.

What to listen for in candidate response: The top candidate would show evidence of analytical and problem-solving skills.



How do you deal with unexpected changes to deadlines?

Purpose of the question: This question helps in finding out the candidate's time management skills and how they handle pressure.

What to listen for in candidate response: Top candidate would elaborate their time management skills.



How do you set goals for yourself, can you give an example?

Purpose of the question: Since the planning of goals and time management is a critical ability for this job role, hence this question tests the same.

What to listen for in candidate response: Ideal candidates would elaborate on what basis they set their goals and their dedication towards them.



Tell us about a time you had multiple responsibilities to manage. How did you respond to this situation?

Purpose of the question: This question helps in finding out the candidate's time management skills and how they handle pressure.

What to listen for in candidate response: A ideal candidate would show evidence of a sense of responsibility.



How do you work under pressure?

Purpose of the question: The question is designed to understand if the candidate can handle pressure or not and if they can, how they do that.

What to listen for in candidate response: Top candidate would elaborate their time management skills with the help of their past experiences.



Can you describe a time when you suggested improving something on a project that you were working on?

Purpose of the question: Analytical and problem identification is extremely critical for a LAMP stack developer.

What to listen for in candidate response: Ideal candidates would show how well they understand the requirements of projects and the customer's requirements.



Have you ever had to sell an idea to your project team? How did you do it?
Did they buy it?

Purpose of the question: This question is designed to know if the candidate knows how to manage a team and communication skills.

What to listen for in candidate response: Listen if the candidates showed team management and communication skills in the example they discussed.



How do you like to work, with a team or on your own?

Purpose of the question: This question is designed to understand if the candidate is a team player or loner.

What to listen for in candidate response: An ideal candidate should be able to work in both situations.

Start Optimizing your LAMP Stack Developer Hiring today

Find and hire talent with confidence. If your candidate doesn't know the answer to the above questions and you're hiring for a LAMP stack developer position, then they're obviously not a great fit.



Prepared and Curated by Xobin Team