

# How to ace an interview with Network Rail

Network Rail owns, operates and develops Britain's railway infrastructure

Network Rail enables more than 4.6 million journeys to be made every day in the UK. This wouldn't be possible without their team of apprentices. We spoke to Network Rail to find out how to succeed at interview and secure a fantastic Engineering apprenticeship.

## TIP 1 – Do your research

Always check out the organisation. Try to understand who their customers and what they offer them. Take time to learn what makes them different and make sure you're clear on why you would like to work for them. We suggest going direct to the Network Rail Careers page to find out all about the company and our apprenticeship opportunities: [www.networkrail.co.uk/careers/apprenticeships](http://www.networkrail.co.uk/careers/apprenticeships)

## TIP 2 – On the day

Wear something that makes you feel good and is appropriate for the job you are interviewing for. Most importantly it should make you feel confident and look professional.



## TIP 3 – Types of interview

There are many different types of interview used by employers:

- Competency based interviews
- Technical interviews
- Panel interviews

Make sure you are prepared and don't be afraid to ask what style of interview it's going to be.

## TIP 4 – Use the STAR technique

Use the STAR technique to give your answers structure and to prevent you from waffling.

### S = situation

Give general background to the situation you found yourself in

### T = task

Think about a problem you solved or a task you faced

### A = action

Describe the decisions you made and why. Talk about the key skills and qualities you demonstrated

### R = result

What did you achieve? Were there any tangible or statistical results you can share?

Apprentices are a force to be reckoned with. While some people may be held back by a lack of opportunity in the workplace, Network Rail is the total opposite – its apprenticeship programme is a serious route into employment”  
– Arran, Former apprentice

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## TIP 5 – Example interview questions

You need to be prepared to talk about:

- Yourself
- Your skills and competencies
- The role and the organisation



## TIP 6 – Prepare for the unexpected

You should be prepared for some potentially difficult or awkward questions. If you do find yourself in such a situation remain calm and take your time consider the question before responding.

## TIP 7 – Closing with confidence

Leave your interviewer with the right picture of you with your final few words. Think of at least three skills or qualities you want them to remember after the interview. Finally, take the time to say thank you!

## Find out more

For lots more information about the apprenticeship opportunities available at Network Rail and other fantastic application tips, head to:

<https://amazingapprenticeships.com/vacancies/employer/network-rail>

Set up an apprenticeship alert from their website too, to stay informed of any vacancies:

<https://www.networkrail.co.uk/careers/apprenticeships>

