Interview Questions for Graphic Designers

- What do you enjoy most about graphic design?
- What inspires you? What motivates you?
- Who has influenced your design the most? Who is your favorite designer?
- Tell me about a project you've worked on that you felt especially passionate about.
- Do you have the ability to do "non-computer" thumbnails or sketches?
- What is the best compliment you have ever gotten about a design project?
- How do you "sell" your designs? Give an example.
- How many times will you redo a piece before it is finished?
- Can you juggle several projects at once and face extremely short deadlines?
- How much time do you typically spend on projects?
- Tell me about a time when you had a tight deadline in school. How did you handle it in addition to other deadlines and coursework?
- Have you ever missed a deadline? How and why?
- Describe how you would manage graphics related projects that may take several months to complete and that may involve supervision of various subcontractors.
- How would you maintain a database of photographs, drawings, and/or dimensioned line drawings in both the original forms and in electronic formats for use by other personnel?
- Describe the process you would use to assure that new products are documented accurately and on a timely basis.
- Tell me about a time that you were working towards a goal and things were not going according to plan. How did you deal with it?
- What software was used on your portfolio pieces? Describe the printing process required.
- With which software are you proficient?
- Tell me about a time when you were experiencing stress on the job or project. How did you deal with it?
- Tell me about your PC, Mac, and writing skills.
- How do you feel when someone finds an error in your finished piece?
- How well do you handle criticism?
- What bugs you most when you are working on a design project?
- When given requirements to a project, what steps do you take to complete it? What are your first steps?
- What do you do when you are given very little instruction or guidance in designing something? For example, if I said I wanted you to design a new logo, but had no idea of what I was looking for, what would you do?
- Tell me about a time when you have to deal with a difficult or demanding person at work or school. How were you able to handle this person?
- What experience have you had working as part of a team in your present/last position?
- What is the difference between RGB and CMYK?
- Describe a trap and explain why it is important.
- When doing page layout, do you know how to do the formatting, such as tabs and style sheets?
- What do you know about prepress? Have you prepared digital files for a printing service, web publishing, or CD publishing?
- Describe how you would make the most of a palette limited to one or two colors.
- Describe your process for generating design ideas for a project. I'm particularly interested in how you develop an understanding of audience, message, and purpose, and then implement this understanding in your designs.
- Have you ever had an assignment that was heavily art directed – meaning that it was necessary to present revised concepts several times?
- What do you know about our company?
- Have you seen our website? What would you do differently with it?
- What type of work environment is best for your satisfaction and performance?
- With which software do you feel most comfortable?