

How to Prepare for a Quantitative Interview



Apply logical, quantitative thinking.

- Translate the business problem into clear quantitative variables / data sets before solving it.
- Break the problem into logical steps (e.g. "How many women in New York are wearing red?" → estimate total population → % women → % wearing red)
- **Practical prep:** practise structuring first (e.g. "I'll start with the total population, then narrow down step by step...")



Define the decision. Not just the question.

- Weak candidates focus on solving the calculation. Strong candidates focus on the business decision behind it.
- Always anchor your answer: what decision is being made and what will this number influence?
- **Practical prep:** for each practice question, state "This analysis is helping decide whether to..."



Identify the 1–2 variables that actually matter.

- Strong candidates identify the key drivers of the result, not just the calculations.
- Focus on what matters most: which variable has the biggest impact on the outcome.
- **Practical prep:** after each question, state "The outcome is most sensitive to..."



Demonstrate trade-off thinking.

- Strong candidates go beyond the number to assess trade-offs, risks and potential downside.
- Quantitative interviews often test whether you think like an operator or just an analyst.
- **Practical prep:** for every answer, state one downside risk and one upside lever.



Use assumptions that sound commercially literate.

- Strong candidates use commercially sound assumptions, not random estimates.
- Anchor to benchmarks and justify your assumption (e.g. "I'll assume 8–12% early adoption based on similar B2B SaaS rollouts")
- **Practical prep:** research realistic ranges in your industry before the interview.



Close with executive-level synthesis.

- Strong candidates don't stop at the number. They summarise the outcome, key driver, risk and decision.
- Close with a clear, executive-level takeaway (e.g. viability, sensitivity and impact on ROI)
- **Practical prep:** end every answer with a concise 20-second summary.

Recommended Prep Tools:

[HackerRank](#) | [LeetCode](#) | [Interview Query](#) | [CaseCoach](#) | [PrepLounge](#) | [Brilliant](#) | [ChatGPT](#)