

47 Great Questions To Ask at a Networking Event

Indeed Editorial Team Updated August 15, 2024

Questions to ask at a networking event

Getting to know other business professionals is the primary goal of most networking events. Start a conversation with someone new using these excellent networking questions to help you:

Education questions

Asking questions about a person's educational background can help you gauge if you have the right credentials for a career. These questions focus on the person's education, particularly as it relates to their career:

1. *Where did you go to school?*
2. *Do you think your education prepared you for your job?*
3. *What classes would you take if you were back in college now?*
4. *What advice would you give your college self?*
5. *What's the best degree to get for this field?*
6. *What degree do you have?*

Career path questions

Learning about other professionals' career paths can help you shape your own. You can find out more about jobs that could fit into your career path that you hadn't previously considered. These questions are about the person's previous jobs or long-term career goals:

1. *Did you always want to work in this field?*
2. *How did you join this industry?*
3. *Do you think your career path is like most others in your position?*
4. *What skills are the most important for your job?*
5. *What's the biggest obstacle you've faced in your career so far?*
6. *What professional development do you do?*
7. *Does this industry offer internships or apprenticeships?*
8. *How long have you been in this field?*
9. *Where do you hope to go next in your career?*

Job responsibilities questions

If you're interested in a particular job, asking questions about the day-to-day duties can help you decide if you want to pursue this career. These questions will help you learn about the person's current job:

- What do you spend most of your time at work doing?
- What does a typical week in your work look like?
- What's the best part of your job?
- What do you wish you could change about your job?
- How many hours do you usually work for a week?
- Do you have a lot of autonomy in your position?
- What is your management style?
- What did your best manager do to lead effectively?
- What is your performance review process like?
- What sort of projects are you working on right now?
- Do you have a lot of variety in your day?
- Do you interact with customers directly?

Work conditions questions

If you're interested in working for a particular company, asking about work conditions helps you learn more about the [work environment](#) and if you would be a good fit. These questions center on the person's company and workplace:

1. *What's the company culture like?*
2. *Do you have a direct supervisor?*
3. *Do you oversee a team?*
4. *What is your office like?*
5. *Where do you see your company headed?*
6. *Is your company facing any unique challenges?*
7. *Do you mainly work in the office, at home or travel to different locations?*
8. *How large is your company?*

Industry questions

Industry questions help you build strong relationships with professionals in your field. These connections can be useful if you need a reference or if you need guidance on a particular topic. These questions are about the field or industry as a whole:

1. *How do you think the industry will be different in five years?*
2. *What has changed the most about the field since you started?*
3. *What are your top resources for this industry?*
4. *What skills should someone new to the field develop to be successful in the future?*

Miscellaneous questions

These questions help you get to know the person and their interests and hobbies that may not directly relate to their career:

1. *What professional associations or organizations are you a member of?*
2. *Who else should I make sure to talk to at this event?*
3. *What do you like to do outside of work?*
4. *How can I help you meet your goals?*
5. *Where should I go while I'm in town?*
6. *How did you hear about this event?*
7. *What are you reading right now?*
8. *Where are you from?*