
Questions Data Science Candidates Should **Ask In Interviews**

The right questions help you look thoughtful, prepared, and serious about the role.



THE MISTAKE

Do not treat the final question as a **throwaway**

When an interviewer asks, "Do you have any questions for us?", they are still evaluating how you think.

WEAK SIGNAL

"No, I think you covered everything."

STRONG SIGNAL

Ask questions that show curiosity about the work, the team, and what success looks like.

DO ASK 01

"What project are you most excited about in the next 6 months?"

This gets the interviewer talking about real upcoming work, not just the job description.

1

It helps you understand what the team is actually building.

2

It lets the interviewer finish on something positive and energising.

3

It can give you a natural opening to connect your skills to their priorities.

DO ASK 02

"What does excellence in this role **look like?**"

Do not only ask what success means. Ask what separates a good hire from an outstanding one.

WHY IT WORKS

It positions you as someone who wants to perform, not just survive.

LISTEN FOR

Ownership, communication, stakeholder trust, technical quality, and business impact.

DO ASK 03

"What are the key challenges of this **role?"**

Every good role has hard parts. Mature candidates want to understand them before accepting the offer.

If you have relevant experience, this can become one of the strongest parts of the interview.

You can respond with a brief example of how you have handled a similar challenge.

DO ASK 04

"How does this team work with stakeholders?"

Data Science, AI, and Analytics roles rarely happen in isolation. This question shows you understand the job is not only technical.

1

Who requests the work?

2

How are priorities decided?

3

How do insights, models, or dashboards turn into decisions?

AVOID 01

Do not ask: "What don't you like about working here?"

It can sound bold, but it often pushes the interviewer into a negative frame at exactly the wrong moment.

RISKY

You have just met them, so they may not answer honestly or comfortably.

BETTER

Ask about challenges in the role, team, or current roadmap instead.

AVOID 02

Do not ask: "How did I do? What are my chances?"

Interviewers usually need time to compare notes, review evidence, and follow the process.

RISKY

It puts them on the spot and can make the close feel awkward.

BETTER

Ask when you are likely to hear feedback or what the next steps are.

SAVE THIS

Interview questions to keep in your **back pocket**



What project are you most excited about?



What does excellence in this role look like?



What are the key challenges of this role?



How does the team work with stakeholders?



What are the next steps and expected timeline?

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