DoorDash Engineering Management
Initial Interview Preparation

INTERVIEW FORMAT

The initial virtual interviews will be 1 hour and 45 minutes long, consisting of two modules:

1. Systems Design
2. Team Building & Teaching

SYSTEMS DESIGN

This module will be an assessment of your ability to architect a system at a high level. Rather than writing out code line-by-line, you'll be asked to consider broad design decisions.

First, take some time to fully **explore the problem** and ask clarifying questions.

Outline the best way to model and store **data**. Discuss the **trade-offs** of using one implementation over another. How can this operation be done more efficiently? Be able to describe how various systems and **components** work together, such as the interaction between the client and server of the application.

Finally, ensure you have a **complete** design solution, and conduct some **quantitative analysis** or rough calculations where possible (remember not to make assumptions here). We have included some whiteboard options on the next page.

TEAM BUILDING & TEACHING

Our team wants to learn how you've guided teams to deliver products, led high-impact initiatives, and helped grow and maintain an engineering organization. We also aim to hire people who are champions of our [DoorDash Principles](#) and will help us get 1% better with every teammate we add. For this module, be prepared to talk through who you are as a people leader. Topics could include (but are not limited to): how you partner with recruiting, how you build teams, and how you've grown and mentored employees.

For further tips and tricks, here is a [blog post](#) written by one of our engineers. We also recommend you check out our [full engineering blog](#).

DoorDash Zoom Technical Interview Tips

Use a web whiteboarding tool:

• Most recently, we've been suggested to use https://app.diagrams.net/, as it provides a better user interface and options for shapes, text, etc.

   • Another option is Google Drawings.

• PRO TIP: If you have an iPad that can connect to Zoom, you will likely be able to draw directly on your tablet screen!

If equipped, set up a whiteboard station in front of your computer camera in your own home:

• Avoid areas with a window or overhead light glare.

• Always use a dark, thick marker (preferably black) for your interviewer to read easily from a distance.

• PRO TIP: If you can connect your phone to Zoom during the interview, you can use that camera to go close-up and point directly at your whiteboard.

Have traditional pen and paper ready to go:

• This is a simple fallback that allows you to diagram quickly and direct your paper at your computer camera.

• We recommend using a marker or thick pen so the interviewer can view your diagrams easily.