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SVN Interview Questions and Answers

Apache Subversion is abbreviated as SVN after its command name SVN. It is a kind of software versioning and revision control system that is often distributed as an open-source under the license of Apache. Subversion/SVN is generally used by software developers to maintain the current as well as the previous version of certain files such as source codes, web pages, and various other documents. This allows users to recover older versions of their data or observe and scrutinize the history as to how the data has changed over time.

SVN can be used to operate across networks that allow the software to be used by operators from different computers. One of the major components of SVN is the SVN repository which is where all the codes and the history are stored. The repository can be accessed using different methodologies that mainly rely on the server where SVN is hosted and also whether the organization has an internal, external server, or is a web client.

A quick overview of how to use SVN includes the following basic steps:

1. Checkout of a repository
2. Perform changes required
3. Review the changes made
4. Revert the changes
5. Resolve conflicts

The use of SVN has been promoted in a variety of leading companies. As the use of SVN is growing and many recruiters are looking for candidates, either a fresher or an experienced individual with immense knowledge and hands-on experience in SVN. If you are someone looking for a platform to showcase your knowledge, SVN can open up multiple opportunities, therefore to help you prepare, here are some of the frequently asked SVN interview questions. On the other hand, if you are someone wants to gain more information on SVN, then the following **SVN Interview Questions** will help you attain an overall view regarding the topic. these SVN Interview Questions are very helpful for the preparation of the SVN Interview.

Q1. What do you understand by SVN?

SVN is abbreviated for “Subversion” which is an open source control system that is used for tracing all the changes that can be made to a code. It is a kind of repository that can be used to manage files, directors, folders and also modifications that are made to these files over time.

Thus, SVN Repository can be used not only to view the complete history of changes that are made to the files with the repository but also be used to track down someone who has made those changes in the files.

Q2. Explain the terms trunk, tag and branch in context of SVN.

- A trunk is the mainstream of development that is related to SVN, right from the beginning of the project till the end.
- Branch is a copy of the code that is derived from a specific location within the trunk that can be used in order to apply major changes to the code while preserving the original integrity of the code.
- A tag is a point in time on the trunk/ branch that one wishes to preserve. The process of baselining the code after it has been majorly released is known as Tag.

Q3. Explain the use of Revert in SVN?

Revert is simply a command that is used to “revert” any local changes in the code. Revert functions are generally of two types:

- Local Revert refers to deleting all the recent changes that have been made to the files after the start of updates and before the commit function.
- Repo Revert refers all the changes made to the preceding repo.

Q4. Distinguish between the functions commit and update in SVN.

The main difference between the two foremost functions used in SVN are as follows:

- The function SVN commit refers to either pushing or uploading all the changes made locally into the repository.
- The function SVN update refers to downloading the changes made in the repository to a local system.

Q5. What are some of the best practices for SVN?

Some of the best practices to be followed for SVN are:

- Working from your local workspace
- Committing to all small autonomous changes
- Keeping in touch with the repository
- Watching out for conflicts
- Validating the files that you are committing and have actually changed
- Update and test before committing

Q6. What are some things stored in SVN repository?

Some items stored in SVN repository are:

- Minutes of the meeting

- Significant e-mails
- Source codes
- MySQL queries

Q7. What is methodology to apply a patch in SVN?

In order to apply a patch in SVN, one is firstly required to “Create Patch” by making the necessary changes and generating the .diff file. Subsequently, this .diff file can be utilized to incorporate the new code base using “Apply Patch”.

Q8. Differentiate between GIT and SVN Repository.

The main differences between GIT and SVN repository are:

- GIT does not support the commit function across all the branches and tags; while on the other hand creating of folders at any location within the repository is allowed by SVN.
- GITs is unchangeable while SVN permits a user to treat a tag and create multiple revision under the root Tag.
- SVN is preferred over GIT for handling large files or for frequently changing the local binary files.

Q9. Differentiate between the commit and update function in SVN.

- The function update in SVN is used to update the local workspace that includes the changes made by the team.
- The function commit is used to implement the changes that have been made from the local workspace to repository.

Q10. Which function in SVN is used to add a file or dir?

The function used to in SVN are:

- To add file: SVN add filename
- To dir file: SVN add dirname

Q11. Enlist some of the common SVN commands.

Some of the common SVN commands are:

- Update

- Commit
- Revert
- Import
- Checkout
- Merge
- Copy
- Move

Q12. What method is adopted to revert to a previous version of code?

In order to revert to a previous version of the code, one has to use the revert function. However, the revert function will simply erase the local edits made, therefore in order to completely revert to a previous code, one has to use the merge function in collaboration with the revert function.

Q13. Which functions are used in order to move some of the subset of codes from one SVN repository to another?

With an attempt to move a subset of codes from one SVN repository to another, the following functions can be employed:

- SVNadmin dump
- SVNdumpfilter include
- SVNadmin load
- SVN remove

Q14. Which function is used in order to create a new directory under the version control?

The functions used to create new directory under version control are:

- SVN mkdir directory
- SVN mkdir http://url/directory

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