

By OnlineInterviewQuestions.com

Zen Cart interview questions

Zen Cart is PHP-based, an online store management system that MySQL database and HTML components to create powerful e-commerce websites.

Even though there is a boom in e-commerce sites with many more coming up, it's not surprising to see the rise in competition for jobs as well. Zen Cart is one of the most aspired for the website to land a job in even though there aren't many interview hacks and sample questions available on the web. So here are a few questions, which might be asked in an interview for any designation with Zen Cart:

Q1. What is Zen Cart? Or rather, what does Zen Cart do?

Zen Cart is a Free Open Source e-commerce application. Developed by a group of designers, programmers and shop owners, Zen Cart branched off osCommerce as an individual project back in 2003 and since then has introduced a lot of new features and changes. It is one of the user-friendly shopping cart software that puts the needs of the merchant first. It comes pre-defined with payment and shipping modules, ready to be activated and used immediately. Furthermore, Zen Cart is licensed under GNU GPL2. This implies that the user will be able to freely modify the source code to fit their needs.

Q2. Name the Zen Cart requirements.

Zen Cart requirements are as follows -

- Apache 2.2 or 2.4
- cURL
- MySQLi
- Zen Cart v1.5.0 is compatible with PHP 5.2.14 thru PHP 5.3.x. It requires patches to work with PHP 5.4, and upgrading is a better idea.

Zen Cart Hosting is fully compatible with the system requirements for Zen Cart. Moreover, the servers are running entirely on SSD for the best Zen Cart experience.

Q3. What is the first thing that a user will need to configure after installing Zen Cart?

One of the first things that a user will need to configure after having installed Zen Cart is the Store's Settings. A user has more than thirty different settings to configure in this section, which will directly affect how the store is displayed and perceived by the customers.

Q4. How can a general user access the store settings?

To access the Store's Settings, a general user needs to login to the admin area of his Zen Cart based website and navigate to Configuration> My Store. Then he will be required to click the Info/play icon, edit button and then update button for each individual option.

Q5. What is PA-DSS Ajax Checkout?

This is an option to disable asynchronous parsing of the checkout confirmation screen set this to 0 under Settings of configuration.

Q6. What is HTML Editor?

It is simply a specialized piece of software that assists in the creation of HTML code. Technically, an HTML editor is a program for editing HTML, the markup of a [[webpagecomputer]. Although the HTML markup a web page can be control with any text editor, specialized HTML editors can offer convenience and added functionality. Essentially, an HTML editor either converts text and layout interface input into actual HTML code or allows users to scan HTML code to look for appropriate syntax in design.

Q7. How can a user make use of HTML Editor on Zen Cart?

Zen Cart provides an option to select and work with HTML Editor under the Configurations option of Store Settings. The user only needs to select the HTML/Rich-Text editor he wishes to use for composing Admin-related emails, newsletters, product descriptions, and more.

Q8. Differentiate between SSD and HDD.

SSD stands for Solid State Drive, which is the latest technology of HDD. HDD, on the other hand, stands for Hard Disk Drive. Since it is like a more sophisticated memory stick, the SSD stores information on microchips and contains no moving parts. On the other hand, a hard disk drive records information on a storage platter by moving a mechanical arm with a read/write head over a spinning platter. The platter inside the hard disk drive is coated with a magnetic media, which records data in binary code. A solid-state drive (SSD) does not contain magnetic coatings. Instead, they rely on an embedded processor, or the "brain", as well as on the interconnected flash memory chips, which retain data even when the power is not present.

Q9. How would a general user know that Zen Cart is secure?

From a security point of view, Zen Cart complies with the PA-DSS rules for admin sessions, password protection and Ajax checkout making it a solid fortress against malicious activity. The Zen Cart community is heavily supporting the application and ready to answer any development related questions.

Q10. What is a UI flow diagram? How does it change with the layout shown by the application currently?

A UI flow diagram or a User interface-flow diagrams are typically used for one of two purposes. First, they are used to model the interactions that users have with your software, as defined in a single use case. For example, a use case can refer to several screens and provides insight into how they are used. If the application in question is in the dual-pane mode, clicking on an item on the left pane will simply display the content on the right pane. Similarly, if it is in single-pane mode, the content should be displayed on its own. Some actions may have a different result depending on the current layout. If the app is in dual-pane mode, it should set up the action bar with tabs for navigation, whereas if the app is in single-pane mode, it should set up navigation with a spinner widget.

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