

The Domain Fit Filter

Ten questions about how you like to work. No aptitude-test cliches, no "are you a people person."

1. When something breaks, is your first instinct to restore it fast, or to find out exactly how it happened?

Restore → cloud, platform, systems. Investigate → security, data.

2. Can your life absorb being woken at 3 a.m. sometimes - honestly, given your family and health?

Yes → cloud, platform, systems, security. No → data, AI-adjacent - and treat on-call terms as a question you ask in every interview, whatever your domain.

3. Do you want your wins visible (a thing you built, running) or are you content with invisible wins (nothing bad happened today)?

Visible → cloud, platform, data. Invisible → security, networking, systems.

4. Does the idea of an intelligent adversary - someone actively trying to beat you - energize you or exhaust you?

Energize → security. Exhaust → no points; just note that security's core texture is adversarial.

5. Deep uninterrupted focus, or a varied reactive day with many small problems?

Deep focus → data, networking. Reactive → systems, security, platform.

6. Do you prefer building new things or improving existing ones?

New → cloud, platform, data. Improve → systems, networking, security.

7. How much ambiguity can you enjoy: a mapped field with established paths, or an unmapped one where you write the map?

Mapped → networking, systems, security. Unmapped → platform, AI-adjacent.

8. Do you like explaining things - writing, documenting, presenting - or do you want the work to speak for itself?

Like explaining → security, platform, AI-adjacent (the explaining IS the job, more each year). Prefer quiet work → networking, data, systems.

9. The market veto: which of these domains do your region's postings actually hire for - check your Chapter 1 Ledger's Bill box and what you already know of your local market?

No points. A domain your market barely hires is a relocation plan, not a career plan; strike it from the tally whatever it scored. Write V in each vetoed column.

10. Which two entries in this chapter did you reread?

One bonus point each. Attention is data; your curiosity already went somewhere.

The rules

- One point to each domain your answer's scoring line names.
- **Question 9 gives no points but can veto any domain regardless of its score.**
- Question 10 gives one bonus point to each chapter entry you reread.
- Top two tallies win; a veto promotes the third; a tie you cannot break carries into Chapter 6.

Tally grid Mark one point in each domain column your answer's scoring line names, then add the columns. Strike any column marked V, whatever it scored.

#	Cloud	Security	Platform	Networking	Systems	Data	AI-adjacent
1							
2							
3							
4							
5							
6							
7							
8							
9							
10							
Total							

My two domains: _____ and _____

"I am investigating _____ because its Tuesdays look like _____"