

CheatSheet: Feature Design For Job Interview

INTERVIEW

- PDF Link: [cheatsheet-featuredesign-A4.pdf](#), Category: interview
- Blog URL: <https://cheatsheet.dennyzhang.com/cheatsheet-featuredesign-A4>
- Related posts: CheatSheet: Leetcode For Code Interview, CheatSheet: System Design For Job Interview, [#denny-cheatsheets](#)

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1.1 Key Blocks For Feature/System Design

Num	Name	Summary
1	Caching	Stores data so that future requests of data retrieval can be faster
2	Message Queue	Provides an asynchronous communications protocol,
3	Data Partition & Sharding	Break up a big data volume into many smaller parts
4	DB Indexing	Create indexes on multiple columns to speed up table look up
5	DB replication	
5	Pull vs Push model	
6	Networking: HTTP	
7	Load balancer	
8	Concurrency & Communication	
10	CAP: Consistency/Availability/Partition	
11	Consistent Hash	
12	Eventually consistency	
13	Two-phase commit/Three-phase commit	
14	API: gRPC vs REST	
15	Scale up vs Scale out	Vertical scaling and Horizontal scaling
16	Pessimistic And Optimistic Locking	
17	Session management	
18	Networking: TCP vs UDP	
19	API Design	
20	Consistency patterns	Weak consistency, Eventual consistency, Strong consistency
21	Availability patterns	Fail-over vs Replication
22	Self Protection	API Rate limit, Circuit breaker, bulkhead
23	Data Replication	
24	Conflict resolution	Quorum, vector lock, reconcile on read/write
25	CDN - Content Delivery Network	
26	Monitoring	
27	Distributed Systems	
28	Garbage Collection	
29	Memory Management	
30	Concurrency	
31	Networking: SDN	
32	Security	
33	Networking: DNS	

1.2 Design Technical Modules

Num	Name	Summary
1	Design a distributed counter	link
2	Design a distributed UUID generator	
3	Implement a timer	
4	Design An API Rate Limiter	link, link
5	Design online/offline status system	
6	Top URL hits	
7	Unique url hits	
8	Delayed task scheduling	
9	Design a thread-safe Hashmap	link
10	Design a distributed Hashmap	
11	Design a distributed transactions	
12	Design a load balancer	
13	Design a client-server API to build a rich document editor	
14	Design a circuit breaker	
15	Design a secrets management system	
16	Design data sync for a distributed system	
17	Design: A Parking Lot Service	link
18	Design: A URL Redirecting Feature	

1.3 Additional Blocks For Feature/System Design

Num	Name	Summary
1	Heartbeats	
2	Gossip	
3	Paxos and raft protocol	
4	CRDTs (Consistent Replicated Data Types)	
5	Vector Clocks/Version Vectors	
6	Split brain	
7	Merkle Tree	
8	Sloppy Quorum and hinted handoff	
9	LSM (Log Structured Merge Trees)	

<https://raw.githubusercontent.com/dennyzhang/cheatsheet.dennyzhang.com/master/cheatsheet-featuredesign-A4/dynamo-summary.png>

1.4 Explain workflow: What happens when XXX?

Num	Name	Summary
1	When happens when I search in google?	
2	How loadbalancer works	
3	Explain three phase commit model	
4	Explain HTTP return code	301 vs 302, 401 vs 403, 503 vs 504, etc
5	Explain Mysql DB replication model	
6	Explain gossip protocol	
7	Explain CAP	
8	Explain Hadoop file system	

1.5 Explain tools: how XXX supports XXX?

Num	Name	Summary
1	How JDK implement hashmap?	
2	Explain java garbage collection model	
3	Explain raft/etcd	
4	How OS supports XXX?	

1.6 Cloud Design Principles

Num	Name	Summary
1	Fail fast	Avoid snowflake servers
2	Design for failure	
3	Immutable infrastructure	
4	Cats vs Cattle	
5	Auto healing	
6	Async programming	
7	GitOps operational model	

1.7 Cloud Design Patterns

Num	Name	Summary
1	Ambassador pattern	Create helper service to send network requests, besides the main service
2	Cache-Aside pattern	Load data on demand into a cache from a data store
3	Circuit Breaker pattern	If a request takes too many resource, abort it
4	Bulkhead pattern	Isolate elements into pools, so that one fire won't burn all
5	Gateway Aggregation pattern	Aggregate multiple individual requests into a single request
6	Priority Queue pattern	Support different SLAs for different individual clients
7	Strangler pattern	Incrementally migrate a legacy system piece by piece

1.8 Misc

Num	Name	Summary
1	How to store 2TB data into 3 disks of 1TB. And be tolerant for one disk failure	A, B, C. And C = A XOR B
2	Find out the difference between two files. Majority of these two are the same	#lcs - Longest Common Subsequence
3	How to support feature of "diff 1.txt 2. txt"	
4	Avoid double payment in a distributed payment system	link

1.9 Top 20 Object-Oriented Design Problems

Num	Problem	Category/Tag	Example
1	Cache	#linkedlist, #oodesign	Leetcode: LRU Cache, Leetcode: LFU Cache, Leetcode: All O(1) Data Structure
2	Throttling	#linkedlist, #oodesign	Leetcode: Design Hit Counter, Leetcode: Logger Rate Limiter
3	Iterator	#oodesign	Leetcode: Binary Search Tree Iterator, Leetcode: Design Circular Iterator
4	Design Log Storage System	#oodesign	Leetcode: Design Log Storage System
5	Linked List with random access	#oodesign	Leetcode: Design Linked List
6	Max Stack	#stack, #oodesign	Leetcode: Max Stack
7	Design HashMap	#oodesign	Leetcode: Design HashMap
8	Circular Queue	#oodesign	Leetcode: Design Circular Queue, Leetcode: Design Circular Array
9	Trie tree	#oodesign	Leetcode: Implement Trie (Prefix Tree)
10	Get Median	#oodesign	Leetcode: Find Median from Data Stream
11	Range Sum Query	#oodesign	Leetcode: Range Sum Query - Immutable, Leetcode: Range Sum Query - Mutable
12	Design File System	#oodesign	Leetcode: Design File System
13	Insert Delete GetRandom O(1)	#oodesign, #random	Leetcode: Insert Delete GetRandom O(1)
14	Insert Delete GetRandom O(1) II	#oodesign, #random	Leetcode: Insert Delete GetRandom O(1) - Duplicates allowed

1.10 More Resources

License: Code is licensed under MIT License.

<https://github.com/donnemartin/system-design-primer>

<https://github.com/binhnguyennus/awesome-scalability>

<https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/architecture/patterns/>