

90-Day Candidate Master Roadmap

Designed for ~2 hrs/day on weekdays and ~4–5 hrs/day on weekends to fit around academics and projects.

Phase 1 – Foundation Refinement (Days 1–20)

Goal: Fill hidden gaps, sharpen speed on standard patterns, warm up for high-rating problems.

Weekday Routine (2 hrs):

1. Warm-up (15 min) — 1 easy-medium (1300–1500). 2. Main Drill (1 hr 15 min) — 2 problems (1600–1800) with 25-min limit each. 3. Editorial Absorption (30 min) — Re-solve stuck problems after reading idea.

Weekend Routine (4 hrs): - Virtual Contest (2 hrs) - Post-Contest Analysis (1.5 hrs) - Focused Topic Drill (30 min)

Focus Topics: Prefix sums, two pointers, sorting + greedy, simple DP, DFS/BFS.

Phase 2 – Advanced Pattern Expansion (Days 21–50)

Goal: Learn & apply 1700–1900 range patterns until recognition becomes instinct.

Weekday Routine (2 hrs): 1. Pattern Drill (1 hr) — Solve 2 problems in an advanced topic. 2. Mixed Rating Drill (1 hr) — One 1600 and one 1900 problem.

Weekend Routine (4–5 hrs): - Virtual Contest (2 hrs) - Pattern Bank Update (1.5 hrs) - Endurance Drill (1–1.5 hrs) — Solve a 2000-rated problem.

Focus Topics: Segment tree/Fenwick tree, binary lifting, LCA, string hashing, Z-function, KMP, flow basics.

Phase 3 – Contest Simulation & Peak Push (Days 51–90)

Goal: Transition from good problem solver to fast contest performer.

Weekday Routine (2 hrs): - Mini Virtual Contest (90 min) - Post-Contest Review (30 min)

Weekend Routine (4–5 hrs): - Full Virtual Contest (2–2.5 hrs) - Deep Dive (2 hrs) — Study 1 hard problem editorial deeply and reimplement.

Extra Strategy: Develop an opening strategy, keep template sharp, and choose contests when fresh.

Ongoing Throughout 90 Days

- Maintain Pattern Bank. - Weakness Sprints every 10 days. - Skip early if stuck during contests to maximize solves.