CYF Don't Wait Around

So you've signed up for CYF but the course doesn't start for weeks or months. What can you do in the meantime? Don't wait around: put yourself in the best position to succeed when the course begins.

The courses we list here target areas that previous CYF trainees struggled with or were slowed down by.

1. Learn to learn

1. Take this online course on online studying: https://www.open.edu/openlearn/education-development/learning-how-learn/content-section-0?active-tab=description-tab
2. Take this course on Learning to Learn: https://www.coursera.org/learn/learning-how-to-learn (Click the "Join for Free" button and sign up for an account (**Do not pay for the course!**)
3. Read this article to start learning like a programmer: https://css-tricks.com/learning-to-learn/

Stretch
As a CYF trainee and later graduate, you will always be learning and growing. What strategies will you develop now to help you on the course?

2. Become a power user

1. Increase your typing speed: https://monkeytype.com/
2. Get to grips with your IDE: https://www.codecademy.com/article/visual-studio-code
3. Discover Devtools: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gTVpBbFWry8
4. Explore Linux: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n_2jPbQornY
5. Join Github and start learning: https://skills.github.com/

   1. GitHub - skills/introduction-to-github: Get started using GitHub in less than an hour.
   2. GitHub - skills/communicate-using-markdown: Organize ideas and collaborate using Markdown, a lightweight language for text formatting.

Stretch

As a CYF trainee, you will be using the tools and systems listed on the Fundamentals Preparation page:
https://syllabus.codeyourfuture.io/fundamentals/preparation/accounts-and-tools

How can you come to class as a power user in Slack, Figma, and Google Docs (including Sheets, Slides, Docs, and Drive) ?

*You can **always** go **deeper** on any topic. Once you have installed Linux and become a power user, take this [Unix 101 course](#) (and then try 102).*

3. Develop your front end skills

You have already built a basic web page, but there's a lot more to learn about HTML and CSS.

Work through these free interactive courses:

1. HTML and CSS course: Learn HTML and CSS for free
2. Learn CSS Grid for free | Scrimba
3. Math in CSS and JavaScript: A Practical Maths Course For Web Developers
4. Learn CSS variables for free | Scrimba

Stretch
You will be learning JavaScript and SQL as well as HTML and CSS. What programming concepts can you learn in HTML and CSS that will help you with JavaScript?

4. Join the Hack Reactor Self Study

https://www.hackreactor.com/prep-programs

Choose the **free** self study registration and identify yourself as a CYF applicant.

5. Finally, join the CYF prep programme

If you have worked through everything else, join us on Github: 1000 Paper Cranes (WIP TBA!)