

Pattern 1: If the given input is a sorted (array, list, or matrix), then we will be using a variation of Binary Search or a Two Pointers strategy

Pattern 2: If we are dealing with top/maximum/minimum/closest 'k' elements among 'n' elements, we will be using a Heap

Pattern 3: If we need to try all combination (or permutations) of the input, we can either use recursive Backtracking or iterative Breadth-First Search.

Pattern 4: Most of the questions related to Trees or Graphs can be solved either through Breadth-First Search or Depth-First Search.

Pattern 5: Every recursive solution can be converted to an iterative solution using a stack.

Pattern 6: If for a problem, there exists a brute-force solution in $O(n^2)$ time and $O(1)$ space, there must exist two other solutions: 1) Using a Map or a Set for $O(n)$ time and $O(n)$ space, 2) Using sorting for $O(n \log n)$ time and $O(1)$ space.

Pattern 7: If the problem is asking for optimization (e.g., maximization or minimization), we will need to use **Dynamic Programming** to solve it.

Pattern 8: If we need to find some common substring among a set of strings, we will be using a HashMap or a Trie.

Pattern 9: If we need to search among a bunch of strings, Trie will be the best datastructure.

Pattern 10: If the problem involves a LinkedList and we can't use extra space, then use Fast & Slow Pointer approach.