

Introduction to the Pre-Course Work



Welcome to CodeClan and the introduction to your pre-course work for the 16-week course!

The aim of the pre-course work is to prepare you for the intensive 16 week coding course. This means by the time you have completed it over the course of the next 3 weeks, you should:

- Understanding basic terminology related to software development.
- Be aware and understand some of the basic concepts of object-oriented programming.
- Be comfortable with the Mac computers and navigating the development environment.
- Have a typing speed that will help you keep pace in class.

❖ **Contents:**

When completing the pre-course work, there is no set structure. However, the following is the order that we recommend you tackle the content in:

Week 1	Week 2	Week 3
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Online accounts• Computer and internet familiarity• Terminal and Command Line• Git and Github• Practice Typing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ruby• Practice Typing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ruby• HTML and CSS• Practice Typing

❖ **Using Slack:**

If you have any questions you can email CodeClan at any time. However, we encourage you to first try and answer your question using Slack. Slack is a messaging service we use for communication between students and staff.

The benefits of using Slack are:

- You get to know your cohort by discussing your interests and problems.
- You can support each other through your pre-course work.
- You will probably get a quicker response as your whole cohort will be on Slack.
- All of the instructional team are on Slack so using their knowledge if you get stuck is highly recommended.

❖ **Typing Speeds:**

Practicing your typing is very important. When completing the code type test, make sure you select the Ruby code option. An ideal minimum typing speed would be:

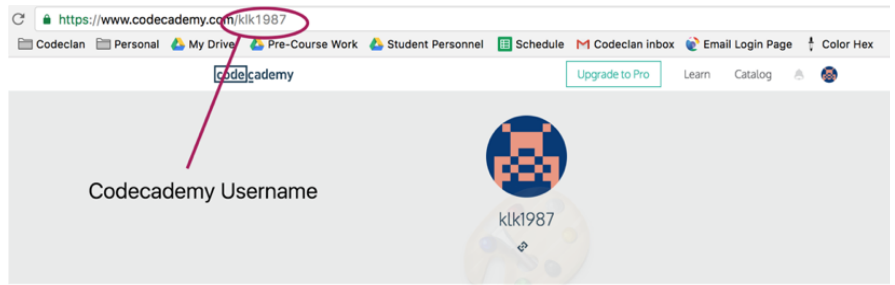
	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3
Normal (40 - 50 wpm)	By Friday	By Friday	By Friday
Ruby code (30 - 40 wpm)	By Friday	By Friday	By Friday

Class can be quite fast paced at times, so to ensure you can keep up practicing your typing is essential. After all, practice makes perfect!

❖ **Username:**

The accounts you need to sign up for are:

- Slack (we'll send you a link)
- Codecademy
- Codeschool
- Google (gmail address)
- Github
- StackOverflow
- Trello



Once you have signed up for these accounts, send the **usernames** to Kat Kiernan at kat.kiernan@codeclan.com. We need to have these details so that we can monitor your progress, offer assistance and guide you in the right direction if needed.

❖ **Once Completed:**

The pre-course work is designed to last the three weeks before the main course starts. However, we understand that everyone works at different speeds and may have different home/work responsibilities.

If you complete all the listed work, there is a 'Keeping Warm' section on the pre-course work page on the website - resources that you can use to practice.

Also, make sure you revise what you have already done - you can complete the courses more than once. It is essential you continue to practice typing to get your speed as high as possible.

❖ **Expectations:**

The pre-course work needs to be completed to ensure that you have the best start that you can have on the course.

If you have any issues, responsibilities or commitments that mean you might struggle to complete the pre-course work send us an email to let us know and we can offer extra support and guidance.

We will check-in with you a few times during the pre-course work period to see how you are doing and provide help with any queries or problems.

❖ **What to do now?:**

The following things need to be emailed to Kat Kiernan at kat.kiernan@codeclan.com:

- If you haven't already, send the following usernames: Codecademy, Codeschool, Trello, Github, StackOverflow and Slack. Also, your email address for gmail.
- Week 1 typing speeds (Normal and Ruby Code) - by the Friday of each week, at the latest.