**🚀 Pro Tip:**

Even if you **don’t buy**, you can **follow the same structure for free**:

* Use the course’s chapter names as a **syllabus**.
* Solve related problems on **free LeetCode**, GeeksforGeeks, or NeetCode YouTube.
* Use GitHub for cheat sheets and patterns:  
  👉 <https://github.com/yangshun/tech-interview-handbook>

Would you like a **free alternative DSA study plan** modeled after this course? I can build you a week-by-week schedule with YouTube + LeetCode links.

**You said:**

yes

**ChatGPT said:**

Great! Here’s a **FREE DSA Interview Prep Study Plan** modeled after the structure of **LeetCode’s Interview Crash Course**, using **YouTube, LeetCode (free), and GitHub**. This will help you become confident in coding interviews — even **FAANG-level** — without spending a rupee.

**🧠 Pre-requisite (Before Week 1)**

**🔹 Topics:**

* **Big-O Notation**
* **Recursion Basics**

**🔹 Resources:**

* 📺 [Big-O in 15 mins (Fireship)](https://youtu.be/D6xkbGLQesk)
* 📺 [Recursion Explained Simply (CS50)](https://youtu.be/Mv9NEXX1VHc)
* 📘 [Time & Space Cheatsheet (GitHub)](https://github.com/yangshun/tech-interview-handbook/blob/master/big-o-cheat-sheet.md)

**📅 Week-by-Week Free DSA Interview Plan (10 Weeks)**

**✅ Week 1: Arrays & Strings**

* Two Pointer, Sliding Window, Prefix Sum

**Watch**:

* 📺 [NeetCode Arrays Playlist](https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLot-Xpze53ldVwtstag2TL4HQhAnC8ATf)

**Practice** (LeetCode):

* Two Sum
* Best Time to Buy and Sell Stock
* Maximum Subarray
* Product of Array Except Self

**✅ Week 2: HashMaps & Sets**

* Frequency map, HashSet problems

**Watch**:

* 📺 [HashMap in 100 seconds](https://youtu.be/F95TgXz-nxY)
* 📺 [NeetCode Hashmap Playlist](https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLot-Xpze53ldVwtstag2TL4HQhAnC8ATf)

**Practice**:

* Two Sum
* Group Anagrams
* Top K Frequent Elements

**✅ Week 3: Linked Lists**

* Singly, Doubly, Fast-Slow Pointer

**Watch**:

* 📺 [Linked Lists Explained](https://youtu.be/W2rWgXJBZyQ)
* 📺 [NeetCode Linked Lists](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Hj_rA0dhr2I)

**Practice**:

* Reverse Linked List
* Merge Two Sorted Lists
* Linked List Cycle

**✅ Week 4: Stacks & Queues**

* Monotonic Stack, Queue Simulation

**Watch**:

* 📺 [Stacks & Queues (Abdul Bari)](https://youtu.be/wjI1WNcIntg)
* 📺 [NeetCode Stack Playlist](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QfJsau0ItOY)

**Practice**:

* Valid Parentheses
* Daily Temperatures
* Min Stack

**✅ Week 5: Trees & Binary Trees**

* DFS, BFS, Inorder/Postorder

**Watch**:

* 📺 [Binary Tree Traversals Visualized](https://youtu.be/ZdzoWkuR3vU)
* 📺 [NeetCode Trees](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KcNt6v_56cc)

**Practice**:

* Invert Binary Tree
* Diameter of Binary Tree
* Lowest Common Ancestor

**✅ Week 6: Graphs**

* DFS, BFS, Union Find

**Watch**:

* 📺 [Graph Theory for DSA (Abdul Bari)](https://youtu.be/EgI5nU9etnU)
* 📺 [NeetCode Graph Playlist](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8C5cn_Qj0j0)

**Practice**:

* Number of Islands
* Clone Graph
* Course Schedule

**✅ Week 7: Heaps & Priority Queues**

* Min Heap, Max Heap

**Watch**:

* 📺 [Heaps Explained](https://youtu.be/3Dw5d7PlcTM)
* 📺 [NeetCode Heap Playlist](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WPV2xG2dV_E)

**Practice**:

* Kth Largest Element
* Top K Frequent Elements
* Merge K Sorted Lists

**✅ Week 8: Greedy Algorithms**

* Activity Selection, Sorting-based Greedy

**Watch**:

* 📺 [Greedy Strategy (Tushar Roy)](https://youtu.be/ARt9HV9T0w8)

**Practice**:

* Jump Game
* Gas Station
* Task Scheduler

**✅ Week 9: Binary Search & Search Space**

* Classic Binary Search, Search on Answer

**Watch**:

* 📺 [Binary Search Explained (Simplest)](https://youtu.be/P3YID7liBug)

**Practice**:

* Binary Search
* Search in Rotated Sorted Array
* Find Minimum in Rotated Sorted Array

**✅ Week 10: Dynamic Programming & Backtracking**

* 1D/2D DP, Memoization, Subset/Combination

**Watch**:

* 📺 [Dynamic Programming for Beginners](https://youtu.be/oBt53YbR9Kk)
* 📺 [Backtracking Playlist (NeetCode)](https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLot-Xpze53ldVwtstag2TL4HQhAnC8ATf)

**Practice**:

* Climbing Stairs
* House Robber
* Word Search
* Subsets

**🧩 Tools, Templates & Mock Interviews**

**🔧 Templates**

* Tech Interview Handbook Templates
* [NeetCode Patterns GitHub](https://github.com/chefyuan/algorithm-base)

**🎭 Mock Interview Practice**

* Practice on:
  + **Pramp.com** (free mock interviews)
  + **LeetCode Interview Simulations**
  + **With friends or mentors**

**📚 Bonus: Optional Advanced Topics**

* **Tries**
* **Dijkstra’s Algorithm**
* **Modular Arithmetic**
* **Segment Trees**