

What are the good projects for a first year computer science student, that can be done before going to an internship?

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Hey!

I am a fourth year Computer Science student and in the eyes of first yearites, we've got it all sorted. That's not entirely true but the experience does help. So, According to me, there are two things every first year **engineer** should keep in mind.

- We, need to **lose the fear of building things**. We as **engineers should build things**. Can I do this? Of course you can! Anything that you wish to do, you can! So what projects should you do to land an internship? Well, there's always a demand for people who can make websites or applications. It is indeed a good way to step into the arena of developme

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1. Do not run towards your mentor for your every silly doubt. They are busy employees. They may not show their frustration at you. But they'll feel greater appreciation for you, once you start working without much guidance.
2. Work like a full-time employee. Yes. You are not getting paid like a full time employee. But it's only for a couple of weeks, and a full-time offer justifies all that extra ... (more)

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First, I was luckily able to get offers from many companies, including Google, Amazon, etc.

I applied to more than 500 internship positions and heard back and got an interview for around 30 of those 500. The interview processes for most companies were very similar so I will talk about the overlapping interview process step by step. I did not get any referrals, and did not reach out to any recruiter. I applied to 500 companies on their website.

Recruitment Cycles

The internship recruiting process is in two cycles.

1. First cycle is from late August to early December.

2. The second cycle (less popular) is from January to April.

--I recommend applying on websites as much as possible in August and sending out emails to recruiters that you have contact with. This gives you a headstart in the interview process, and if you have expiring return offers from previous internships, you must act fast and interview fast with other companies before it expires. --

Here was the interview process for most companies, and if you have questions about specifics, I can try to answer those in the comments.

Application Platforms

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2. Jumpstart - not the best platform, but also another way you can apply to some companies
3. Intern.supply - this has a long list of companies that are hiring for cs majors
4. Handshake - Your school might have a platform where you can apply directly to companies
5. Career Fairs - If your school is large, then this might not be a great way, but if you can get a contact information from some recruiters you meet there, that is always great!
6. Manual Application - If you have any companies in mind, go on their website and see when their application opens. This is usually the easiest/best way

Internship Interview Process

1. The first part of hearing back from a company was being sent a coding challenge either from Hackerrank or some other third party coding platform. I noticed that you usually move on to the next round by getting a perfect score on the coding challenge. However, there were times where I didn't get a perfect score and I still moved on to the next round and there were also times where I got a perfect score and was not moved on to the next round.
2. The next part was usually a ~1 hour phone interview consisting of a technical coding challenge. None of these interviews asked for my knowledge in complex algorithms like bellman ford or hopcroft karp. They were purely testing my problem solving ability and my ability to write code. Also, they sometimes asked for my knowledge in simple data structures that are taught in all undergraduate data structures classes. For example, they will ask what a HashMap looks like and how that is implemented, etc.
3. Usually when you do well on the phone interview, there are either more phone interviews, or an onsite interview. 9 companies out of 10 do not have onsite interviews. They usually have 2-3 phone interviews and once you do well in those interviews you are accepted. The onsite interviews were much longer (~3 hours minimum). You were expected to be there at a certain time and go through multiple back to back interviews that consisted of technical and behavioral interviews.

My Preparation

My preparation for this recruiting season was not that rigorous. This past summer, while I was interning at a company, I solved around 1 or 2 LC Medium or Hard problems a day. I did not code up any problems. I solved the problems on the commute to my internship on pen and paper. I did hear from others that this is a good way to practice for a whiteboard interview. In total, I think I solved around 50 Med/Hard problems. I recommend solving around at least 200, and recommend solving 500+ if you want to get into every company you ever want.

Advice

1. **Luck:** I think there is a huge portion of luck involved with finding an internship. Everyone has strengths and weaknesses, and if you get a question that involves your weakness, that's very unlucky. I would not worry too much about rejection, as I also was rejected hundreds of times in the past.
2. **Game of numbers:** There are thousands of opportunities out there so apply to all of them. Even if you don't see yourself working there, the interview experience is valuable. Remember that most people only hear back from < 1% of applications.
3. **Preparation:** Leetcode is a great platform, so set a goal and practice! Start from easy, build your way to medium, and go to Hard. There are some easys that should be medium, some mediums that should be easy, and etc. Don't get discouraged from not being able to solve an easy/medium/hard. Set a daily goal for X days and try to reach it! Don't burn yourself out so make the goal realistic and doable.
4. **Have FUN** have fun learning and solving questions! They're all very fun and wonderful and the more you have fun the more you learn and get better!

If you have a question about a specific company, leave a comment down below!

Good luck everyone and enjoy the upcoming Holidays!

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The most important high-level tip is to **think of yourself as a new full-time employee**. The more you think of yourself as an intern, the less expectation you have on yourself, and the less that you will push yourself. On a similar vein, try to compare yourself to the full-timers on your team, rather than the interns. Are you as productive as them? Are you contributing to the team as much as they do? One of the best outcomes of your internship is for full-timers to say "*I'm surprised that you are leaving - I thought you were a full-timer!*"

At the same time, you should also be mindful and aware... ([more](#))

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Here are some ways I would have wanted to spend my UG sophomore summer:

Get an internship in an established company

This might be difficult considering many companies would not want to take inexperienced undergraduates over others, except maybe if they have long term plans to offer them PPOs (Pre Placement Offers) well in advance. The work here might vary from working on awesome products to collecting data and writing small bits of code.

Advantages:

Opportunity to work amongst brilliant people, learn from and interact with the company's software development pipeline, right from the ideation stage to the deployment. Apart from this, you'll be paid well and the PPO (if any) would be really helpful in times of distress.

Disadvantages:

No one would force you to be productive, you might end up wasting off your time doing nothing. You might even be allotted a project which would just help you familiarise with the company's programming style and add no value - to you or the company. Your code might not even be deployed.

Get an internship with a startup

I have seen many people shun startup internships because they feel they're *underpaid* (seriously! How much do you expect? You're a student for god's sake!) or they won't be learning much because there are no set coding practices at a startup. This a very wrong assumption. Where else would you get the opportunity to Google up, find the most comfortable tool for a particular task and use it (as opposed to a company-policy defined tool that was written in the age of orkut)?

Advantages

Getting to see a product built from scratch. You can also be sure that people would take your suggestions seriously and you'll have ample space to experiment. Your code might actually become a permanent resident in their repository, and you will be in the list of proud contributors on their main website. Also, a startup work culture is cool and informal. They usually don't stress on timings, but it's better if you adhere to deadlines. You can talk to the CEO of the company freely and treats galore!

Disadvantages

To some, low stipend might be an issue. A typical startup might offer Rs. 15k-25k a month as monetary compensation, whereas bigger ones might also offer you around Rs. 40k. Another disadvantage can be that if you land up in a wrong startup, and by wrong I mean their idea is really really bad or the guy on the top can't say "Hello World" with his terminal, then you might land up in a mess. So, *choose wisely*!

Google Summer of Code (GSoC)**Open Source - Getting Started**

We all have used software like Mozilla Firefox or Blender or Ubuntu at some point of time.

Many of you might know that the source codes of these projects are available online and these projects are maintained by a community of coders. And, to be a part of that community, you do not have to go through n rounds of coding interviews. All you have to do is say "Hi!". Yes, you heard it right! Anyone, and by that I mean you, your friend, your dog (if he/she knows how to code) can contribute, provided you have *some* background. Most of these open source communities have their own channel for communication. Some use IRC (Internet Relay Chat), while others use Gitter and so on. Just figure out how to connect to these channels, go online and say something like, "Yo! This thing you're working on, is pretty awesome. And I'd love to be a part of it!", a bit more formally. And I assure you (most of the time) some enthusiastic chap will answer your call. He/She will guide you on how to begin contributing and all you have to

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time), you can look for bugs in the software and work on them, guided by someone from the community (trust me! These people are ever ready to help). Every community has its own bug tracking system and there bugs are generally sorted according to their severity and difficulty. Find a bug you think you can solve, take help from the associated mentor (that is generally marked on the bug page) and solve it. And then, pick up another bug. And another. And then, yet another. If you're working on a single project every time (recommended; also, choose one you like) then, the community working on that project will start knowing you. And then, you can go to the next step.

GSoC

GSoC is an annual program, organised by Google, wherein Google provides stipends (of 5500 USD) to *students* who work on a project and implement something on it within a period of three months. What projects are these? Yes, open source projects.

How do I get in?

Every year, thousand of students from all over the world apply, and only a small subset make it. How to stand out? Go to subsection 1 of this section. Once you know the community well, they'll take you, it's basically the community that chooses, and not Google itself.

Advantages

You get to work on a project that would influence millions of people (Firefox for example). You get to e-meet and work with brilliant people from all around the world, with most of them being part time contributors having full time jobs or students. You get the advantage of what you'd have gotten in a company intern coupled with informality of working from home. Oh yes! And you get paid 5500 USD, which is a huge amount whilst you're working from home.

Disadvantages

None that I know of. Really.

Other ways to spend your vacations are as already mentioned;

A university project, practice algorithms, brush up your skills or build something by your own.

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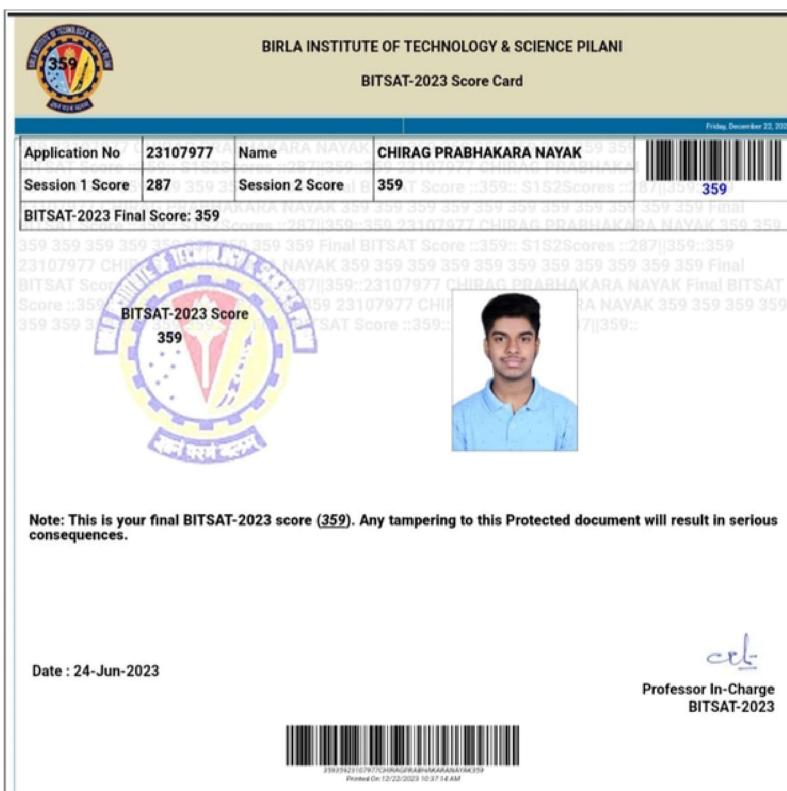
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As I have secured 359/390 in BITSAT 2023, I wish to share my experience of the test series and how to prepare for BITSAT.

Here is my Score card for the second attempt



I purchased the [BITSAT Test Series by Masterclass Space](#) after my first attempt at BITSAT. I secured 280 on my first attempt and thought of preparing well so I started looking for test series. I went through reviews of [Masterclass Space](#) and took the Master BITSAT Series

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The screenshot shows a Quora search results page for the query "What are the good projects for a first year computer science student, that can be done before going to an internship?". The results are presented in a grid format with three columns.

Top Result:

Originally Answered: What are good projects that can be done by a first year computer science student before going to internship? Pls help me anyone

First year students have only the basic knowledge of C language only .

I dnt think it is necessary to build a project after 1st year .

After 2nd year you can build it..

Second Result:

Related **What are the projects a first year computer science student can do in the summer?**

Hi friends,

This is the most asked question of computer science students . Most of the students did not utilise there crucial time of 2 month during summer . if you are a student of computer science then there are lots of technologies and project in the market .

If you are the students of first year then most of them didn't know about what are the technologies currently use in market and they are also weak in programming .here i am mentioning some of the point regarding to summer in short.

👉 Your first target should be your coding skills you should strong your coding skills for that there are lot... [\(more\)](#)

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Third Result:

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Since you re in second year of engineering more-over computer science engineering, you have well grasp over C and C++. Instead of doing such monotonous projects which can be found online (*tsk tsk you know what i mean*) you can do any short project yourself. Say your own version of cricbuzz. Or a way to conduct polls over random short topics. (*Make a few variations, dont just copy paste*)

The source code is available online. You can read it and create your own version in C or C++.

I (*we, my team*) had created a version to calculate scores in badminton and tennis. (Hahaha, i know, but we were short o... [\(more\)](#)

Fourth Result:

Related **What is the best micro project for computer science for the B.Tech 1st-year, 2nd semester?**

If you want guidance on topics that you can select - you have the World Wide Web.

I see so many questions here on Quora, where students look for inspiration and guidance. The problem is - there's so much to do. You'll get tons of advice. It's a mess.

So take this route - go on the web, search for things that just pop in your head as a budding programmer. Web dev. Analytics. Machine learning. Software programming. Game dev. Android dev.

QuoraAfter you've got ... [\(more\)](#)[Upvote · 7](#) [Downvote](#) [Comment · 1](#) [Share](#)

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The answer to this question depends on the programming language you learned.

Most importantly, besides choosing a fun project, is that your style, syntax and form of programming is perfect. This is your foundation for the next 40 years of software development, and a bad foundation will create more problems and stupid bugs in the future, than you'll like.

Next, choosing a project that you can connect... [\(more\)](#)

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Related [What are some good project ideas to put on my resume as a computer science student?](#)

It is always important to have one or more good projects on your resume as a computer science student. Projects often give employers an idea of your skills, experience and knowledge. They provide employers with insight into the kind of work you are familiar with and how much effort you put in to complete it.

To come up with good project ideas as a Computer Science (CS) student, here are some areas you should consider:

1. Mobile App Development:

Developing mobile apps shows employers your software development skills. If you have experience with Android, iOS, React Native, etc., you can design any ... [\(more\)](#)

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Don't create a project for yourself.

Get to know the problem people around you are facing and look out for the solution.

If your friends are in trouble to create their resume, then create a [Online Resume Builder](#).

If you are college students don't know how to manage their pocket money(I'm sure no body knows), then create a web application or Mobile application for it where one can open app and list their expenses.

Build a [Quiz Website](#).

Build a [online Voting system](#)

I have many ideas to tell. But I will not.

Because just **TRY**. Make a solution for a problem.

All the best.

Hope this is helpful.

[#iamsr... \(more\)](#)

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First let me tell you why and how interview processes are conducted.

Goal of any interview is to select candidates who have following criteria matched :

- **Good problem solving skills.**

- Additional criteria based on the job post and the organization.

Generally interview process includes some general rounds/stages to test the above attributes :

1. Aptitude tests

This is mostly considered as a preliminary test to filter candidates. Purpose of aptitude test is solely to test your problem solving skills.

I suggest you to spend at least 7 days to prepare for aptitud... [\(more\)](#)

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Related **I like machine learning but my main concern is to get accepted in an internship. Should I learn about ML or stick to data structures and algorithms?**

Almost any company that you would want to apply to will first evaluate you on your data structures and algorithms knowledge. They are like bread and butter of Computer Science and you should be absolutely comfortable with common data structures and associated algorithms.

You should understand that even if you are a machine learning pro, you might be rejected based on that one technical interview that was all based on data structures and algorithms and so, it is a good idea to learn them.

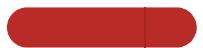
There is a lot of debate about what's the best way to evaluate a candidate for a position (intern/full time),... [\(more\)](#)

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Related **What are the projects a first year computer science student can do in the summer?**

Some ideas could be:

1. Building a very simple web or mobile app.
2. Creating a program or script to automate a task using a programming language like Python or JavaScript
3. Building a simple game using a game development engine.
4. Building a simple hardware project using a microcontroller like Arduino.
5. Participating in open-source projects and contributing to the development of existing software.
6. Creating a portfolio website to showcase their skills and projects.
7. Participating in hackathons or coding competitions.
8. Joining an internship and exploring.



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