What to Learn After a Basic MERN CRUD Application

You have completed a Node.js + Express + MongoDB authentication & CRUD project. This document explains what to learn next to become a strong MERN / MEAN developer and crack MNC interviews.

1. Advanced Backend (Node.js & Express)

- Node.js event loop, async internals, non-blocking I/O

- Middleware patterns & centralized error handling

- API versioning & REST best practices

- Security: rate limiting, CORS, headers

- Logging & monitoring

2. Authentication, Authorization & Security

- JWT access vs refresh tokens

- Role-based access control

- OAuth (Google / GitHub login)

- Password reset & email verification

- OWASP Top 10

3. MongoDB & Database Design

- Schema design & indexing

- Aggregation pipelines

- Transactions & consistency

- Performance optimization

- MongoDB vs SQL comparisons

4. Frontend Depth (React & Angular)

- React hooks internals & Redux Toolkit
- Angular change detection & RxJS
- Performance optimization
- Reusable component architecture
- Frontend security basics

5. System Design Basics

- Designing scalable REST APIs
- Authentication system design
- Pagination, caching, filtering
- File uploads & media handling
- Monolith vs microservices

6. Testing, DevOps & Deployment

- Backend testing with Jest
- Frontend testing basics
- Docker fundamentals
- CI/CD concepts
- Production deployment

7. Interview Preparation

- JavaScript deep-dive questions

- DSA fundamentals

- Angular vs React comparisons

- Backend scenario questions

- Resume-ready projects