Placement Preparation Checklist

Everybody gets intimidated by the fact of facing interviews and placements. I was too. The Key here is to know how and for what to prepare and from where. To make things easier for you guys, I have prepared this simple checklist which is supposed to make your preparations easy and linear as well as to make you guys more confident.

1. **Campus**
   a. Rounds
      i. Resume Screening
         Preferably prepare a professional looking 1-page resume that mentions everything you have done in your college years by sorting them with the technical difficulty you faced. In simple words, Brag about yourself. Here is an Example : https://portfolio.shoebpatel.com/resume.pdf

      ii. An online test (3-5 coding questions for checking Logical thinking, Coding skills and experience in Data Structures and Algorithms) + 20-30 Aptitude questions.
         1. Practice for Aptitude Test - Link
         2. Source for Coding Questions - Link1, Link2, Link3
         3. Read "CRACKING the · CODING INTERVIEW" - Link

      iii. Group Discussion
         1. This round is taken by very fewer companies, last year only two companies took it (CauseCode, AllState). No preparation required as such But still Link. Just be cheerful during rounds and whenever you open mouth, think first. Let interviewers learn that you have lots of knowledge. Speak to the point.

      iv. Face to face (or Skype) personal interview with the technical manager
         1. May ask logical puzzles
         2. May ask about fundamental CS concepts of Database Systems, Operating Systems, Networking and Internet. Link
         3. Will ask in details about the things you mentioned resume. Learn your answers to all resume questions Like:

a. What is this project, course, internship about?
b. What was the technical challenge and how did you solve it
c. And everything you mentioned on the resume.

4. May ask the coding question and make them solve on paired coding platforms like https://coderpad.io/demo.
   a. Algorithm Questions
   b. Language/technology specific (as they may be using that language or framework internally Ex. Javascript) Preparation can be done by looking into previously asked questions of the company on Geeksforgeek (Ex. Samsung), Just be confident and try to solve the question as much as you can.

v. Face to face (or Skype) personal interview with the HR manager
   1. Will ask behavioral question
      a. **Tell me a little about yourself**, This one is really really important. Just frame the answer right now, Should according to resume. Learn it by heart. Deliver it very confidently and in the most organic way possible. This is the first impression for the interviewee and for you as well. Nervousness here will ruin the interview for you. Confidence here will make it easy as f***. **Link (Must Watch)**

      b. Strengths
      c. Weaknesses
      d. Tell me about where you had to be a leader
      e. And More here. Link

No need to worry, generally CSE batch gets 100% placed. So be calm, everybody will get placed. Being anxious will make your preparation phase tough as well as will make you nervous during interviews.
Alot of Scam can happen due to college restricting to take only two offers (Which is not a bad thing) but some students might get offers that will ask for resigning out of placement process and hence TPO will not let you sit in any companies after that. So think carefully while accepting offers based on followig stats (**approx**.)

Placement Stats 2018:

% of total companies that came	Package offered	Time period
60%	5-8 LPA	August to October
40%	9-14 LPA	October to Feb

* Multiple companies offering more than 10.5 LPA came after all of the good candidates of CSE already had 2 offers and hence they were not able to sit. Hence the people sat were not able to clear rounds and the company offered to nobody. The college even had to refuse 14 LPA package due to this.

After you get 1 or 2 offers, you will have reason to calm down as you will be having backup offers. This is the time where you start preparing for off-campus for the companies and job descriptions you love (Machine Learning Engineer, DevOps, Backend-Frontend, Android, Security, Etc.)

2. **Off-Campus (This should your aim)**

Off-campus offers generally span from **15 LPA to 40LPA (With 12Lakh-30Lakh salary).** In my opinion, This is the one you should be preparing for the most. Being not from top IIT or NIT, we generally think that it will be tough. Well here is the little secret. **Its not. But only for the ones who are ready to work for it.**

Mostly all the rounds here are the same but the difficulty is generally more and depends on the company you are targetting.

a. Rounds
   i. Resume - (Mention Lots of Good Projects)
   ii. Phone Call with HR to ask about Salary Expectation/ Current Offers you have (**Lie about it here**, Always tell around 15LPA, Good companies have a lot of budget)
   iii. Online Coding round - 3-5 medium hard questions - HackerEarth, CodeChef, HackerRank

    iv.   Phone/Video technical round
        1. Will ask Algorithm questions
    v.   Onsite tech round 1
        1. Will ask for a whiteboard interview. Tough algorithm Questions
        2. System Design questions
        3. Language/Framework Specific
    vi.   Onsite tech round 2
        1. Will ask about past projects
        2. Resume
        3. Technical Knowledge
    vii.   HR round
        1. Behavioral Question
        2. Just a sanity check if the person fits in the company culture.
        3. Will finalize the offer.

b. Preparation
    i.   Do Practice on Company-specific question on Leetcode.com LeetCode is quite expensive but is very effective. Buy it in sharing.
    ii.   Or can do interviewBit.com
    iii.   Read Geeks For Geeks
    iv.   Read Cracking the coding interview book.
    v.   Enhance Your Resume.
    vi.   Apply to as many companies from the following list as you can.

I can give you a referral to many good companies as I have close contacts, **But just be ready on your behalf.**

I would really love to have some of you guys at BrowserStack as Software Engineers, Not because I work here, But because I think it is one of the best to get into, in terms of salary, perks (Lunch, Dinner, Snacks 24x7, Flexible work hours, Good Office, Good Engineering Products to work on, Location). So I would say to focus a little bit more on BrowserStack interview prep as I can myself refer you here. (if wanna know more, you can contact me on LinkedIn anytime)

List of Good Companies:

1. https://www.geeksforgeeks.org/browserstack-recruitment-process/
2. https://www.geeksforgeeks.org/company-preparation/

Miscellaneous Links:

1. https://github.com/MaximAbramchuck/awesome-interview-questions
2. https://github.com/yangshun/tech-interview-handbook
3. https://github.com/jwasham/coding-interview-university