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Tier 3 to Top Tech

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Tier-3 College → Taking My First Big Risk

- I come from a **tier-3 college in Pune**.
- Despite being a gold medalist, I landed an average 6 LPA offer at Deloitte.
- **The Problem:**

On paper, everyone said a Big4 placement was “huge”.
But I knew a brand name wouldn’t build real skills.
- **The Turning Point:**

I trusted my gut — **and declined the *only* placement offer I had.**

Startup Experience → Skill Transformation

I joined a 30-member startup in Pune.

That startup changed everything.

- I worked on Trending tech stack of 2019: *Node.js, JavaScript, React, etc.*
- Real-world production projects, real ownership and impact.

Those very skills helped my resume get shortlisted at **Walmart** and **Google**,

Lesson:

- 👉 If your college doesn't give opportunities, create your own.
- 👉 Skills compound. Brand names don't.

How to Crack Top Tech Companies?



STEP 1

Build a stand-out Resume

DOs & Don'ts of a Resume

- **Length:** Keep it ONE page (If Elon Musk can, so can you!)
- **Section-wise Resume Guide:** [Guide](#)
- **Ready-to-use template:** [LaTeX Template](#)
- **Focus:**
 - Don't write what you *did* → write what changed because you did it
 - Eg: *Improved accuracy by X%, X hours saved, Reduced page load time by X%, Revenue impact, X users reached, etc.*

Two Purposes of a RESUME

① Beat the ATS (Applicant Tracking System)

Your resume must pass through ATS before a human ever sees it.

Use **relevant keywords** that match the job description — skills, tools, technologies, and role-specific terms.

② Impress the Hiring Manager

Once a human reads your resume, it must show **impact, clarity, and potential** within 6–8 seconds. Highlight measurable achievements, real projects, and outcomes.

STEP 2

Shortlist the Right Companies

FAANG → MANGO

- It's not just ***FAANG***.

A lot of other good tech companies
that pay well and have amazing work:

1. Adobe
2. Walmart
3. LinkedIn
4. Salesforce
5. Oracle
6. Nvidia
7. OpenAI, etc.

BIG TECH COMPANIES



7 years ago vs today



Focus on Impact of your Role

 **IMPACT** matters more than **BRAND**.

Example:

- Join Instagram in 2022 → Reels already established
- Join LinkedIn in 2022 → Video features still evolving
- **Choose environments where your work creates real impact.**

STEP 3

How to Apply for Jobs?

Two Important Factors

Platforms: LinkedIn, Indeed, Naukri.com

Real-time Job Updates: [India & USA Job Boards](#)

Factors to consider:

1. Customize your resume according to the job description
2. Apply within 24 hours of a job posting
3. Maximize applications via Referrals

How to get Referrals?

Whom to Reach out?

- First start by DMing people from your school/college.
- They have shared experience and coursework like you, and hence they are likely to respond!

What to write in the DM/Email?

- Do not write a generic message
- Research about their work experience, skills, projects, etc.
- Draft a personalized message, connecting your personal work to theirs
- **Templates:** [Cold Email/DM Templates](#)

STEP 4

How to Prepare for LeetCode Interviews?

Interview Structure

Internships: 3-4 rounds

Full-time Roles: 5-7 rounds

Interview flow:

- Online Assessment: SQL, Quantitative Reasoning, Coding
- Coding rounds: Leetcode
- Behavioral/ HR Rounds: Resume Based Questions.

Explain projects in simple language with personal contribution measurable impact.

Leetcode Preparation

Key principles:

- Visualize data structures with Youtube Videos
- Go from Easy → Medium → Hard
- Focus on underlying patterns, don't solve 1000s of questions
- Group similar problems under subpatterns

Leetcode Roadmap: [FAANG Leetcode Roadmap](#)

DSA Patterns Roadmap: [DSA Patterns](#)

Will AI Replace Software Engineers?



Will AI take my job?

No: It will change the nature of the job, not remove it.

Industrial revolution:

Machines didn't remove jobs; they changed them.

AI Revolution:

Will reduce coding time but will increase the need for Reviewing, Testing and Designing constraints and edge cases. Hence, you should know the CS fundamentals to be a good reviewer and decision maker.

Keep learning, keep evolving :)

THANK YOU

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