### **Career Action Plan**

**Charles Zhang, Computer Science Class of 2023** 

### Introduction

 Computer Science B.S. (pl. 2023) with a technical breadth in tech management

Grew up in Manhattan Beach, CA

Member of ACM, TBP, and UPE

Front-End Lead at Bruinshack

## **Personality and Interests**



16personalities.com

- Strong desire to solve and understand puzzles
- Enjoys using computers, solving problems, and thinking abstractly
- Prefers orderly, systematic work
- Defined by integrity, dedication to duty, and practical logic
- Takes responsibility for their actions and pride in the work they do

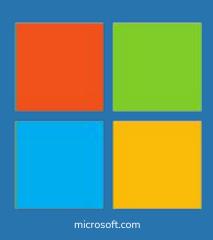
# Personality and Interests



bitmoji.com

- I don't want to be defined by my job
- I want to challenge myself to constantly evolve and learn more through my work
- I want my work to be used to do good in the world
- I never want to be in a position where I can't find enjoyment in my work

# **Dream Company: Microsoft**



- Massive tech company with a focus on innovating for the betterment of society
- At the forefront of a multitude of fields in computer science
- Has a lot of fingers in a lot of pies (MS Suite, Windows, Xbox, Azure, etc.)
- Famous among large tech companies for its employee-friendly WLB

### **Dream Position: SWE**



artplus.ae

- Job that allows me to interact with computers to solve problems
- Engages me in puzzle-solving on a large scale
- A versatile position that allows me to work in all sorts of fields, not just limited to tech
- Heavily reliant on logic, organization, and detail
- Requires constant evolution and adaptation to succeed

### **Dream Job: SWE @ Microsoft**

- 5+ years of experience
- Bachelor of Science in Computer Science, Computer Engineering, or equivalent experience
- Development skills in C++ or C# (or other general-purpose programming language)
- Strong track record of collaboration with team members and partner organizations.
- Ability to propose multiple solutions and make tradeoffs in pursuit of great customer outcomes

### **Skills Assessment**



iconfinder.com

- C++ (2.5/5)
- Interpersonal Skills (2.5/5)
- Decision-maker (2/5)
- Consumer-minded (3/5)

### **Skills Evaluation**

- Continue to gather experience using general-purpose programming languages to develop a product
- Hone interpersonal skills in a working environment
- Gain more confidence by refining my skill-set and keeping up-to-date with the tech ecosystem

### Front-End Lead at Bruinshack

- Hands-on experience with industry-relevant technologies
- Opportunity to refine interpersonal skills through a leadership position
- Development of a consumer product allows for practice of a user-centric mindset

#### LeetCode

- Learning the internals of C++
- Valuable practice for technical interviews

### **Personal Projects**

- Freedom to explore various tech stacks to get a more conceptual understanding of development
- Opportunity to hone in on specific areas of interest within the scope of software
- Posting on GitHub/personal site

### Capital One TIP Intern/TDP

- Experience in industry, using relevant technologies
- Team-focused environment
- Similar responsibilities as Microsoft SWE

### 5-Year Plan

#### 2023

- Continue work as Front-End Lead at BruinShack
- Complete relevant coursework (CS 143/144)
- Begin TIP internship at Capital One

#### 2024

- Complete relevant coursework (CS 130)
- Continue interview practice through LeetCode
- Work on a personal project using relevant tech
- Begin position as a TDP at Capital One

#### 2025

- Continue work at Capital
  One
- Focus on developing interpersonal skills/confidence
- Gain experience with relevant tech stacks
- Continue interview prep

#### 2026

- Continue to build on both technical/soft skills in Capital One
- Continue intensive interview prep
- Begin applying

#### 2027

- Gain real-time interview experience
- Secure Microsoft position
- Find passion project within the company