🔧 Core Technical Skills

1. Linux/Unix Fundamentals

Command-line tools (grep, awk, sed, etc.)

Process management, permissions, networking, and system monitoring

2. Scripting & Programming

Bash or Shell scripting

Python, Go, or other scripting languages for automation and tooling

3. Version Control

Git (branching, merging, pull requests, tagging)

GitOps principles (e.g., managing infrastructure/code via Git)

☁️ Cloud & Infrastructure

4. Cloud Platforms (at least one)

AWS, Azure, GCP: compute, storage, IAM, VPC/networking, auto-scaling

Familiarity with serverless and cloud-native services is a plus

5. Infrastructure as Code (IaC)

Terraform, Pulumi, CloudFormation, Ansible

Understand state management, modules, and remote backends

🐳 Containers & Orchestration

6. Docker

Building and running containers

Writing and optimizing Dockerfiles

7. Kubernetes

Pods, services, deployments, config maps, secrets

Helm, Kustomize, and K8s troubleshooting

🛠️ CI/CD & Automation

8. CI/CD Pipelines

Jenkins, GitHub Actions, GitLab CI, CircleCI, ArgoCD

Understand pipeline stages, triggers, artifacts, approvals

9. Configuration Management

Ansible, Chef, Puppet, or SaltStack

Playbooks, roles, inventories

🔍 Monitoring & Logging

10. Observability

Tools: Prometheus, Grafana, ELK/EFK Stack, Loki, Datadog

Alerting and log aggregation

Metrics, traces, logs

🔐 Security & Compliance

11. Security Best Practices

Secrets management: Vault, AWS Secrets Manager, SOPS

Least privilege IAM, audit logging, image scanning