Ultimate Brutally Honest Checklist for 15+ LPA Job (Before Graduation)

15+ LPA Job Checklist - Brutally Honest & Complete

DSA & Competitive Programming

- Solve 500+ LeetCode problems (min: 250 Easy, 200 Medium, 50 Hard)

- Complete Blind 75, Neetcode 150, and Top Interview 150

- Solve 70+ Dynamic Programming, 30 Graph, 30 Tree, 20 Trie, 20 Sliding Window problems

- Reach 1700+ Codeforces rating or solve 1500+ level problems consistently

- Participate in 30+ rated contests (Codeforces / Leetcode / AtCoder)

- Maintain a DSA mistake log and revise weekly

- Practice 10+ mock interviews focusing on DSA with live coding

- Solve 10+ system design questions (Low-Level & High-Level Design)

Core CS Fundamentals

- Master Operating Systems: Processes, Threads, Scheduling, Deadlocks, Memory Management, Virtualization

- Master DBMS: Indexing, Transactions, Joins, Normalization, ACID properties

- Master Computer Networking: TCP/IP, HTTP, DNS, OSI layers, Subnetting, Routing

- Master Object-Oriented Programming: All four pillars, SOLID principles, and design patterns

- Be able to teach each CS subject to others clearly

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- Complete 10+ MCQ mocks for product-based company rounds

Development & Projects (MUST-HAVE)

- Build 5 advanced full-stack projects (MERN/Next.js + Node + TypeScript + Tailwind):

- - E-Commerce app with payments and order management

- - Real-time app (chat or collaboration) using WebSockets

- - AI-powered app (OpenAI API or Vision model integration)

- - Dashboard/SaaS clone with admin panel and analytics

- - Unique problem-solving or open-source tool

- Deploy all projects live (Vercel/Render) with proper documentation

- Add unit tests in at least 2 projects

- Use GitHub Actions for CI/CD in at least one project

- Include login, authentication, role management, database (MongoDB/MySQL), and REST/GraphQL APIs

GitHub, Resume, Portfolio (Proof of Work)

- Make 1000+ GitHub commits in the last 12 months

- Have a clean GitHub profile with 6+ pinned real projects with detailed README

- Create a 1-page ATS-optimized resume with quantifiable impact

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- Build a mobile-friendly portfolio site with live project links, resume, and contact

- Maintain an active LinkedIn with 500+ connections and headline showcasing your skills

- Post 10+ value-adding content pieces on LinkedIn

Communication + Interviews

- Practice 10+ mock interviews covering DSA, project deep dives, and HR questions

- Be fluent in explaining your projects line-by-line

- Speak clearly and confidently in English during interviews

- Prepare answers for 20+ HR questions using the STAR format

- Create a 30-second elevator pitch and a 1-minute self-introduction

- Record your mock interviews and improve on hesitations and clarity

Outreach + Job Hunt Strategy

- Apply to 250+ high-quality job roles manually (target FAANG, Tier 1 startups, unicorns)

- Reach out to 100+ engineers and recruiters on LinkedIn with personalized messages

- Maintain a detailed job application tracker (Notion/Excel)

- Set job alerts on platforms like LinkedIn, Wellfound, Hirect, Hasjob, and Cutshort

- Create a custom job application website showcasing your skills

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- Intern or contribute to at least one open-source organization or startup

- Get referrals through GitHub and LinkedIn connections

Bonus (Top 0.01% Tier Edge)

- Contribute 5+ PRs to open source projects (React, Node, or relevant libraries)

- Publish 3+ in-depth technical blogs or YouTube videos

- Launch 1 micro-SaaS or tool with 100+ users

- Win or participate in at least one national-level hackathon

- Rank in the top 10% in a global coding contest (Google Kickstart, Codejam, etc.)

- Build a personal brand on LinkedIn/X with 1000+ followers and consistent content

- Complete 1 internship or freelance gig with a real user base

Golden Rule

- If you complete every single item above, a job offer with 15-40 LPA is 100% guaranteed

- If even 2-3 items are left incomplete, you risk losing to competitors