Above & Beyond CS (ABCS)

Coding Interview Workshop Series

Workshop 8

Increase Your Coding Speed
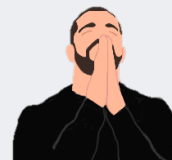
What have we seen so far?

Before coding

...the first 5'

1. Work the clock ✓
2. Communicate proactively ✓
3. Design your algorithm ✓

During coding

...the next 10'

4. Writing code at the whiteboard ✓
5. Talk through your code / solution ✓
6. Handling mistakes ✓

"After" coding

...the last 2-3'

7. Test your code ✓
8. Increase your speed
9. Tackle imposter syndrome

After you're coding…

7. Test Your Code
8. Increase Your Coding Speed
9. Tackle Imposter Syndrome

8.   Increase Your Coding Speed

Increasing Your Coding Speed

- Remember, aim to solve 2 problems in a 45minute interview (but it's okay if you don't)

- If you're not at your most comfortable pace yet, that's okay. There are multiple ways to increase your coding speed.

There's No Substitute for Practice

Remember, perfect practice makes perfect!

- Deepen your understanding of your programming language.
  - Less is more. Practice in one language that you feel most comfortable in, rather than jumping between multiple languages.
  - The better you understand the coding language you choose, the better (and faster!) you'll be able to write code

- Write more code.
  - The more practice you get, the faster you'll get with implementation, getting your code right, or avoiding trivial (or non-trivial!) bugs
  - After you solve a problem once, try solving it a different way

Try to Write Code with Fewer Lines

Sometimes, less is more!

- Find the source code to projects and frameworks you already use, and read the source to see how it was written and choices made

- Figure out what the "minimal viable code" is and try solving problems with the least amount of code possible.
  - Challenge yourself to solve the problem again in 50% fewer lines of code!

- Practice at [Code Golf Stack Exchange](#).
  - Don't get stressed or overwhelmed. We're talking about good to great here!

Remember

Some other relevant tips that we've shared earlier.

- Think first, code second.

- Practice while tracking your time.
  - Hopefully you've seen some improvement since the first week of workshops!

- Don't rush.
  - Work methodically to avoid careless mistakes and thoroughly think through the problem out loud

Questions?