

# OVERCOMING CHALLENGES IN HACKATHON DEVELOPMENT

Learning API Integration and Dynamic Web Functionality with Sanity

## My Hackathon Experience: Challenges, Learnings, and Suggestions for Improvement

*Participating in a hackathon was an exhilarating experience that offered a multitude of learning opportunities and challenges. Here, I'll share my journey, the insights I gained, and a few suggestions for improvement.*

### Challenges Faced

1. **API Migration to Sanity:** One of the significant challenges I encountered was migrating APIs to Sanity. This required a deep understanding of both the existing API structure and how Sanity operates. The process involved ensuring that data was seamlessly integrated and accessible.
2. **Component Utilization:** Understanding how to effectively utilize components in our project was another hurdle. Components are essential for creating reusable and efficient code, but mastering their implementation required time and practice.
3. **Error Resolution:** Throughout the project, numerous errors emerged. The search functionality, in particular, was a persistent issue. However, the satisfaction of resolving these errors was immense and contributed

significantly to my learning experience. 4. Dynamic Page Creation: Building dynamic pages added another layer of complexity. Ensuring that the website was fully functional and data-driven involved meticulous *attention to detail*.

## Learnings

1. Data Fetching from Sanity: Learning how to fetch data from Sanity and organize it into categories was an invaluable skill. This knowledge is crucial for building robust and dynamic web applications.
2. Problem-Solving and Persistence: Facing challenges head on taught me the importance of perseverance. Each problem was an opportunity to learn and grow, reinforcing the idea that persistence is key in overcoming obstacles.
3. End-to-End Functionality: Seeing the project come to life, from placing orders to sending data to Sanity, was incredibly rewarding. This experience helped me understand the importance of seeing a project through from inception to completion.

## Suggestions for Improvement:

1. Time Management: Allocating time effectively was a challenge. Future hackathons could benefit from better time management strategies, such as breaking the project into smaller, manageable tasks with clear deadlines.
2. Collaboration Tools: Utilizing collaboration tools more efficiently can enhance team dynamics. Platforms like Slack or Trello can improve communication and task tracking.
3. Pre-Hackathon Preparation: More preparation before the hackathon, such as workshops or tutorials on key technologies, could help participants hit the ground running and reduce the learning curve during the event.
4. Feedback and Reflection: Incorporating a structured feedback and reflection session post-hackathon could provide insights into areas of improvement and celebrate achievements.

*Overall, the hackathon was a fantastic learning experience. It challenged me, taught me new skills, and, most importantly, reinforced my love for problem-solving and innovation.*