



# How to land SDE Jobs Outside India?

Tanmay Kacker

# Agenda

- Current jobs landscape
- Interview Process
- Road Map
- Years of experience
- Compensation
- Cost of living
- Visas



# Key trends in tech hiring

- 01 Companies are shifting towards more flexible style of work. Be it fully remote or hybrid.
- 02 The median wage has increased for engineering roles. However, there is a higher demand for experienced engineers or specialised talent.
- 03 Smaller companies and startups are replacing bigger technology companies as the major employers.



# Interview Process

## Coding Interviews

- DSA round

## System Design

- HLD discussions
- Common system design questions

## Machine Coding

- LLD implementation
- In-person or home assignment

## Behavioural Interviews

- Last round with either hiring manager or HR
- Culture fit assessment



# Coding Interviews

01

Standard data structures and algorithms round. The difficulty can range from questions like inverting a binary tree to the skyline problem using segment trees.

02

The difficulty of the DSA rounds decreases with years of experience. Freshers can expect harder questions compared to professionals with a little more years of experience.

03

DSA rounds tend to be harder in India when compared to companies outside India. MAANG companies have a consistent difficulty level across geographies.



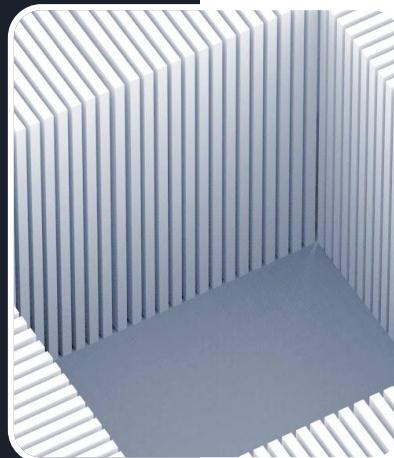
# Coding Interviews: Resources

## Learn

- [IIT - Delhi Lectures](#)
- [MIT OCW](#)
- [Scaler Topics](#)

## Practice

- [InterviewBit](#)
- [LeetCode](#)





# Sample System Design: Design Hotstar

Expectations from different SDE levels

SDE - 1

Come up with the schema of the various entities and list down the APIs required. The interviewer may expect a DSA solution to a targeted problem like searching for titles.

SDE - 2

Present design decisions like choice of the database and the architectural overview of the application based on scale estimates and future requirements.

SDE - 3

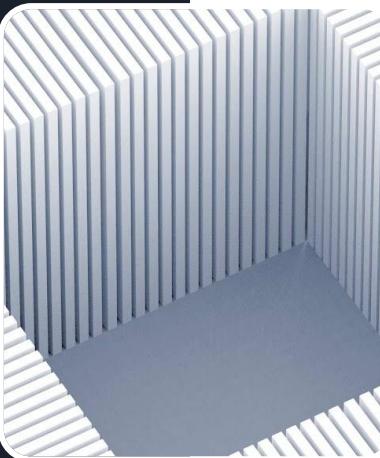
Construct the data ingestion layer for Hotstar and pose an event driven framework to solve various requirements. An SDE-III should also consider the future state of the system and build something which can handle the scale a year down the line.



# System Design: Resources

## Learn

- [ByteByteGo](#)
- [High Scalability](#)
- [Educative](#)
- [Scaler Topics](#)



## Practice

- [Alex Xu - An insider's guide](#)
- [System Design Primer](#)
- [Design data intensive applications](#)



# Machine Coding interviews

- This is where you get your hands dirty.
- Companies either provide home assignments or have an in-person round where you are expected to implement a solution end to end.
- Questions can range from basic real world examples like Design a Bird to complex technical requirements like Design a web crawler.
- Focus is on extensibility and maintainability. Performance or scalability is not evaluated.



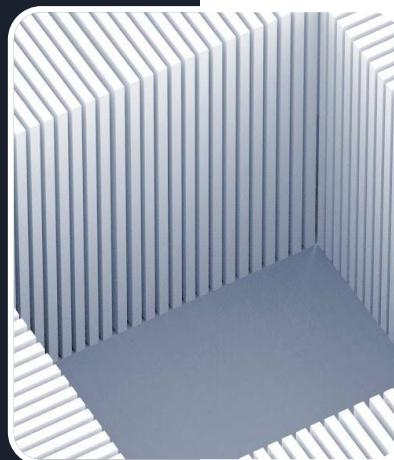
## Machine Coding: Resources

Free

- [Real World - Github](#)
- [workat.tech](#)
- [LLD primer](#)

Paid

- [Crio.do](#)





# Behavioural Round

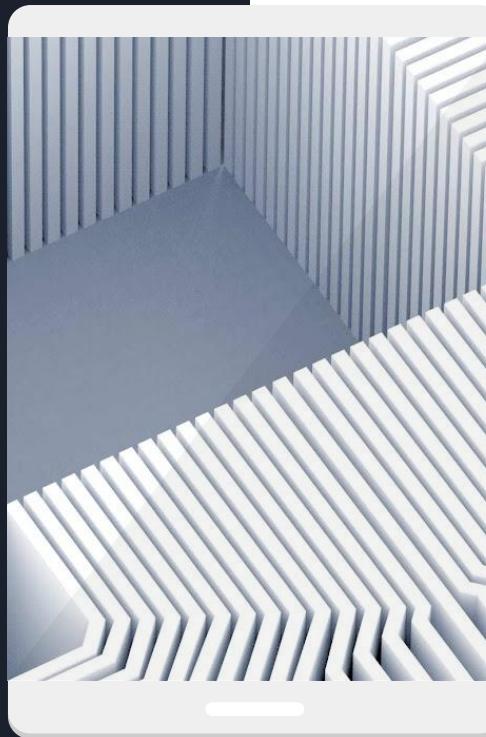
- AKA bar raiser round, cultural fit etc.
- Mostly, the last round of your process.
- Conducted by either hiring manager or HR.  
They ask questions regarding past experiences and roles and assess if you are a culture fit or not.
- Gets more important with years of experience.
- **Use the STAR method to make your answers more structured.**
- **Try to give some mock interviews to friends or a third party service like Pramp**



## How/Where to apply?

### Job Listings portals

- [Linkedin](#)
- [AngelList](#)
- [levels.fyi](#)
- Career listings  
page of  
companies



### Referrals

- Find people working at your target organisation
- Send them a concise message stating your background
- Ask them nicely if they would be willing to refer you
- **Do not spam people and respect their privacy**



# Remote Jobs

- [Turing](#)
- [Toptal](#)
- [Fiverr](#)

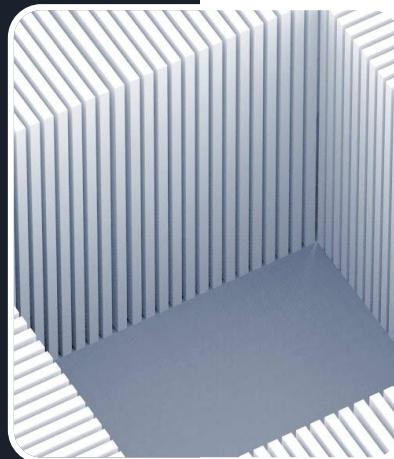




## Cost of Living: Comparison

30 LPA (India)

- Rent - ₹40K (2BHK)
- Misc. - ₹10K
- Eating out - ₹20K
- Total - ₹70K
- Tax - 25% - ₹62.5K
- Gross savings - ₹1.2 L



65K Euros  
(52 LPA)

- Rent - ₹65K
- Misc. - ₹20K
- Eating out - ₹40K
- Total - ₹125K
- Tax - 40% - ₹180K
- Gross savings - ₹1.5 L

[Cost of living calculator](#)



# Visa Process

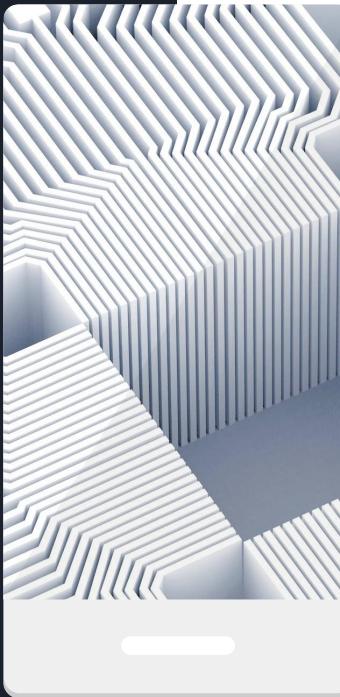
- To work outside India, you would require a visa of the destination country.
- For non-US roles, this process is trivial and is handled by your company.
- US is where things get a little complicated.





## L1 Visa

- You need to work in the company for 1 year before getting an L1 visa.
- Changing companies is not allowed.
- Your spouse can get an L2 visa
- The L-1 is initially valid for three years.



## H1B Visa

- Requires company sponsorship.
- Visa interview followed by a lottery system
- 25% chance of you getting a visa

Thank you!

