

# CodeClan Pre-Course Work Resources

## **Step 1: Online accounts**

Sign up using:

- Trello (<https://trello.com/>)
- Github (<https://github.com/>)
- Google (<https://mail.google.com/>)
- StackOverflow (<http://stackoverflow.com/>)

## **Step 2: Computer and internet familiarity**

Learn using:

- Learn the Mac In Under An Hour (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wSPisJXyjs0>)
- Using "Spotlight" (<https://support.apple.com/en-gb/HT204014>)
- Keyboard shortcut cheat sheet (<http://macmost.com/downloads/MacMostKeyboardShortcutsYosemite.pdf>)
- Measure your typing speed each week and send us a screenshot of your scores. As a goal, try to get yourself above 40WPM on 'normal' typing and above 20WPM on 'code' typing.
  - Normal typing speed (<http://10fastfingers.com/typing-test>)
  - Ruby code typing speed (<http://typing.lk/>).
- Complete at least one of the following:
  - Top 10 Mac keyboard shortcuts (<http://www.cultofmac.com/317935/top-10-mac-keyboard-shortcuts/>)
  - Mac Keyboard Shortcuts (<http://www.danrodney.com/mac/>)
  - Watch 25 Basic Mac Keyboard Shortcuts (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AdMuZses96Q>)

Extension:

- Also, play some typing games to help develop your typing speed. (<http://www.freotypinggame.net/play.asp>)
- Read "How does the Internet work" (<http://www.bbc.co.uk/guides/z3tbgk7>) or "How stuff works" (<http://computer.howstuffworks.com/internet/basics/internet.htm>)

## **Step 3: Ruby**

Learn using:

- Work through Codecademy's "Learn Ruby" track (9 hours) (<https://www.codecademy.com/en/tracks/ruby>)
- Work through Codeschool's "Try Ruby", to get an idea of the Ruby language (<https://www.codeschool.com/courses/try-ruby>)

Extension:

- Read “Learn to Program by Chris Pine”. Many of our students have found this an excellent book. It's well written for beginners and includes many challenges to try and provides two suggested answers to each - one similar to how a beginner would write and one that is slicker and more efficient.  
(<http://www.amazon.co.uk/Learn-Program-Using-Ruby-Facets/dp/1934356360/>)
- There is a shortened version available but the book is highly recommended.  
([https://pine.fm/LearnToProgram/chap\\_00.html](https://pine.fm/LearnToProgram/chap_00.html))
- Extend your knowledge with “Ruby the Hard Way”. This site includes lots of exercises to try - great if you want to test all your new knowledge!  
(<http://learnrubythehardway.org/book/>)

#### **Step 4: Terminal and Command Line**

Learn using:

- Codecademy's “Learn the Command Line course” (3 hours)  
(<https://www.codecademy.com/en/courses/learn-the-command-line>)
- UNIX Tutorial for Beginners: Tutorials 1, 2 and 4 are good to do. You can do the other tutorials too if you're feeling keen but they're not necessary for the start of the course.  
(<http://www.ee.surrey.ac.uk/Teaching/Unix/>)
- David Baumgold's “Getting to Know the Command Line”  
(<http://www.davidbaumgold.com/tutorials/command-line/>)

#### **Step 5: HTML & CSS**

Learn using:

- Follow Codecademy's “HTML & CSS track”  
(<https://www.codecademy.com/en/tracks/web>) (7 hours)
- HTML & CSS “Make a Website project”  
(<https://www.codecademy.com/en/skills/make-a-website>) (3 hours)

Extension:

- If you want to use “Code School HTML/CSS path”  
(<https://www.codeschool.com/paths/html-css>)
- “Front-end Foundations”  
(<https://www.codeschool.com/courses/front-end-foundations>)
- “Front-end Formations”  
(<https://www.codeschool.com/courses/front-end-formations>)
- The “CSS Cross Country”  
(<https://www.codeschool.com/courses/css-cross-country>)
- “Fundamentals of Design”  
(<https://www.codeschool.com/courses/fundamentals-of-design>)
- A to Z CSS  
(<http://www.atozcss.com/start-here/>)
- Learn to Code HTML & CSS

(<http://learn.shayhowe.com/html-css/>)

## **Step 6: Git & Github**

Learn using:

- Code School have a great “TryGit simulation” which talks you through using Git and Github. (<https://try.github.io/levels/1/challenges/1>)
- Work through “Codecademy’s Learn Git course” (1 hour)  
(<https://www.codecademy.com/en/courses/learn-git>)

Extension:

- Read “Git vs. GitHub” - earlier, we got you to register an account on GitHub. This web site explains the differences between Git and Github.  
(<http://jahya.net/blog/git-vs-github/>)

## **Step 7: Other**

Recommended:

- Try out some of the exercises on “Learn to Program”, the 'A Few Things To Try' sections  
([https://pine.fm/LearnToProgram/chap\\_00.html](https://pine.fm/LearnToProgram/chap_00.html))
- Or in the book  
(<http://www.amazon.co.uk/Learn-Program-Using-Ruby-Facets/dp/1934356360/>)
- Or on “Ruby the Hard Way”  
(<http://learnrubythehardway.org/book/>).