

My Second Day as an Intern at Surfboard Payments

I am Sunil, currently interning at Surfboard Payments. On my second day, I was eager to expand my knowledge just like the day before. We kicked off by revisiting what we had learned the previous day, followed by engaging in logical and analytical activities like solving number arrangement puzzles. Initially, when tackling the puzzle, our first reaction was to use pen and paper to work through it step by step. However, we soon realized that problem-solving is more than just writing things down—it requires thinking from various perspectives. For example, visualizing the process or using a digital version of the puzzle could lead to quicker and more efficient solutions. This exercise emphasized the significance of creative thinking and the ability to explore different approaches to solving a problem. Next, we played Sudoku, a game that requires strong logical reasoning and strategic thinking. The objective is to fill the grid while ensuring that no number repeats in the same row, column, or 3×3 section. Understanding and following these rules are crucial for solving the puzzle systematically. Instead of immediately filling in numbers, we first analyzed the board to determine which row, column, or section had the most prefilled numbers. Starting with the areas that had fewer empty spaces made the process easier and more efficient. After completing the most populated sections, we moved on to the next with a structured approach. This exercise reinforced a valuable lesson—not to rush into solving a problem blindly but to analyze it and adopt the most effective strategy. I had previously avoided Sudoku due to a lack of understanding, but two months ago, I decided to learn it, and as I became familiar with the rules, my interest in it grew. Following that, we played a game called Crossing the Bridge, which had a unique set of rules. The challenge was to cross all the bridges without repeating any, with movement restricted to the bridges alone. At first, I struggled to find a clear solution, as the problem seemed more complex than it appeared. Although our mentor mentioned that the explanation would be provided the next day, my curiosity pushed me to look for answers online, though I was unable to find an exact match for the puzzle.

After lunch, I had the chance to interact with senior employees, which turned out to be an invaluable experience. Unlike many companies where direct engagement with seniors is limited, here, we were encouraged to ask questions freely. They were open to discussions, welcomed our ideas, and shared their experiences, making the conversations both insightful and engaging.

First, I spoke with Priya, a frontend developer, who explained her current tasks and how she uses VS Code for development. She provided a clear and simple explanation of her work. She primarily uses Angular to build the frontend of our product. Next, I had a discussion with Thaslin, a backend developer. Her code was intricate and complex, but she made an effort to walk me through it. She also took the time to explain key backend development concepts to me. Then, I met Sathish from the testing team. He explained that software testing involves identifying errors and ensuring the product functions efficiently. His insights helped me understand how testing contributes to the overall quality of a product. Following

that, I spoke with Jefrin, a data engineer and analyst. He works with Apache and Tableau to generate bar charts and analyze datasets. His explanations were exceptionally clear, and he was one of the most engaging and interactive people I met. Lastly, I conversed with Rishyy from the deployment team. His work is focused on cloud-based solutions, and he explained the deployment process in detail, helping me understand how applications are managed in a cloud environment.

Overall, this experience offered me valuable insights into the company's work culture, the technologies in use, and team collaboration. I learned how different departments interact, the significance of adaptability in a corporate setting, and how various technologies function in practical applications. These interactions not only expanded my technical knowledge but also gave me a deeper understanding of how to thrive in a professional environment.