

How to ace DSA Interview?

What? Why ? How?



What is a Mock Interview?

- A mock interview is an one hour coding interview consisting of two questions which you need to answer both just like an actual interview.
- It helps you to check how prepared you are for the real one.
- It helps you feel more confident and ready for the actual job interview.



Why is it important?

Before heading into the actual interview, it's important to ensure readiness. Only those who are fully prepared should proceed to the real interview and others embrace the opportunity to refine your skills further.



How ?

Steps to approach any problem in an interview

Understanding the question

- It's okay to take a moment to understand the problem statement.
- Steps to follow:
 - Summarize what you understood
 - Ask for constraints, input/output format
 - Asking questions for understanding edge cases



Start Simple : Brute Force Solution

Discuss the brute force solution first briefly.

Advantages -

- It shows that you understand the problem and can come up with a basic, straightforward approach to solving it.
- It allows you to showcase your problem-solving process.



Communication is key!!

Effective communication in DSA interviews is crucial for conveying your thought process and problem-solving approach. Here are key aspects to focus on:

- **Clearly Express Your Thought Process:** As you think through the problem, verbalize your thought process.
- **Ask Clarifying Questions:** If you're unsure about any aspect of the problem, don't hesitate to ask.
- **Regular Updates:** While coding, provide regular updates on what you're doing. This keeps the interviewer engaged and shows your logical progression.



Validate before you Implement

- Confirm your solution before coding
- It acts as a time-saving filter, preventing you from pursuing wrong solutions.



Coding : Clarity is needed

- Code should be correct as well as readable

Few tips:

- Use descriptive variable names
- Proper formatting/indentation

Less lines does not mean better code.



Discuss Time and Space Complexity



Manage time efficiently

- You only get approximately 25 mins for each question. **Use it wisely!!**
- **Prioritize efficient ideas:** Start by brainstorming different approaches and evaluate them based on the complexity and requirements. Choose the one that best meets the problem's constraints and can be implemented within the given time frame.



Professional Setup

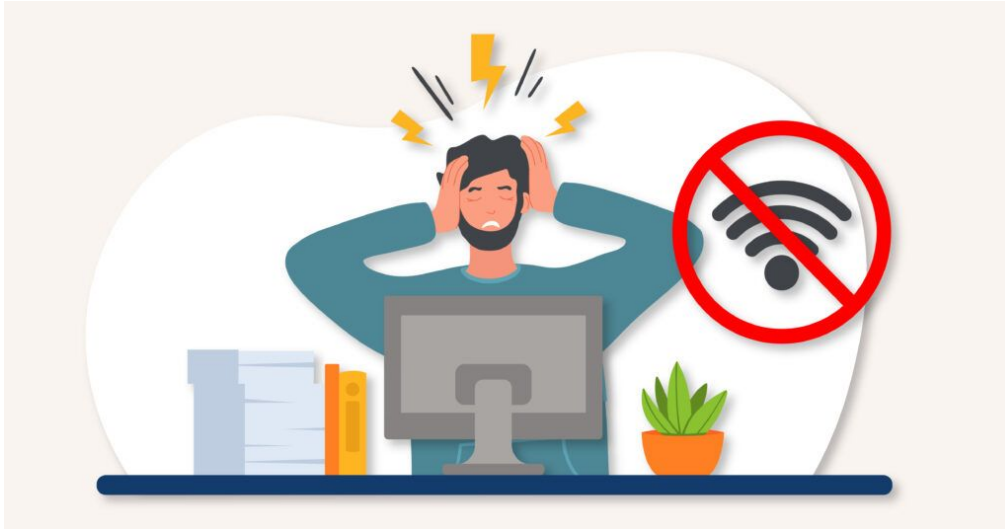
Treat this like an actual interview.

Few tips:

- Choose a clean, well-lit background.
- Position the camera at eye level.
- Make sure you have a working webcam and microphone.
- Minimize distractions
- Have a backup plan for technical issues.
- Keep you essentials within reach.
Eg. Notebook, pen, water, etc.



Ensure you have a stable Internet connection!!!



What if you fail?

- It is a path to success.
- You have multiple Additional Mock Interviews that you can use.

*Success is not final, failure is not fatal,
It is the courage to continue that counts*





Thank you.