

VISHNU INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY (AUTONOMOUS) Department of Computer Science and Engineering

Step-by-Step Path to Improve Programming Skills in Java / Python

Objective

This freely accessible course is designed to guide students systematically in building strong programming foundations in Python and Java. It uses publicly available platforms for hands-on practice, structured problem-solving, and conceptual understanding, aiming for measurable improvement in coding skills. It is intended for students of engineering colleges and can be easily adopted or replicated by other institutions.

Course Structure

Phase 1: Foundational Programming Skills

For Python Beginners

Platform: Snakify.org - https://snakify.org

- Complete all lessons and exercises in sequence.
- Focus areas: variables, loops, conditionals, strings, functions, and lists.
- Target: Develop syntax familiarity and problem-solving using basic constructs.

Por Java & Python Practice

Platform: CodingBat.com - https://codingbat.com

For Python:

- Solve at least 5 problems from each of the following sections:
- String-1
- List-1
- Logic-1
- Warmup-1

For Java:

- Solve at least 5 problems from each of the following sections:
- String-1
- Array-1
- Logic-1

- Warmup-1
- Recursion

Phase 2: Guided Contests on HackerRank

Students should now move to solving structured contests created on HackerRank, arranged in increasing order of difficulty.

Beginner Contests

Beginner Day 1: https://www.hackerrank.com/thirdbeginnersday1

Python Begin 1F: https://www.hackerrank.com/pythonbegin1f

Python Begin 2F: https://www.hackerrank.com/pythonbegin2f

Python Begin 3F: https://www.hackerrank.com/pythonbegin3f

Python Begin 4F: https://www.hackerrank.com/pythonbegin4f

Python Begin 5: https://www.hackerrank.com/pythonbegin5

Python Begin 6: https://www.hackerrank.com/pythonbegin6

Python Begin 7: https://www.hackerrank.com/pythonbegin7

Python Begin 8: https://www.hackerrank.com/pythonbegin8

Python Begin 9: https://www.hackerrank.com/pythonbegin9

Intermediate Contests

Middle 1: https://www.hackerrank.com/middle1

Middle 2: https://www.hackerrank.com/middle2

Middle 3: https://www.hackerrank.com/middle3

Middle 4: https://www.hackerrank.com/middle4

2 Advanced DSA Contests

Linked List 108: https://www.hackerrank.com/linkedlist108

Stacks 108: https://www.hackerrank.com/stacks108

<u>Trees Revision</u>: https://www.hackerrank.com/treesrevision

Trees 108: https://www.hackerrank.com/trees108

Graphs 108: https://www.hackerrank.com/graphs108

Phase 3: Object-Oriented Programming

Java OOPS: https://www.hackerrank.com/javaoops

<u>Java OOPS - New Problems</u>: https://www.hackerrank.com/javaoopsnew

Phase 4: Company-Specific Practice Sets - Wipro

Wipro Round 1: https://www.hackerrank.com/wipronlth1

Wipro Round 2: https://www.hackerrank.com/wipronlth2

Wipro Round 3: https://www.hackerrank.com/wipronlth11

Phase 4: Company-Specific Practice Sets - Accenture

Accenture 108: https://www.hackerrank.com/accenture108

Accenture Additional: https://www.hackerrank.com/accent108

Daily Practice 1: https://www.hackerrank.com/accentdaily1

<u>Daily Practice 2</u>: https://www.hackerrank.com/accentdaily2

<u>Daily Practice 3</u>: https://www.hackerrank.com/accentdaily3

<u>Daily Practice 4</u>: https://www.hackerrank.com/accentdaily4

Phase 5: Striver's DSA Sheet

After gaining comfort with contests, students should begin solving problems from Striver's DSA Sheet (https://takeuforward.org/interviews/strivers-sde-sheet-top-coding-interview-problems/), which links to LeetCode problems grouped by topic.

Video Solutions for Guidance

Video Solutions

Introduction to Linked Lists: https://youtu.be/xHAbJDYNcpI

Counting Commas: https://youtu.be/p5_QPuSsnuU

Pronic Number: https://youtu.be/XRVaYgPlJWQ

<u>Unique Sequence</u>: https://youtu.be/W_xgavwnTIU

Interchange Digits: https://youtu.be/hqU_GicWPjk

<u>Championship Problem</u>: https://youtu.be/VGkP9Dffzmk

Longest Palindromic Substring: https://youtu.be/G7ns8TYvznQ

Graphs – Topological Sort, Bipartite: https://youtu.be/cJ0vRtTLNU4

<u>Dynamic Programming – LCS, Edit Distance</u>: https://youtu.be/PsLznGqIbBI

Benefits of this Model

- Cost-effective: Uses free resources (HackerRank, Snakify, CodingBat, YouTube).
- Structured progression: Moves from syntax to real-world coding challenges.
- Reproducible: Easily implementable across institutions.
- Peer-reviewable: Open for suggestions and adaptation.

How to Use this Course

- This material can be hosted on a college LMS, website, or shared as a PDF.
- Students can mark their progress using spreadsheets or shared Google Sheets.
- Teachers can track HackerRank submissions or ask for screenshots/submission links.
- Faculty members from other institutions can adopt this model and customize it.