

How to survive a coding bootcamp

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My previous self



- ❑ Telecommunication engineer (6 years)
 - ❑ Never coded before
 - ❑ Late 20's (almost 30 really)
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So do I need to have a technical/IT background in order to learn software development?

- Chefs
- Carpenter
- Marketing
- Musicians
- ...



Previous to start the bootcamp

DO:

- ✓ Go the first day with an open mind, manage your expectations.
- ✓ Have a meal plan prepared, either bring tupperware or ask for places to have lunch nearby.
- ✓ If you have free time before starting, you can start reading about basic concepts of the tech stack you will work with.

DON'T DO:

- × The first day you will meet your colleagues, or even before, DO NOT compare your journey to theirs.
- × Expect that you are paying to get somebody to be on top of you the whole time, this is not the idea behind a bootcamp.

During the bootcamp

DO:

- ✓ Try to get all the work done at campus (unless you cannot stay there for bigger reasons)
- ✓ Learn when to take breaks (we only have so many productive hours per day)
- ✓ When you are stuck:
 - Google it
 - Ask a friend/colleague
 - Ask the teacher
- ✓ Try get some exercise or a hobby that can help you disconnect

DON'T DO:

- × Pull all nighters (stay up working all night)
- × [**AGAIN**] compare yourself to your colleagues, you all have been through different experiences
- × Stress out if you don't understand some concepts fully, you can keep up
- × Expect to have a teacher on top of you

After the bootcamp

- ✓ Take some holidays, you deserve them
 - ✓ Start applying for a job (*be patience, for some it will be very quickly but for others it might take time*)
 - ✓ Keep practicing, you will miss the intensity of the bootcamp, try doing a kata once per day. (e.g: <https://www.codewars.com/>)
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Can't take a compliment?

Feel like a fake?

Convinced you'll be unmasked at any moment?

Welcome to the secret circle of high achievers suffering from Impostor Syndrome.

(source <https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/what-is-impostor-syndrome/>)

**“The only person you can
compare yourself is
yourself from yesterday”**

Questions?

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