

Hackathon/Pitchathon Guide for Teams:

Welcome to the Hackathon! This guide will help you navigate through the hackathon/pitchathon process, from start to finish.

1. Pre-Hackathon Preparation

Understand the Theme/Challenge:

- Familiarize yourself with your chosen theme.
- Research relevant topics, technologies, and potential solutions.

Form Your Team:

- Assemble a team with diverse skills (e.g., developers, designers, business analysts).
- Ensure clear communication and role assignment.

Gather Tools and Resources:

- Prepare your development environment, install necessary software, and gather useful tools.
 - Bookmark online resources, documentation, and tutorials.
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2. Kickoff and Team Formation

Attend the Kickoff Session:

- Listen to the introduction, rules, and detailed explanation of the theme or challenge.
- Note important deadlines and judging criteria.

Finalize Team Roles:

- Assign specific roles (e.g., project manager, developer, designer).
- Discuss and agree on a communication plan.

3. Idea Pitching and Planning

Brainstorm Ideas:

- Identify problems within the theme/challenge that your team is passionate about solving.
- Encourage all team members to contribute ideas.

Select an Idea:

- Evaluate ideas based on feasibility, impact, and alignment with the theme.

- Decide on a final idea and outline your solution.

Plan the Project:

- Break down the project into smaller tasks and assign them to team members.
 - Set milestones and deadlines to track progress.
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4. Coding and Development

Start Building:

- Begin developing your minimum viable product (MVP).
- Focus on core functionalities that demonstrate your idea.

Collaborate Effectively:

- Hold regular check-ins to update each other on progress and address challenges.
- Use version control systems (e.g., Git) to manage your code (if coding)
- If not coding for example use google drive to all be able to edit the project at the same time

Utilize Mentors and Resources:

- Seek advice from available mentors and attend relevant workshops.
 - Leverage online resources for troubleshooting and learning new skills.
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5. Presentation and Pitch Preparation

Prepare Your Presentation:

- Create a clear and concise pitch deck (slides) covering:
 - Problem statement
 - Solution overview
 - Key features and benefits
 - Technical implementation
 - Future potential and scalability

Practice Your Pitch:

- Rehearse your presentation multiple times to ensure smooth delivery.
- Focus on clarity, enthusiasm, and time management.

Develop a Demo:

- Prepare a live demo or video demo of your MVP (if have time/expertise)
 - Highlight the core functionalities and user experience.
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6. Judging and Feedback

Present Your Project:

- Follow the event guidelines for presenting your pitch and demo.
- Engage with the judges and audience, and be prepared for questions.

Receive Feedback:

- Listen to the judges' feedback and take notes.
 - Use the feedback for future improvements and iterations.
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7. Post-Hackathon

Reflect and Learn:

- Conduct a team debrief to discuss what went well and areas for improvement.
- Celebrate your achievements and learn from the experience.

Follow Up:

- Connect with mentors, judges, and other participants.
- Consider continuing development on your project if there is potential.

Share Your Experience:

- Document your journey and share it on social media or a blog.
 - Update your portfolio or resume with your hackathon project.
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Good Luck! Embrace the hackathon experience, collaborate effectively, and most importantly, have fun!

Feel free to reach out if you have any questions or need further assistance. Let's create something amazing!