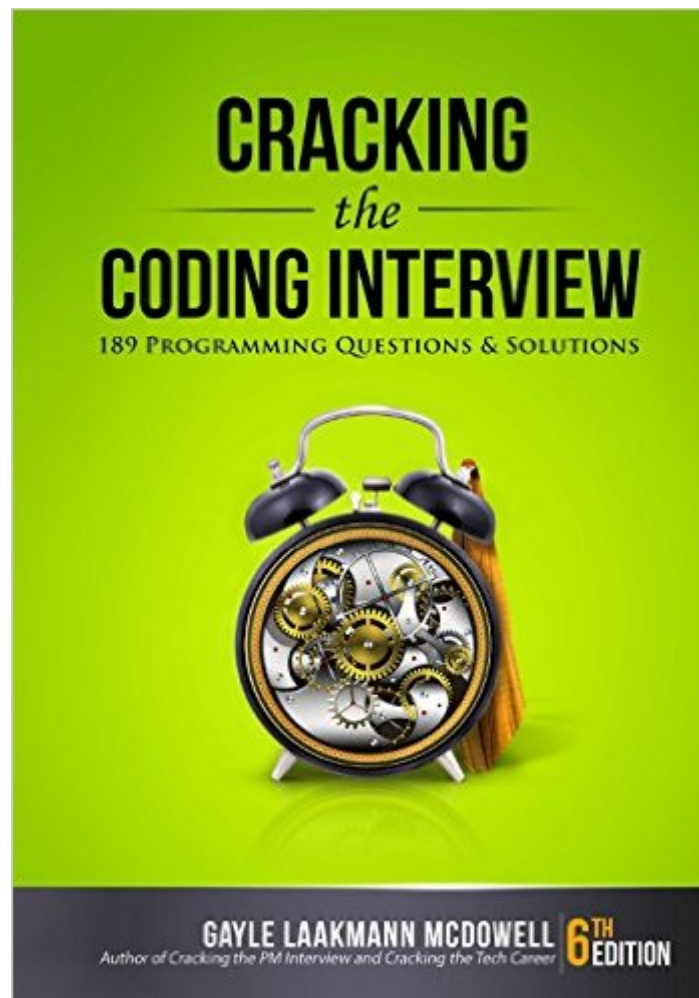




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# Cracking The Coding Interview: 189 Programming Questions And Solutions



## Synopsis

I am not a recruiter. I am a software engineer. And as such, I know what it's like to be asked to whip up brilliant algorithms on the spot and then write flawless code on a whiteboard. I've been through this as a candidate and as an interviewer. *Cracking the Coding Interview*, 6th Edition is here to help you through this process, teaching you what you need to know and enabling you to perform at your very best. I've coached and interviewed hundreds of software engineers. The result is this book. Learn how to uncover the hints and hidden details in a question, discover how to break down a problem into manageable chunks, develop techniques to unstick yourself when stuck, learn (or re-learn) core computer science concepts, and practice on 189 interview questions and solutions. These interview questions are real; they are not pulled out of computer science textbooks. They reflect what's truly being asked at the top companies, so that you can be as prepared as possible.

**WHAT'S INSIDE?** 189 programming interview questions, ranging from the basics to the trickiest algorithm problems. A walk-through of how to derive each solution, so that you can learn how to get there yourself. Hints on how to solve each of the 189 questions, just like what you would get in a real interview. Five proven strategies to tackle algorithm questions, so that you can solve questions you haven't seen. Extensive coverage of essential topics, such as big O time, data structures, and core algorithms. A behind the scenes look at how top companies like Google and Facebook hire developers. Techniques to prepare for and ace the soft side of the interview: behavioral questions. For interviewers and companies: details on what makes a good interview question and hiring process.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Gayle Laakmann McDowell is the founder and CEO of CareerCup and the author of Cracking the PM Interview and Cracking the Tech Career. Her background is in software development. She has worked as a software engineer at Google, Microsoft, and Apple. At Google, she interviewed hundreds of software engineers and evaluated thousands of hiring packets on the hiring committee. She holds a B.S.E. and M.S.E. in computer science from the University of Pennsylvania and an MBA from the Wharton School. She now consults with tech companies to improve their hiring process and with startups to prepare them for acquisition interviews.

This is obviously the must-have book to prepare for your SWE/SDE interview. I have some small quibbles with how some of the problems were worded, but the level of difficulty is very representative of what the big tech companies are using. You might even run into these questions in your own interviews since Gayle is choosing questions that are popular among interviewers today. If you have time, you should of course pick up an algorithms textbook also. I recommend Skiena's *The Algorithm Design Manual* and Sedgewick's *Algorithms* (4th Edition) textbooks. The classic Cormen is too verbose and proof-heavy for the purposes of preparing for an interview. The DP solutions in this book are not actually tabular DP formulations--I recommend looking at the problems here [http://people.cs.clemson.edu/~bcddean/dp\\_practice/](http://people.cs.clemson.edu/~bcddean/dp_practice/) (Brian Dean's Dynamic Programming Practice Problems). Gayle presents memoized solutions, which are much easier conceptually but not as clean or performant as bottoms-up tabular solutions.

This book is awesome. I enjoy reading this book independent of whether I am going for interview or not. This is so good to develop myself. This book is must read book for all developers out there.

This is the best book to purchase if you are preparing the coding interview. Not only that this books helps us just in general also. It is great to have more knowledge about the topic. The practice questions are great and very high quality ! Good luck with the interview.

This book helped me land a job at well known internet company. I got several offers and without doubt this book helped. The specific coding questions that I would have failed outright on had I not read the book include: breadth first search/shortest path, fundamentals of hash tables, and

recursion (fibonacci). Before reading this book I thought I understood recursion but there's a lot I hadn't considered. I worked through many of the code exercises and would review some of the chapters before interviews, including big-O. There are some areas that I feel deserve more attention, like heaps, but overall it covers most of the fundamentals. There are some typos which I found annoying. The only reason I can't give 5 stars is this should be available in a ebook format. I don't buy physical books anymore since it's just a pain to lug around/store and as a result, they are often forgotten. And I've loaned this book to so many people they're really losing money but not offering it on Kindle, which I would not be able to share.

I like to give gifts that come highly recommended and this was one. If you are interviewing, you need this book. Recipient was very happy.

Great book, lots of useful challenge questions, full examples, and great prep material for ANY high-tech coding-related interview!!

Good paper quality, great questions organized into exercises covering most important basics like Data structures, programming languages, problem approach etc. highly recommended

I would say this book plays a role for me, at least mentally, in my last job interview and landing me the job. The book teaches many different style of coding interviews and how to approach them. Recommended.

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