

# Landing That First Role in Tech

## A PRACTICAL GUIDE FOR MENTORS

**Purpose:** A roadmap for your mentee to prepare for and land their first role in the tech industry.

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### Build Your Skillset

- **Technical Skills:** Depending on the role (e.g., developer, data analyst, business analyst), focus on relevant coding languages (Python, JavaScript, SQL) or tools (Tableau, Excel, Jira).
- **Soft Skills:** Communication, collaboration, and problem-solving are key in all tech roles. Encourage your mentee to take time to develop these as well.

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### Network

- **Attend Meetups & Conferences:** Suggest attending local tech meetups, webinars, or conferences to make connections.
- **Leverage LinkedIn:** Build a professional profile, join tech groups, and follow relevant companies. Networking can often lead to job opportunities before they're publicly posted.
- **Reach Out to Alumni:** Use your network to introduce your mentee to alumni or colleagues working in tech.

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### Create a Portfolio

- **GitHub for Developers:** If your mentee is pursuing a technical role, encourage them to set up a GitHub profile with personal projects, coding challenges, or contributions to open-source projects.
- **Portfolio for Designers & Analysts:** Suggest building a portfolio website showcasing work, whether it's web design, data analysis, or business strategy presentations.

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### Craft a Tailored Resume

- **Highlight Skills & Experience:** Focus on transferable skills, side projects, volunteer work, or internships that demonstrate their ability to succeed in the role.
- **Optimise LinkedIn:** Ensure their LinkedIn profile matches their resume and highlights accomplishments, certifications, and relevant skills.

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### Prepare for Interviews

- **Mock Interviews:** Conduct mock technical and behavioural interviews to help them prepare.
- **Research the Company:** Encourage them to understand the company's products, culture, and mission to show their enthusiasm during interviews.

**How to Use:** Guide your mentee to identify skill gaps and recommend specific resources, such as online coding platforms (e.g., LeetCode, Codecademy) or project-based learning.