



CAT PREPARATION 2025

CAT Preparation requires strategic planning and solid execution! You can select self-preparation route if you are highly motivated. Good coaching classes provide right structure and help you stay the course. Check CAT preparation 2025 guide covering best CAT coaching in 2025, best CAT preparation books, mock tests and study material, and online resources.

CAT 2025 Exam Pattern (Expected)

| Section No. | Section Name | Duration | MCQs | TITA | Total |
|-------------|---|----------|------|------|-------|
| I | Verbal Ability & Reading Comprehension | 40 min | 20 | 4 | 24 |
| II | Data Interpretation & Logical Reasoning | 40 min | 12 | 10 | 22 |
| III | Quantitative Ability | 40 min | 14 | 8 | 22 |
| Total | - | 120 min | 46 | 22 | 68 |

Top CAT Coaching in 2025

Here are the most recommended CAT Coaching Institutes according to CAT 2024 aspirants:

1. IMS & TIME – Suggested by candidates mainly for Mocks and Test Series, with many users combining these with other coaching.
2. Elites Grid (EG) – Highly recommended for Quant and LRDI, but some candidates feel its VARC section is weaker.
3. VARC 1000 – Popular for VARC preparation, with Gejo Sir often regarded as a top VARC mentor.
4. Rodha – Frequently suggested by candidates for Quant and LRDI, with Ravi Prakash Sir being highlighted as an excellent instructor.
5. Cracku – Well-regarded for its Quants section and comprehensive question bank.
6. Arun Sharma's Mindworks – Considered a good choice for Mock Tests

CAT Preparation Books

If you are searching for best CAT preparation books, check the list of CAT preparation books with latest edition and prices below.

| CAT Section | Author | USPs (Unique Selling Points) | Cost (Approx.) |
|---------------------------------|--|---|----------------|
| Quantitative Ability (QA) | Arun Sharma | Comprehensive theory, difficulty-wise solved examples, 3-Level Approach | 700-900 |
| Quantitative Ability (QA) | Nishit K. Sinha | Concept-oriented, good for beginners, detailed explanations | 600-800 |
| Quantitative Ability (QA) | Sarvesh K. Verma | Covers all QA topics, shortcut techniques, good for advanced learners | 700-900 |
| Verbal Ability & RC (VARC) | Nishit K. Sinha | Covers reading comprehension, para jumbles, vocabulary building | 600-800 |
| Verbal Ability & RC (VARC) | Arun Sharma | Good for para jumbles, odd one out, summary-based questions | 600-900 |
| Verbal Ability & RC (VARC) | Word Power Made Easy (Norman Lewis) | Best for vocabulary building, easy-to-follow exercises | 200-400 |
| Data Interpretation & LR (DILR) | Arun Sharma | Logical reasoning tricks, practice sets, step-by-step solutions | 700-900 |
| Data Interpretation & LR (DILR) | Nishit K. Sinha | Focus on DI sets, logical puzzles, diverse question types | 600-800 |
| Data Interpretation & LR (DILR) | A Modern Approach to Logical Reasoning (R.S. Aggarwal) | Classic reasoning book, useful for other exams too | 500-700 |

CAT Mock Tests: Best Preparation Tool

Mock tests play a crucial role in CAT preparation, helping aspirants develop time management skills, exam temperament, and accuracy. Regular mock practice is key to success in CAT exam. Check why CAT Mocks are important and top CAT Mock Tests.

Why Are Mocks Important?



Simulates the Actual CAT Exam: Helps in adapting to the exam pattern, difficulty level, and time constraints.

Improves Time Management: Enables aspirants to distribute time effectively across VARC, DILR, and QA sections.

Helps Identify Strengths & Weaknesses: Performance analysis highlights topics that need improvement.

Builds Exam Stamina: Sitting for a full-length test for 2-3 hours improves concentration and endurance. This helps during the actual exam.

Best CAT Mock Test Series

Here are top CAT Mock Tests according to CAT Toppers.

| Coaching Institute | Why it is a good choice | Cost (Approx.) |
|----------------------------------|---|----------------|
| IMS SimCATs | Closest to actual CAT, Good analytics, Varying difficulty levels for simulation | 5,000-7,000 |
| TIME AIMCATs | Extensive mock series. Considered harder than others but has moderate tests too | 5,000-7,000 |
| Career Launcher (CL) Test Series | Balanced difficulty, detailed solutions & analysis | 4,500-6,500 |
| Elites Grid Mocks | Highly regarded for LRDI section | 3,500-5,000 |
| Cracku Mocks | Low cost, Budget-friendly, detailed video solutions | 3,000-4,500 |
| 2IIM Mocks | CAT-level difficulty, concept-based solutions | 3,500-5,000 |

Month-wise CAT preparation strategy

A well-planned month-wise CAT Preparation Time Table is key for scoring well in CAT exam. Ideally, preparation should begin 6-9 months before the exam. Here is a month wise CAT Preparation Strategy.

January – April: Build Strong Fundamentals

Understand the syllabus and exam pattern (VARC, DILR, QA).



Strengthen concepts in all three sections using books or preparation material by CAT coaching companies.

Practice daily reading of The Hindu, Business Standard/ Mint and AEON to improve VARC comprehension skills.

Attempt one sectional test per week to benchmark progress.

Create a CAT preparation group online or in-person to keep yourself motivated

May – June: Practice & Speed Building

Time to shift from theory to problem-solving with timed practice.

Identify weak areas and work on them.

Start taking mocks (one every 10-15 days) and analyze them well

July – September: Intensive Practice & Mocks

Increase mock frequency to one per week, followed by deep analysis of every question attempted and not attempted.

Fine-tune time management strategies—learn which types of questions to attempt or skip.

Attempt topic-wise revision tests for QA, LRDI, and VARC.

October – Mid-November: Final Revision & Exam Strategy

Take 2-3 full-length mocks per week, simulating actual test conditions.

Revise all important formulas, shortcuts, and strategies.

Develop a final exam strategy (which section to attempt first, how to manage time).

Final 2 Weeks: Light Revision & Mental Preparation

Revise all important formulas, shortcuts, and strategies.

Solve previous CAT papers for last-minute revision.

Avoid unnecessary stress—don't try to learn anything new.

Maintain a consistent sleep cycle for exam day readiness.

Stay confident and positive—trust your preparation.