

# CAT Last Week Preparation: Day-wise & Hour-wise Study Plan, Strategy & Tips by IIM Toppers for Slot 1, 2, 3

With the release of CAT Admit Card, the countdown to CAT 2025 exam on November 30 has truly begun. Getting the CAT last 15 days preparation strategy right is crucial to score your maximum potential. Read this MBAUniverse.com article on CAT 2025 last two weeks preparation strategy that is based interviews with CAT Toppers studying at IIMs, SPJIMR, and MDI. Also read our CAT Day-wise and Hour-wise Study Plan, designed to help you balance Mocks, Revisions, Body Clock Adjustment, Nutrition, and Stress Management for Slot 1, Slot 2, and Slot 3.

# CAT Last 15 Days Preparation Strategy 2025

Read these six CAT 2025 last 15 days preparation strategy and tips that is based interviews with CAT Toppers who are now studying at top IIMs, SPJIMR, and other top B-schools.

#### 1. Plan Your Exam Day - Centre & Slot Management

CAT 2025 admit cards were released on November 12, 2025. Now you know these key details for the CAT exam day:

- Your CAT Exam Centre Location
- Your CAT Exam Slot Shift and Time

So, the first and most obvious tip for CAT last 15 days preparation is to start preparing for your CAT Exam Day. Don't leave it for the last day! You must check exact details of your CAT exam centre location and physically visit it before the exam day. Alongside, you should tailor your CAT preparation strategy in the next 15 days to prepare for your exact CAT slot shift and timing. It requires a combination of building the right Mock/Study, Food and Sleep/Rest Pattern to match your slot schedule. This is very important but often ignored step. Read slot wise preparation plan for Slot 1, 2, and 3 in the second part of this article.

## 2. Focus on Revision, No New Topics Now!

The next CAT 2025 preparation tips for last 15 days by CAT Toppers is simple but very important to remember. In the last 15 days to CAT, the pressure to cover the entire syllabus can be overwhelming! But according to CAT Toppers the key for last few weeks preparation is to consolidate what you already know, and avoid studying new concepts that can disturb your confidence.



In fact, CAT Toppers that spoke to MBAUniverse.com unanimously agree that revising familiar concepts that you have already covered is much more effective than trying to learn new concepts and topics at this late stage. Pooja Sudhakar who scored 99.11 percentile in CAT and secured admission to SPJIMR Mumbai highlighted the need to focus on revision in last few weeks to CAT. "CAT last few weeks preparation is about refining what you know and making sure that you are able to leverage your current knowledge," she said.

For <u>Srishti Yadav</u>, a <u>VJTI Mumbai engineer who scored 99.69 percentile in CAT</u> and secured admission to **IIM Kozhikode**, the final weeks were all about "light preparation". "I kept my preparation light in the final few weeks. Rather than starting new topics, I focused on brushing up on Quant formulas and RC strategies," she told MBAUniverse.com.

To apply this strategy, toppers advice that CAT aspirants should:

- Revisit key formulas and type of problem every day.
- Refer short handwritten notes or flashcards for quick revision.
- Revisit conceptual mistakes in mock test to strengthen weak areas without attempting anything entirely new.

Read CAT 2025 last 2 weeks study plan and section wise preparation strategy in the following sections below.

#### 3. Finalize your Test Taking Strategy through Mock Test Analysis

For effective CAT last 15 days study plan, Topper's advice MBA aspirants to take a few selected Mocks that can will help in time management, question selection and rejection, and understanding areas of strength and weakness. CAT Topper Pooja Sudhakar told us that her mock analysis was a "game-changer". "Mocks give a clear picture of your preparation, but analyzing them thoroughly is more important. I spent more time reviewing my mistakes than taking new tests," she recalls.

Soumik Banerjee, **IIM Calcutta** student, highlights the strategic aspect of mocks. "CAT is as much about strategy as it is about knowledge. Every mock helped me tweak my approach and avoid tactical errors," he says.

To apply this strategy, toppers advice that CAT aspirants should:

- Attempt 2-3 full-length mocks per two weeks
- Analyzing performance thoroughly
- Finalize approach for three crucial aspects: accuracy, question selection, and speed



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# 4. Fine-Tune Your Sectional Strategy

In last few weeks, CAT preparation isn't just about solving questions! It's about solving questions strategically, within the time constraints of each section. Hence, for the right CAT 2025 last 15 days study plan, Toppers recommend that MBA aspirants should finalize their own unique sectional strategy.

Srishti Yadav, CAT Topper (99.69%ile) and MBA from IIM Kozhikode shares how she finetuned her approach to maximize score in VARC section. "I tried different strategies, like attempting VA questions first in some mocks and RCs first in others. Eventually, I stuck with the one that gave me the highest accuracy," she told MBAUniverse.com.

Similarly, for In the DILR section, Soumik Banerjee emphasizes the importance of "set selection". "The key to do well in CAT is to quickly choose which sets to solve. I used my mocks to master the art of smart selection," he said.

Topper's advice that during the final weeks, aspirants should use mocks to finetune their section-specific strategies in following ways:

- VARC: Deciding whether to tackle RCs first or focus on VA questions.
- DILR: Practicing set selection to optimize attempts.
- Quant: Applying a "round-based approach" which means solving easy questions first and revisiting difficult ones later.

#### 5. Manage Stress and Avoid Burnout

Indeed, preparing for CAT can be mentally exhausting. So don't burnout in the final few weeks! Toppers emphasize the importance of "balancing study with relaxation" in the last 15 days to stay motivated to perform well in time pressure.

Shreyasee Sarkar, an IT professional who cracked CAT with 99.68 percentile to join IIM Calcutta, advocates a "balanced approach" in last few weeks to CAT. "Taking short breaks between study sessions helped me stay productive. Burnout can negatively impact your performance on exam day," she said.

Pooja Sudhakar, who managed to balance her CAT preparation with a full-time job, highlights the importance of taking regular breaks. "In the last few weeks to CAT exam, I made sure to take one day off every week. Watching a movie or spending time with friends kept me motivated and refreshed," she says.

Topper's advice following ways to manage stress in last few weeks to CAT:

Incorporate short breaks during your daily schedule



Plan at least half a day every week to unwind.

## 6. Last 24 Hours to CAT Exam: Mind Over Matter!

According to CAT toppers, anxiety and stress is counterproductive in the final days before the CAT exam. Toppers recommend taking a short break, or reducing the preparation, before the CAT exam day. Soumik Banerjee said, "I did not study the day before the exam. Instead, I focused on relaxing and ensuring everything was in order for exam day," he recalls. Srishti Yadav added, "The last 2-3 days are about staying calm. If your mind is clear, your chances of executing well on exam day are higher."

So, in these last 15 days to CAT, the smart approach is to shift from learning mode to performance mode by finalization your CAT exam strategy as per tips by toppers in the previous section. In the following section, read a day-wise CAT study plan for the last 15 days.

## CAT 2025 Last 15 Days Study Plan: Overview

A structured 15-day plan can bring discipline to your preparation. Check CAT Study Plan designed for last few weeks revision and preparation. It includes daily tasks and actions required.

Day	Quant Focus	VARC Focus	LRDI Focus	Mock CAT
1	Arithmetic Revision	RC Practice	Tables & Graphs	CAT Mock 1
2	Algebra Shortcuts	Para Jumbles	Puzzles	MOCK 1 Analysis
3	Geometry	RC + Grammar	Data Sets	Section Test 1
4	Numbers	Vocabulary	Caselets	CAT Mock 2
5	Revision	RC Practice	DI Mixed Sets	MOCK 2 Analysis
6–9	Mixed Revision	Critical Reasoning	Logical Arrangements	Section Test 2
10– 12	High-Weightage Topics	RC Summary Questions	Advanced Sets	CAT Mock 3
12-	Formulas + Speed	RC Flow	Mental DI	Finalize Test
13	Practice	Practice		Taking Strategy
14-	Light Revision/	RC Flow	Easy DI Set	Exam Day
15	Formula Sheet Review	Practice		Preparation



# CAT 2025 Last 15 Days Preparation Plan for Slot 1, Slot 2 & Slot 3

Now that we can covered the conceptual part of last 15 days CAT preparation, read a detailed hour to hour break up for managing your time better. Start by checking your CAT Slot in your admit card, and check the reporting time from the table below.

# CAT 2025 Slot Timings for Shift 1, 2 & 3

Slot Name	Exam Timing	Reporting Time
CAT Slot 1 or CAT Shift 1 (Morning Slot)	8:30 AM- 10:30 AM	7.00 AM
CAT Slot 2 or CAT Shift 2 (Afternoon Slot)	12:30 PM- 2:30 PM	11.00 AM
CAT Slot 3 or CAT Shift 3 (Evening Slot)	4:30 PM- 6:30 PM	3.00 PM

#### CAT 2025 Slot-Wise Hour- Wise Strategy: Get Ready for Your Slot!

So now that you know your slot, and also understand that there is no one best CAT slot, your focus should be on how to get ready for your CAT slot. Follow the tips and hour wise schedule given below till the CAT exam day to be absolutely ready for the D-Day – NOV 30!

#### CAT Slot 1 Preparation Strategy

- **Body Clock Adjustment**: You should start sleeping early, and waking up at 6.00 AM. This will allow you to get up early on November 30, and reach your exam centre in right mental frame.
- Mock Practice Timing: After you wake up early, the next step is to take <u>CAT</u> <u>Mock Tests</u> or Sectionals at 8:30 AM on alternative days.
- **Develop Breakfast Habit**: Start eating light, high-energy breakfast at 7-7.30 AM.

# **CAT Slot 1 Hour-Wise Study Plan**

Goal: Align your body and mind to perform at peak focus early in the morning

Time	Task
5:30 - 6:00 AM	Wake up + hydrate + light stretching or walk



6:00 – 7:00 AM	Light revision + short reading (RCs, notes)
7:00 – 7:30 AM	Breakfast – light and high in energy (fruits, oats, nuts)
7:45 – 8:15 AM	Quick meditation or calm music to centre focus
8:30 – 10:30 AM	CAT Mock Test / 3 Sectionals (simulate actual slot)
10:45 – 11:30 AM	Short rest + light snack
11:30 AM – 1:00 PM	Mock analysis – error log updates
1:00 – 2:00 PM	Lunch + unwind
3:00 – 5:00 PM	Review previous mocks / concept reinforcement
5:15 – 6:15 PM	Sports / walk / gym
6:30 – 8:30 PM	Sectional revision
9:30 – 10:00 PM	Light reading / relaxation
10:00 PM	Sleep early to practice early wake up

# CAT Slot 2 Preparation Strategy (12:30 PM - 2:30 PM)

- **Body Clock Stability**: Finetune your body clock so that you are most alert in the afternoons. On the exam day, your aim is to stay relaxed in the morning and reach the center with calm, steady focus.
- Mock Practice Timing: Start taking CAT Mocks or Sectionals around 12:30
  PM on alternate days so your peak alertness aligns with the exam window.
- Light Lunch Habit: Practice eating an early and light lunch between 10:45 AM and 11:30 AM. Avoid heavy and oily food to prevent post-lunch sleepiness.

# **CAT Slot 2 Hour-Wise Study Plan**

Goal: Build sustained concentration through the afternoon.

Time	Task
7:00 – 7:30 AM	Wake up + light stretching or short walk
7:30 – 9:00 AM	Light revision (concept brush-up or formula review)
9:00 – 10:30 AM	Breakfast + short relaxation (music/reading)



10:45 – 11:30 AM	Early, light lunch (avoid heavy or fried food)
11:30 AM – 12:00	Mind-calming activity – short walk, meditation, or quiet
PM	reading
12:30 – 2:30 PM	CAT Mock Test / 3 Sectionals (simulate real slot)
2:30 – 3:00 PM	Short rest or power nap
3:00 – 5:00 PM	Mock analysis – identify weak areas and note learnings
5:00 – 6:30 PM	Light physical activity (walk, sports, gym)
7:00 – 9:00 PM	Concept revision or sectional drills
9:30 – 10:30 PM	Light dinner + unwind (no screens time post 10:30 PM)
10:45 – 11:00 PM	Sleep

# CAT Slot 3 Preparation Strategy (4:30 PM - 6:30 PM)

- **Energy Conservation**: Practice to begin your day slow, with minimal mental strain, and start building your peak performance from 4 PM or so. Your mind and body should be in peak performance mode for evening slot.
- **Mock Practice Timing**: Start taking CAT Mocks or Sectionals at 4:30 PM on alternate days so your peak alertness aligns with the exam window.
- **Smart Snacking**: Practise early lunch at around 12.30 PM, followed by a small energy snack at around 3:00 PM (banana, eggs, almonds, etc) to maintain alertness without feeling heavy.

## **CAT Slot 3 Hour-Wise Study Plan**

Goal: Stay calm, conserve mental energy through the day, and peak in focus during late afternoon hours.

Time	Task
8:00 – 8:30 AM	Wake up + hydrate + stretching or light walk
8:30 – 10:00 AM	Easy reading / concept recap (no heavy topics)
10:00 – 11:00 AM	Breakfast or brunch
11:30 AM – 1:00 PM	Light revision or sectional practice
1:00 – 2:00 PM	Lunch – balanced and light (avoid heavy carbs)



2:00 – 3:30 PM	Relaxation / short nap / music / meditation
3:30 – 4:15 PM	Warm-up revision / quick mental prep
4:30 – 6:30 PM	CAT Mock Test / Sectional Simulation
6:30 – 7:00 PM	Short break + light snack
7:00 – 8:30 PM	Mock analysis + note-taking
8:30 – 9:30 PM	Dinner + unwind
10:30 – 11:00 PM	Sleep (maintain consistent schedule)

If followed, the above recommendations for CAT Slot 1 Strategy, CAT Slot 2 Strategy and CAT Slot 3 Strategy will surely help you to maximize your CAT score.

# **CAT 2025 Last 15 Days Preparation Plan: Summary**

So, the smart strategy for CAT 2025 last 15 days study plan is to shift from learning mode to performance mode. CAT preparation is now more about mindset and time management than knowledge. So, use every single day wisely, practice deliberately, and keep your mind calm.