CAT Toppers' Quant Strategy Guide

How CAT toppers, including non-engineers, built their Quant score

About **one in four CAT toppers** named Quant as their weakest section, and **nearly 80% of them were non-engineers**. They did not try to cover everything. They rebuilt basics, focused on high-weightage topics, and chose accuracy over attempts.

Part A: Build Your Base

What toppers did	CAT topper
Restart from Class 9–10 basics; move from easy to medium to tough questions	Shefali Chhaya, CAT 2019, IIM Ahmedabad
Give priority to Arithmetic and Algebra, the highest-weightage areas	Amaan Hussain, CAT 2025, 99.47; Srishti Vazirani, CAT 2024, 99.00
Short on time? Revise only formulas for low-return topics such as Geometry and P&C	Sanjiv Kumar, CAT 2024, 99.99
Split each topic: concepts, then solved examples, then practice without solutions; alternate topics you like and dislike	Sahiti Potnuru, CAT 2023, 98.23, SPJIMR Mumbai
Practise the Level 1 and Level 2 questions of each chapter multiple times	Shreyasee Sarkar, CAT 2022, 99.68, IIM Calcutta
Learn tables, squares up to 20 and cubes up to 15; keep a formula book	Prateek Kumar Rai, CAT 2022, 99.80; Anushree Naik, CAT 2019, 98.20

"CAT has a quantitative section and not a math section" — Aditya Uday Manolkar, CAT 2022, 99.56, SPJIMR Mumbai (99.99 percentile in Quant)

Part B: Exam-Day Quant Tactics

What toppers did	CAT topper
Attempt in rounds: questions you can solve in 1–2 minutes first, then 3–4 minute ones, then the rest	Nancy Jain, 99.72; Tanuj Ruia, 99.69
Easy first, then medium, then tough: the "ABC technique"	Kunal, 98.44
Mark an answer only when you are at least 75% sure	Anushree Naik, 98.20
Check your pace every 10 minutes; if slower than 5 questions per 10 minutes, start skipping	Shubham Bajaj, 99.98
Choose accuracy over attempts; he reached 92.85% accuracy in Quant	Sandeep Rajguru, 98.07

Set a Realistic Target

What toppers did	CAT topper
Aimed for 6–7 correct answers without risking negative marks	Sahiti Potnuru, 98.23
Set a minimum target of 10 correct answers	Shreyasee Sarkar, 99.68
Targeted 20–25 marks as a working professional weak in Quant	Shuktisindhu Mondal, 93.26

You don't need 99 in Quant to reach a top IIM. Adya Niraj (80 percentile in Quant) and Sandeep Rajguru (91.91 in Quant) both joined IIM Ahmedabad.

Practise now: check topic-wise weightage at **mbauniverse.com/cat/syllabus** and take a free mock at **mbauniverse.com/cat/mocktest**.