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Job Ready

1: Understand SAP Basics

- What SAP actually is — ERP, modules, and how companies use it
- The modules you will work with: FI, CO, MM, SD, PP — just what they do, not deep
- System landscape: DEV → QAS → PRD and why transports exist
- ECC vs S/4HANA — why every company is migrating right now

Do not skip this. Developers who understand the business get hired first.

2: Set Up a Free SAP System

- SAP BTP Trial — free ABAP environment, browser based, fastest to start
- ABAP Platform Developer Edition — runs locally, free, needs around 16GB RAM
- Install ABAP Development Tools (ADT) in Eclipse — this is the modern editor
- Write your first program — WRITE 'Hello World' — and run it

Full setup links are on the bonus page. You cannot learn ABAP by reading — you need a system.

3: Core ABAP Syntax & Data Types

- Data types: C, N, I, P, F, D, T, X — and when each is used
- Internal tables: Standard, Sorted, Hashed — the single most important topic
- SELECT statements, SY-SUBRC, WHERE clauses, JOIN, FOR ALL ENTRIES
- Data Dictionary (SE11): tables, structures, data elements, domains
- Modularisation: Function Modules and Methods — skip FORM routines
- Practise every single day. Reading ABAP teaches you nothing — writing it teaches you everything.

4: Reports, ALV and Forms

- Classical reports and selection screens — SELECT-OPTIONS, PARAMETERS
- ALV reports — spend most of your time here. Use CL_SALV_TABLE, the modern way
- BDC basics — session vs call transaction, just enough to answer interview questions
- Adobe Forms or Smartforms — awareness only, do not go deep

ALV is what you will actually build in your first job. Master it properly.

5: OOPS ABAP + Enhancements

- Classes, objects, methods, encapsulation, inheritance, polymorphism
- Interfaces and abstract classes — and when to use each
- Exception classes: TRY / CATCH with CX_ROOT — modern error handling
- BAdIs and Enhancement Spots — the modern way to extend SAP
- User Exits — understand them, but know they are legacy

This step separates hobbyists from hireable developers. Do not rush it.

6: CDS Views + HANA Basics

- CDS views — the foundation of everything modern in S/4HANA
- Annotations, associations, and code pushdown to HANA
- Clean core — what it means and why every company cares in 2026
- RAP basics — awareness level. Know what BDEF and Service Binding are
- ATC — run it on your own code and fix your own findings

Most beginner courses skip this entirely. Learning it puts you ahead of 90% of freshers.

Apply For Jobs + Certification

- Build 3 portfolio projects — full list on the bonus page
- Write a CV that names real transactions and real objects you built
- Target: SAP system integrators — Accenture, Capgemini, Deloitte, Infosys, TCS

Total: about 17 weeks at 2 hours a day. Faster if you study full time, slower if you have a job. Both are fine.

Apply For Jobs + Certification

- Certification is optional — experience and projects matter more
- If you do certify, pick the current S/4HANA ABAP associate exam, not the old NetWeaver one
- Apply from week 14, not week 17. Interviews teach you what to study next

**Laeq Siddique**Free resource by Cremencing Solutions cremencing.com
CS Peach-Alconsultant for SAP ABAP teams**CREMENCING
SOLUTIONS**

Where to get a free SAP system

The number one thing that blocks beginners

Easiest — start here

SAP BTP Trial Account

Free trial ABAP environment, runs in the browser, no install. Best for the first month. Time-limited but renewable. Sign up on SAP's developer site.

Best long term

ABAP Platform Developer Edition

Free forever. Runs on your own laptop via Docker. Needs about 16GB RAM and 100GB disk. This is the one serious learners use — a real full SAP system.

Free tutorials

SAP Learning site + openSAP

Free courses direct from SAP with built-in sandboxes. Start with the ABAP and clean core tracks. Certificates included on some courses.

Install ADT in Eclipse

Whichever system you pick — install ABAP Development Tools in Eclipse. SE80 in SAP GUI is the old way. Every modern job uses ADT.

One honest warning

Never use pirated or shared SAP access. It is illegal, it is traceable, and being caught ends an SAP career before it starts. The free options above are enough.

Your first 5 practice projects

Build these — they become your CV

1. Customer open items report

Pull from a customer table, add selection screen for company code and date. Display with CL_SALV_TABLE. Teaches you SELECT, internal tables and ALV in one project.

2. Material master data upload

Read a file, validate the data, load it with a BAPI. Handle errors properly. Teaches you file handling, BAPI use and error logging.

3. Same report — rebuilt with OO

Take project 1 and rewrite it as a proper class with methods. Add an exception class. This is the project that proves you understand OO ABAP.

4. A CDS view with a Fiori preview

Build a CDS view with annotations and preview it as a Fiori app. Very few beginners have done this — it will be the most talked-about item in your interview.

5. Fix your own ATC findings

Run ATC on all four projects above and fix every finding. Then you can honestly say in an interview: "I always run ATC before I consider code finished."

Put them on GitHub

Export the code and push it to a public repo with a short README explaining each project. A CV link to real code beats any certificate.

20 transactions you must know

Learn these and you can navigate any SAP system

Development — use daily

SE38 programs · SE80 object navigator · SE11 data dictionary · SE37 function modules · SE24 classes · SE16N table browser

Transports — every job needs these

SE09 / SE10 transport organiser · SE01 transport tools · SE93 transaction codes

Debugging and errors

ST22 short dumps · SM21 system log · SU53 authorization check · SLG1 application log

Performance — mention these in interviews

ST05 SQL trace · SAT runtime analysis · ST12 combined trace

Jobs and data

SM37 background jobs · SM30 table maintenance · AL11 server files · SM35 batch input sessions

Quality — the 2026 essential

ATC — ABAP Test Cockpit. Run it on your own practice code. Most beginners have never heard of it, and mentioning it in an interview instantly stands out.

What NOT to learn in 2026

This section saves you 3 to 6 months

Skip almost entirely

SAPScript

Ancient form technology. Almost no new development uses it. Old courses spend weeks here. Awareness only — one hour, maximum.

Skip almost entirely

Web Dynpro ABAP

Replaced by Fiori and RAP. Learning it deeply in 2026 is time you will never get back. Know the name, move on.

Basics only

Classic Dynpro screens (SE51)

Still exists in old systems, so know what it is — but do not build screens for weeks. Fiori is where new UI work happens.

Basics only

Smartforms

You will see it in maintenance work. Two days is enough. Adobe Forms replaced it, and even that is not where new work is.

Do not build habits here

FORM / ENDFORM subroutines

Understand them for reading old code. Never write them. Write methods from your very first program — interviewers notice this immediately.

Learn instead

Spend that time on these

CDS views · clean core · ATC · RAP basics · OO ABAP. This is where the 2026 jobs are, and where almost no beginner is looking.

Weekly study schedule — 2 hours a day

Mon–Thu

1 hour learning new material, 1 hour writing code in your own system. Never learn without coding the same day.

Friday

Review everything from the week. Rewrite one program from memory, no notes.

Saturday

Work on your portfolio project for that step. 2 to 3 hours.

Sunday

Rest, or read SAP Community questions. Rest is part of the plan

Consistency beats intensity. 2 hours daily for 17 weeks beats 10 hours on weekends every single time.

6 mistakes that cost beginners months

Watching videos without coding.

You cannot learn ABAP by watching. Code every single day, even 20 lines.

Following a 2015 course.

Check the date on any tutorial. Anything before 2020 will teach you obsolete habits.

Skipping the business side.

Developers who understand FI and MM get hired over those who only know syntax.

Waiting until "ready" to apply.

Apply from week 14. Interviews show you exactly what to study next.

Chasing certification first

Projects beat certificates. Build the five projects, then decide about certification.

Learning alone in silence.

Learning alone in silence.

Certification — the honest answer

Is it required? No. Most SAP developers working today have no certification. Real projects matter more.

When it helps. If you have zero experience and no network, it gets your CV past HR filters. That is its real value.

Which one. Pick the current ABAP developer associate exam for S/4HANA or ABAP Cloud — not the old NetWeaver one. Codes change, so check SAP's certification page directly.

Cost. A few hundred dollars per attempt. SAP Learning Hub subscriptions sometimes include attempts — check before paying separately.

My advice. Build the 5 projects first. Apply for jobs. Only certify if you are being filtered out at CV stage. Do not delay applying to study for an exam.



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Free resource by Cremencing Solutions cremencing.com
CPeach-Alconsultant for SAP ABAP teams