

What is a hackathon?

A hackathon is best described as an “invention marathon”. Anyone who has an interest in technology attends a hackathon to learn, build and share their creations in a relaxed and welcoming atmosphere. You don't have to be a programmer and you certainly don't have to be majoring in Computer Science.

Does the hackathon run overnight?

No. We start in the morning and continue working on the projects until late afternoon. After that, we will host project presentations, where you can demonstrate your work to the judges.

I don't have a team, can I still participate?

Yes! A lot of people go to hackathons without teams. For this reason, we do not expect you to have a team – in fact, we will ask to individually select the topics around which they may want to build projects. We will match you with other participants who have similar interests, and introduce you to your teammates beforehand, so you can brainstorm your ideas before the event.

Do I need to be registered for the conference to take part in a hackathon?

Yes you need to be registered for the conference to participate in Hackathon.

Do I need to pay a fee to register for a hackathon?

No, the fee for attending hackathon is already included in your registration fee for the conference.

What if I don't know how to code?

Not a problem! It's absolutely okay if you don't have prior technology experience or programming prerequisites before going to a hackathon, it's more about your interest in making a jumpstart in technology.

If you want to learn how to code before the hackathon, there's a fantastic blog post that you should read. Afterwards, you should check out the following: Treehouse, Codecademy and the Major League Hacking blog to get you started.

But it's not all just about coding. All projects need a variety of skills: people who can design the software, take care of the business side of things, and have domain expertise in areas specific to the product, such as education, transport, health etc. Bring your skills to the table!

During the event, there will also be mentors, who can provide programming support and help you build your project.

What if I don't want to present my project at the end?

You might think your project isn't impressive or it might not be finished, so you don't want to present it. You should present it anyway! Honestly, a hackathon isn't about being the best or being competitive. It's all about having fun, making friends and learning how to become better at things you care about. Presenting your hack gives you a chance to be proud of what you've done, and you should be proud.