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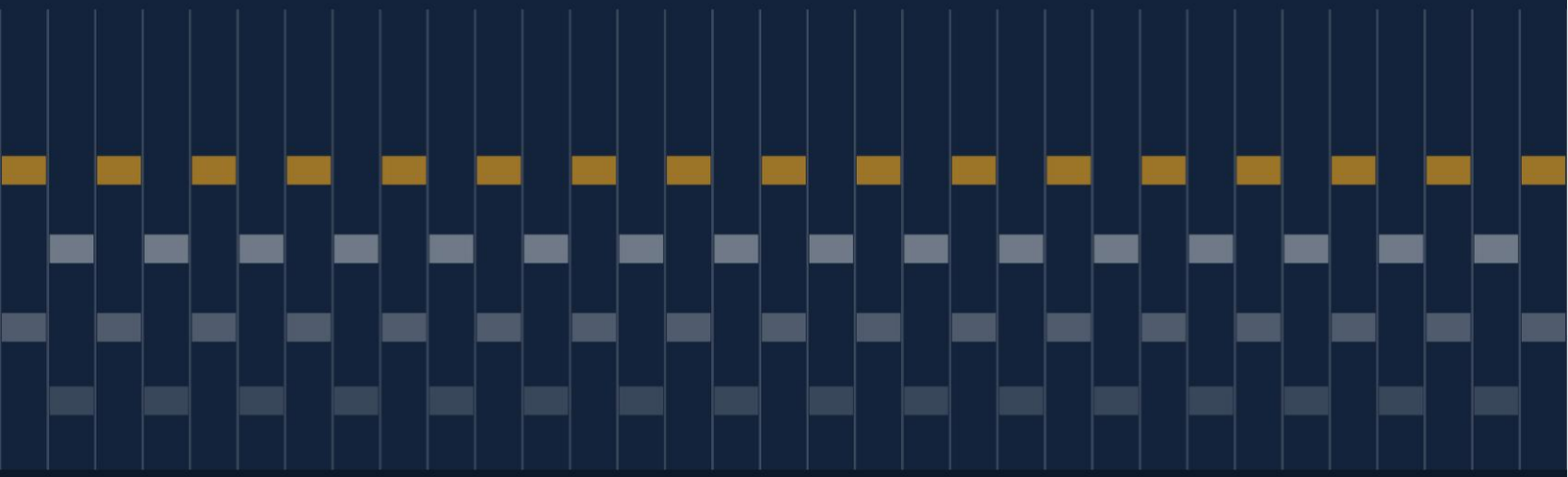
ENTRANCE GUIDE

Design

B.Des M.Des

Includes online mocks (QR)

Creative Ability, Situation Test and Interview, taught step by step.



25
GAT chapters with scored practice sets

12-week
Creative Ability plan

QR
Full-length online mocks

BODHVERSE EDITORIAL

RUCHI VERMA

NIFT Entrance Guide

Design

B.Des and M.Des

Includes online mocks (QR)

NIFT Entrance Guide: Design
B.Des and M.Des

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Source of exam facts. The exam structure, section names, weightage and eligibility described here follow the pattern NIFT published in its Prospectus and Admission Guidelines as available when this edition was prepared. NIFT may revise them. Dates, fees and deadlines change every year, so they are not printed here: use the “Check every year” table in this book and confirm everything on www.nift.ac.in before you register and before the test.

Original questions. All practice questions, cases and creative briefs in this book are original and written for this book. They are not reproductions of past NIFT papers.

Facts that change. Current-affairs and industry data are dated; this book teaches you to build dated notes and keeps only stable background. Preparation material cannot guarantee a rank, a score or admission.

Corrections and comments: editor@bodhverse.com · bodhverse.com

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Preface

Every year a great many students sit the NIFT entrance test for design. Most of them can draw. A good number lose their place not on the drawing sheet but in the General Ability Test, on a percentage sum or a reasoning question that would have taken a minute if they had practised it. This book has been written to close that gap.

The design courses give the largest share of marks to the creative paper: 50 per cent for B.Des and 40 per cent for M.Des. The General Ability Test carries 30 per cent in both, and it is the same test for everyone, so a weak score there cannot be made up by a good sketch. You need both, and this book takes you through both.

The book follows the examination in the order you will meet it. First comes the General Ability Test: English, Quantitative Ability, Analytical and Logical Ability, and General Knowledge. Then the Creative Ability Test. Then the Situation Test, which is meant for B.Des candidates, and the Personal Interview, which is meant for M.Des candidates. Every chapter has the same plan. It tells you where the topic comes in the paper, gives the rules in short form, works out examples step by step, and then gives you two practice sets with answers. The creative and hands-on chapters give briefs, steps and marking guides. A pencil, a few sheets of paper and some cheap materials from a stationery shop are all you need to practise them.

A word about what we do not know. The Information Bulletin lists three questions and three hours for the B.Des Creative Ability Test, but it does not give the marks for each question, say what materials will be given for the Situation Test, or show how the interview marks are divided. Where we have had to make a sensible guess, we have said so in the text. Please do not take such a guess as a promise about the paper. Read the current Information Bulletin when it comes out and trust it over any book, this one included. Preparation material cannot guarantee a rank, a score or admission.

We have tried to keep the book free of mistakes, but some may remain. If you find one, please write to editor@bodhverse.com, and we shall correct it in the next printing.

We wish you success.

Bodhverse Editorial

How to Use This Book

Please read this page before you begin. It will save you time later.

1. Look at the plan of a chapter. Every chapter begins with a short note, *Where it appears*, which tells you which part of the examination the topic belongs to and which courses it is meant for. If it is not meant for your course, leave it and go on.

2. Learn the rules from the tables. The rules and facts are given in tables so that you can revise them quickly on the last day. Do not try to learn a table at one sitting. Read it, cover it, and write it from memory.

3. Work through the solved examples with a pencil. Do not merely read them. Cover the solution, try the example yourself, and then compare your steps with ours. This is the quickest way to learn a method.

4. Attempt the two practice sets. Practice Set 1 is of the foundation level. Practice Set 2 is harder and is meant for the time when you are sure of the basics. The answers, with notes and workings, are given at the end of each chapter.

5. Score yourself honestly. At the end of each chapter there is a small table of score bands. It tells you whether to go on to the next chapter or to read this one again. Please follow it. Students who skip this step are the ones who are surprised on the day of the test.

Marking used in this book. Every correct answer carries 1 mark and every wrong answer loses one quarter of a mark, which is the scheme stated in the prospectus. A question left unattempted carries no marks, positive or negative. All the practice sets and mocks in this book are marked in the same way.

The Exam at a Glance

Programmes covered. B.Des (Bachelor of Design): Accessory Design, Fashion Communication, Fashion Design, Fashion Interiors, Knitwear Design, Leather Design and Textile Design; M.Des (Master of Design): Design.

Eligibility

As described in the NIFT prospectus; confirm each year.

The **Information Bulletin** is issued by the National Testing Agency for each cycle; the **Prospectus** and **Admission Guidelines** are issued by NIFT. This book follows the Bulletin, Prospectus and Guidelines that were available when this edition was prepared. Exam details can change, so confirm everything in the current documents. Bachelor's programmes have an age limit: under 24 years on 1 August of the year of admission, with 5 years' relaxation for SC, ST and PwD candidates. Not every campus offers every programme, and offerings change; check the current Prospectus.

Programme	Qualifying examination
B.Des	10+2 from a recognised board (or equivalent: NIOS with five subjects, a 3 or 4 year diploma after Class 10 recognised by AICTE or a State Board of Technical Education, an AIU-recognised equivalent, GCE A level or IB)
M.Des	Undergraduate degree in any discipline from a recognised institute or university in India, or a three-year undergraduate diploma from NIFT or NID. No age limit applies; final-year candidates may apply, subject to proof of qualification at admission

What you will sit

Component	Mode	B.Des	M.Des
GAT Section A	Computer-based	Yes	Yes
Creative Ability Test (CAT)	Paper-based	Yes	Yes
Situation Test	Hands-on, shortlisted candidates	Yes	No
Personal Interview	Shortlisted candidates	No	Yes

Weightage in the final score

Programme	Weights
B.Des	GAT 30%, Creative Ability Test 50%, Situation Test 20%
M.Des	GAT 30%, Creative Ability Test 40%, Personal Interview 30%

GAT structure (number of questions)

Item	B.Des	M.Des
Duration	120 min	120 min
Communication Ability and English Comprehension	40	50
Quantitative Ability	20	20
Analytical and Logical Ability	15	25
General Knowledge and Current Affairs	25	25
Total	100	120

The prospectus notes that numbers of questions and difficulty may vary by year and programme.

Check every year

Dates, fees and deadlines are announced afresh for each admission cycle, so this book does not print them. Fill this table from the current Information Bulletin on www.nift.ac.in as soon as it is published.

What to check	Where to look	Write it here
Written test date	Information Bulletin, NIFT website	
Registration opening and closing dates; late-fee window	Information Bulletin	
Application fee for your category and number of programmes	Information Bulletin	
Admit card release	NIFT website / testing agency portal	
Test duration and question counts for your programme (compare with the table above)	Information Bulletin	
Later stages after the written test and their months	Information Bulletin	
Any change in weightage or eligibility	Information Bulletin	
Reporting time and what you may carry	Admit card	

Rules that cost candidates dearly

1. **Anonymity.** On the CAT answer sheet and on the Situation Test model, design and write-up, never write a name, roll number, coaching-centre name or logo, or place any identification mark. The prospectus provides for disqualification.
2. **English write-up.** In the Situation Test the write-up must be in English; no marks are given for another language.
3. **Documents.** Keep qualifying-degree mark sheets and category documents ready for verification at seat allocation.

What Is in This Book

Part	Title	For
A1	English: Communication Ability and Comprehension (7 chapters)	All
A2	Quantitative Ability (8 chapters)	All
A3	Analytical and Logical Ability (5 chapters)	All
A4	General Knowledge and Current Affairs (5 chapters)	All
C	Creative Ability Test	B.Des, M.Des
D	Situation Test	B.Des
E	Personal Interview (E1 to E6)	M.Des
F	Interview mock script	M.Des
Mocks	Full-length mocks on the web (QR codes)	As marked
Appendix	Answer-key index; abbreviations	As needed

You are applying for	Read
B.Des only	Opening matter, A1 to A4, C, D,
M.Des only	Opening matter, A1 to A4, C, E (E1 to E6), Part F mock script
B.Des and M.Des	Everything

If you are also applying for B.F.Tech, MFM or M.F.Tech, you will need the companion book, *NIFT Entrance Guide: Fashion Management and Technology*, for the case study; the GAT core is the same.

Study Plans

Every student has a different number of weeks in hand, so we give plans of 12, 8 and 4 weeks. Count back from the date of your test and choose the plan that fits. Whatever the plan, keep to this rule: in each week, study on five days, take a mock test or revise on the sixth, and rest on the seventh. A tired student learns very little, and a day's rest is not a day wasted.

12-week plan (B.Des)

Weeks	GAT work	Creative work
1 to 2	A1 Ch 1 to 3; A2 Ch 1 to 2	C Module 1 daily (10 min)
3 to 4	A1 Ch 4 to 5; A2 Ch 3 to 5	C Module 2 and observation
5 to 6	A1 Ch 6 to 7; A2 Ch 6 to 8	C Modules 3 and 4
7	A3 Ch 1 to 3	C Module 5
8	A3 Ch 4 to 5; A4 Ch 1	C Modules 6 and 7
9	A4 Ch 2 to 4	D skills (D3); D practice situations 1 to 12
10	A4 Ch 5, full GAT mock	Timed mixed CAT sets; D practice situations 13 to 30
11	Weak-area sets	Two full CAT simulations
12	Revision, current-affairs refresh	Situation Test dry run; rest

12-week plan (M.Des)

Weeks	GAT work	Creative work
1 to 2	A1 Ch 1 to 3; A2 Ch 1 to 2	C Module 1 daily
3 to 4	A1 Ch 4 to 7	C Modules 2 and 3
5 to 6	A2 Ch 3 to 8	C Modules 4 to 6
7	A3	C Module 7; portfolio and project walk-through
8	A4	Timed mixed CAT sets
9	Full GAT mock	Full CAT simulation
10	Weak areas	Interview preparation E1 to E5
11	Mock interviews	Second CAT simulation
12	Revision, A4 Ch 5 refresh	Rest

8-week and 4-week versions

Undergraduate programmes.

Plan	How to compress
8 weeks	Do each module once; skip Practice Set 2 except in your two weakest chapters; keep daily 10-minute observation drawing (B.Des) or one case a day (B.F.Tech)
4 weeks	Take the score-yourself bands as a diagnosis: study only chapters where you score below the “Good” band; do one full timed GAT mock a week; for B.Des, one CAT task and one hands-on build a week

Postgraduate programmes.

Plan	How to compress
8 weeks	Do each module once; skip Practice Set 2 except in your two weakest chapters; one case a day; two mock interviews
4 weeks	Use score-yourself bands as a diagnosis; study only chapters below the “Good” band; one timed GAT mock a week; one mock interview a week

Weekly rhythm

Day	Task
Mon to Fri	One chapter session (60 to 90 min) and 20 min current affairs
Sat	Timed mock or mixed set; mark and review
Sun	Rest or light revision

Instructions for the Practice Sets

A practice set is useful only if it is attempted properly. Please follow these instructions.

1. Sit down with a watch. Give yourself the time that the exam would give for that number of questions, and attempt the whole set at one sitting. Do not look at your notes or at the answers.
2. When the time is over, mark your paper with the key. Count the right answers, the wrong answers and the questions you left out.
3. Work out your score: the number of right answers, less one quarter of the number of wrong answers.
4. Against every mistake write one line giving the cause. It will be one of four: you did not know the concept, you made a careless slip, you ran short of time, or you guessed. After a week you will see which of the four is costing you the most.
5. Read the explanation of each question that you got wrong, even if you think you understand it.
6. After three days, attempt only the questions you got wrong. Do not repeat the whole set.

A few hints for the examination hall.

- Read each question completely before you look at the choices.
- If a question is taking more than a minute or so, mark it, leave it and come back to it if time remains.
- Because a wrong answer costs a quarter mark, do not guess blindly. If you can rule out at least one of the four choices, answer; if you can rule out two, always answer. If you can rule out none, leave the question.
- Keep a few minutes at the end to look again at the questions you marked.
- On the creative and hands-on papers, never write your name, roll number or any mark of identification on the answer sheet or on your work, unless you have been told to. The prospectus provides for disqualification.

Full-Length Mock Tests on the Web

Besides the practice sets in the chapters, this book gives you full-length mock tests, which you take on a phone, tablet or computer. Scan the code with your phone camera, or type the address printed beside it into your browser.



B.Des GAT Mocks

Mocks 1 to 4. Each has 100 questions (English 40, Quantitative 20, Analytical 15, General Knowledge 25) to be done in 120 minutes.

`bodhverse.com/mocks/ug-gat.html`

Password: `accessdenied`



M.Des GAT Mocks

Mocks 1 to 3. Each has 120 questions (English 50, Quantitative 20, Analytical 25, General Knowledge 25) to be done in 120 minutes.

`bodhverse.com/mocks/pg-gat.html`

Password: `accessdenied`

Instructions for the Mock Tests

1. Take each mock at one sitting, in the time given for it. Keep your notes closed and do not use the phone for anything else.
2. Each correct answer carries 1 mark and each wrong answer loses one quarter of a mark. Questions left unattempted carry nothing.
3. The clock goes on running even if you close the page. Your answers are kept in the same browser, so if you are interrupted, open the mock again on the same device and the same browser and carry on.
4. At the end you will be shown your score in each section, a table naming the chapter of this book you should go back to for the questions you missed, and the correct answer to every question, with a written explanation for each. Read the explanations. That is where the mock does its teaching.
5. To open a particular mock directly, add its number to the address, for example #mock1 or #mock2.
6. Do not take two mocks on the same day. Mark and study the first one properly before you take the next.

What is printed in this book instead. The Creative Ability Test briefs (Part C), the Situation Test briefs (Part D), interview practice and the M.Des mock interview script (Part E), because these are drawn, hands-on or spoken tasks.

If a code does not scan, use the printed address.