



Nissan Z Proto: what do the petrolheads think

SAMIUR RAHMAN TUSHAR

Cars owned: Trueno, Airtrek and a lot of other mid 80-90s jdm gems.

"Negative thought: Designer gave up while designing the front bumper!"

"Positive note: Wow! That's a stick shift!!!"

AVIK ANWAR

Cars owned: Has a Silvia s15 in his stable among other notable jdm icons such as the Honda S2000, EP3 Civic Type R and more.

"Front end looks bizarre but I understand the functional philosophy behind it. The rear end looks superbly retro and I dig it!"

ZAEEM AZIZ

Cars owned: R34 GTR, Mercedes 123 in red (Featured on shift)

"I think it's great to be honest. It takes a lot of effort to get a project like this



through the corporate hierarchy. Everyone just making more and more SUVs. So it's great to see a legendary nameplate back in the game. Styling is subjective but I love it. The front grill can be fixed if need be, It's not like the new BMW grill. And that 6 speed MT

Again it's awesome to see how pure this car is. And the cues from 240 and 300zx. Can't wait to see it upfront. So retro Side profile is unreal. And back. Front I've seen a few renders With a different lip Looks better. Need to see upfront. Can't wait for it to depreciate, Then I'd get one. I think they

did a much better job than the new supra."

SARWAR HUSSAIN CHOWDHURY

Cars owned: The eva meister with plethora of Mitsubishi evos, Galant vr4, Honda Prelude, Civic EF hatch.

"Well Nissan has a history of changing concepts, quite the opposite of Honda. The front grill itself is good but it doesn't blend in with the rest of the car. A rectangle placed in smooth curves and lines is like being hit by a sock full of wet sand. It's as noticeable as an oversized mole on someone's nose. The lack of

coherence extends to the headlight. As wonderful as the rear design is, the front is wack"

MAHBUB HUSSAIN

Cars owned: Evo 6 and Sprinter GT
"Great motor and drivetrain with loads as potential specially with the MT as standard, looks clean and simple with the modern retro feel. Interior ergonomics looks super, and very driver centric, only drawback to me is, the grill is gaping too much and a tad bit too large- the very first Z had a very rectangular shaped grille too, and that was also a negative to me despite the beautiful wedge shape. Other than that, perhaps a turn signal under the front lamps- pretty sure the grille and bumpers with lip will flood the aftermarket scene. Rear is impeccable. Silhouette sleek and retro. Love it!"

EHSANUR RAZA RONNY

Cars owned: B13 Nissan Sunny
Nissan usually improves on their concepts. I love the new Z. It's a proper nod to the simplicity of the original 240z. Can't wait to see the production car.

Like a true Z, this needs a ZG nose option. And petrolheads need to stop complaining because simple sports cars are a rare thing now and they will likely become extinct.

The new normal for internships

ISRAR HASAN AND VERONICA GOMES

Virtual internships have largely become the norm since the countrywide lockdown commenced in March and even now, as lockdowns have been largely relaxed, internships take place remotely ensuring maximum safety and social distancing. For numerous fresh graduates and students who find themselves locked in uncertainty, the proliferation of numerous virtual internships, both at home and abroad, present a new lifeline of opportunity and hope to eke out a sense of working outside.



From research to marketing to human resource management to designing, we see virtual internships recruitments happening on a regular basis attracting an untrammelled flow of applicants willing to try their luck at the job market, whose physical conspicuousness they have been out of touch with. Both small and large-scale companies based in home and abroad, are hiring students to work remote in a clockwork basis of the usual 9 am-5 pm ensuring that the same effort is being put in as it were in physical internships. As the pandemic rages on with more gusto, the office space has shrunk to more on-camera meetings, emails, frantic scheduling, and getting the assigned job done.

Remote work in itself has a range of pros working in its favour. As far as commute time is concerned, Saheel Mahmud from Ahsanullah University of Science and Technology said, "To work from the comfort of your home and not have to worry about being stuck in Dhaka's rigorous traffic and miss the next bus is perhaps one of the best things about my experience as a virtual intern." This comes as a huge plus point enabling greater work efficiency as a recent report by the World Bank stated 3.2 million working hours are lost daily in traffic congestion accounting for a loss of billions of dollars for the economy.

Furthermore, the concept opens up opportunities for current students who otherwise wouldn't have considered taking up the hassle of juggling their academics with work life. Although the

ease of this interchangeability depends on the level of flexibility allowed by the organization in question, Afrida Shegufta from Bangladesh University of Professionals had the following takeaway to add, "Balancing both my academics and internship helped me become more productive and learn how to manage time more efficiently. Cross-functional mobility was eased up through virtual platforms which enhanced my knowledge of the corporate world."

As with all forms of work, virtual internships come with its fair share of hurdles. The obvious constraint is its amplified dependency on technology. Technical glitches persist which causes inefficiencies in communicating through emails, online meetings and the like, often having serious consequences if not handled effectively. When asked about his experience, Wasiq Ahmed from the Institute of Business Administration, University of Dhaka said, "Tasks such as doing research-based projects became hard due to restrictions in being able to do primary data collection virtually." This reflects the reality that not all jobs are suited for efficiently being carried out over the internet.

Furthermore, even though it's the organization's duty to ensure seamless communication among its employees, there often lies a low scope for one-to-one communication and hence decreased learning scope through mentorship if proactive measures are not taken by both the intern and the manager. Lastly, due to over-dependency

on technology, virtual interns are prone to get limited opportunities to engage with certain operations which have high confidentiality concerns hence a holistic view of true workplace experience is sometimes not met.

All in all, Virtual internships, just like real-life internships, have both part-time and full-time slots of working opportunities, allowing a myriad of different applicants to try out their luck with it. Getting the opportunity to have an internship solely centred on you sitting in front of your laptop and doing all that is required is indeed an invigorating and challenging experience. Here are a few valued few steps by which one can derive the most out of any virtual internship:

All progress – big or small – must be documented

Do keep in check whatever you have learnt in the course of the internship. Jot them down for future purposes. It might be learning to use new software or even using new applications such as Slack or Blue Jeans to synchronize working with your colleagues.

Communication is the key

An internship is a stepping-stone for everyone in the job market. It goes merely beyond the tag of "intern". It involves constant questioning of who has to do what and how the designated work has to be delivered. Good communication skills have always been a top requirement by talent acquisition managers and this is a good platform to work on communication.

Understand flexibility

Be water. In the course of a hectic internship, flexibility needs to be closely adhered to. From checking emails to being punctual at all times to having all apps downloaded beforehand alongside having good internet connectivity, being flexible is vital to the job.

Keep a designated workspace

In the absence of an office environment, it is easy to lose productivity and this is where the importance of having a workspace comes into play. Make sure the workspace is away from your bed and keep the table clean and organized to foster a clear mindset.

Set goals for yourself

Working in a virtual internship largely depends on you and your work ethic and how you plan to channel your energies to maximize your potential. The only way to maximize the scope of learning is by being proactive and knowing exactly what you intend on getting out of the internship and setting forth accordingly.

In a nutshell, a whole new dimension has been opened up in terms of opportunities with prior geographical constraints taken out of the equation. As opportunities increase, so does the level of competition and hence it is important to prepare yourselves accordingly. While there's scope for learning, it is your job as an intern to maximize your returns from your virtual internship experience and build yourself accordingly as you set out to leave your mark on the corporate world.

Illustration by Zarif Faiaz