

Steven Blake

SENIOR SOFTWARE DEVELOPER

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Profile

With over a decade of software engineering experience, I am a highly motivated and passionate programmer who thrives on leveraging technology to solve complex challenges. I take pride in my ability to work effectively both independently and as part of a team, excelling in collaborative environments through open communication and a strong work ethic. My commitment to delivering exceptional results drives me to continuously produce top-quality work. Sharing knowledge and offering mentorship within my teams is a priority, reflecting my dedication to fostering growth and excellence in others.

Education

University of Aberdeen

FIRST CLASS BSc IN COMPUTER SCIENCE

Aberdeen, UK

Sep. 2008 - Jul. 2012

Montrose Academy

B, B, C AT ADVANCED HIGHER LEVEL

A, A, A, B, B AT HIGHER LEVEL

Montrose, UK

2006 - 2008

Skills

Backend C#, Java, Go, PL/SQL, Python, PHP, Ruby, SQL

Frameworks .NET Core, ASP NET Core, Flask

Frontend HTML5, CSS, Javascript, React, React Native

Database Postgres, Oracle, SQL Server

AWS Lambda, API Gateway, DynamoDB, CloudFormation, SQS, S3

Version Control Git, Subversion

CI/CD Github Actions, GitLab Pipelines, Bitbucket Pipelines

Operating Systems Windows, Linux, Mac

Miscellaneous Docker

Experience

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SYSTEMS DEVELOPER

Livingston, UK (Working from home)

Jan. 2024 - Present

- Working mainly on a variety of in-house GUI programs written in C#/VB.NET.
- Working closely with stakeholders to create/modify tools to facilitate business processes.

Firefish Software

BUILD TEAM TECHNICAL EXPERT

Glasgow, UK (Working from home)

Jun. 2021 - Jan. 2024

- Leading the Integrations team responsible for implementing and maintaining third party integrations with firefish recruitment CRM.
- Working mainly on a ASP NET Web API backend and Angularjs frontend, using SQL Server for the database.
- Breaking down requirements from the Product Experience team and Architects into user stories.
- Maintaining unit tests.
- Responsible for maintaining technical and functional processes.
- Breaking down requirements into technical designs.
- Mentoring junior members of the team.
- Managing the team's sprints to ensure 100% completion.

Build Team Technical Expert

May. 2022 - Jan. 2024

Senior Software Developer

Jun. 2021 - Apr. 2022

Banntech

SENIOR SOFTWARE ENGINEER

Broughty Ferry, UK

Apr. 2020 - Jun. 2021

- Part of a development team responsible for maintaining and modifying bespoke ASP NET Core web platforms.
- Involved in code reviews and mentoring in order to facilitate knowledge sharing and maintain standards.
- Working with the Development Lead to design and architect solutions and provide accurate estimations for project plans produced.
- Taking on Team Lead responsibilities when required.
- Liased with customers to resolve any issues raised through our support ticketing system.
- Lead Engineer on a mobile application built using React Native and an ASP NET Core Web API.

Outplay Entertainment

Dundee, UK

SOFTWARE ENGINEER

Oct. 2017 - Apr. 2020

- Responsible for designing and building serverless RESTful microservices that deliver dynamic content to the players of Outplay's mobile games. These microservices are developed using Python (2 & 3) and deployed to AWS using CloudFormation. The platform for these services is centered around Lambda, API Gateway and DynamoDB.
- Responsible for designing and maintaining unit and integration tests.
- Ensuring new and existing services are cost efficient and scalable.
- Heavily involved in code reviews to ensure standards and quality are maintained.

Software Engineer

Sep. 2019 - Mar. 2020

DevOps Engineer

Sep. 2018 - Sep. 2019

Junior DevOps Engineer

Oct. 2017 - Sep. 2018

Monitor

Aberdeen, UK

SOFTWARE DEVELOPER

Sep. 2012 - Oct. 2017

- Part of a development team responsible for maintaining existing products and developing new solutions. These products included a PL/SQL web application, a C# desktop application, Java web services (RESTFUL and SOAP), Java servlets and Java GUI applications.
- Participated in code reviews to ensure standards and quality were maintained.
- Constructed test plans for modifications made to the products to ensure they were working as intended.
- Involved in the design process for new solutions and modifications to existing functionality.

University of Aberdeen

Aberdeen, UK

RESEARCH ASSISTANT

Jul. 2012 - Sep. 2012

This was a temporary part time job that was offered to me after the completion of my undergraduate honours project. This role involved working with clients and collaborators to understand their requirements for changes to the project and implementing them.

Honours & Awards

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| 2012 | 3rd Place , ScotSoft's 'Young Software Engineer of the Year 2012' | Scotland, UK |
| 2008 | Winner , Montrose Academy's Ella Calcott Prize for Advanced Higher Mathematics | Montrose, UK |
| 2008 | Winner , Montrose Academy's Edinburgh Angus Award for Advanced Higher Physics | Montrose, UK |
| 2007 | Winner , Montrose Academy's Prize for Higher Computing | Montrose, UK |
| 2007 | Winner , Montrose Academy's The Warrack Essay Prize | Montrose, UK |

Publications

- Blake, S., Siddharthan, A., Nguyen, H., Sharma, N., Robinson, A-M, O'Mahony, E., Darvill, B., Mellish, CS. & Van Der Wal, R. (2012). 'Natural Language Generation for Nature Conservation: Automating Feedback to help Volunteers identify Bumblebee Species'. in M Kay & C Boitet (eds), *COLING 2012 :24th International Conference on Computational Linguistics : Proceedings of COLING 2012 : Technical Papers*. The COLING 2012 Organizing Committee, Mumbai, pp. 311-324.

References

Available on request.