

Adam Sven Johnson

Technical team lead & Senior developer

About

Adam Sven Johnson

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I'm a Technical team lead & Senior developer with over 10 years experience in a wide range of web development technologies.

I focus mainly on the back end of the web stack, building APIs and robust services, and have done some work using modern front end web technologies.

The current languages I have the most experience in are Ruby and Python and I'm also interested in newer languages like Go.

Personal interests include coffee, fermentation and food of all sorts, cycling and maps.

I'm a New Zealand citizen who has been working in the UK until recently.

Employment history



Farmdrop, London, UK

Technical team lead/Software engineer

April 2016 – September 2017

Farmdrop is building a new low impact supply chain to deliver fresher and better food and improve returns for farmers and producers.

I led a cross functional team supporting the warehouse operations and logistical

software. The system included a Ruby On Rails/Javascript/React frontend and multiple Ruby on Rails backend API services as well as Android apps for staff. The team consisted of several Android developers, a UX designer, as well as DevOps, full stack and backend developers.

My main achievement was supporting more than one operational location, allowing the business to expand and to start planning for UK wide operations.

Technologies used: Ruby on Rails, React.js, AWS, Docker, Kubernetes, Heroku, PostgreSQL, Redis, Android/Java/Kotlin.



The Open Data Institute, London, UK

Software developer

October 2014 – December 2015

The Open Data Institute encourages governments and companies to release data in the open for the common good.

I helped scale the ODI's Open Data Certificate system to index the majority of UK and US government published open data, as well as supporting development on proof of concepts for dataset indexing and licensing projects.

Technologies used: Ruby on Rails, MySQL, jQuery, Chef, XSLT, GIS



Marks & Spencer, London, UK

Freelance developer

September 2014 – October 2014

Marks & Spencer's is a large UK retail chain with a strong online presence.

I came in on a short contract to add to the team count between other roles. I helped design and develop a modern API wrapper around a enterprise part of the system that allowed the rapid prototyping of internal projects.

Technologies used: Python/Django, Javascript.

myHealthPal, London, UK



Lead developer

April 2014 – July 2014

MyHealthPal is developing apps to help people with chronic conditions manage their health and share their data with scientists to help develop new drugs and treatments.

I architected a patient information storage system that complied with international data protection regulations, enabling the product to scale internationally.

Technologies used: Python/Flask, AWS, Docker, Jenkins, Ansible, PostgreSQL.



Berg, London, UK

Software engineer

January 2013 – February 2014

Berg was an award winning design agency that started exploring IoT and connected devices.

I joined Berg to help with the expansion of the BergCloud platform. When I arrived, the initial proof of concept was struggling to support 500+ devices. I enabled it to handle much larger loads and moved the design from a polling implementation to a streaming system that delivered messages in an event stream.

Technologies used: Ruby on Rails, Python, Node.js, C++/Arduino, MySQL, Javascript, WebSockets, Redis, HTML5/Canvas.



Artfinder, London, UK

Developer

April 2012 – November 2012

Artfinder started as a recommendation engine for visual art and then pivoted into print sales of emerging artists.

In the Artfinder team I worked in Python and Django ingesting large collections of art works from partners and working on new ways of recommending and helping people discover art they liked.

Technologies used: Python/Django, PostgreSQL, Javascript/HTML5, Redis, Memcached, Varnish, AWS, Puppet.



Reevo, London, UK

Developer

April 2009 – April 2012

Reevo is a shopping comparison engine that collects reviews from a large number of E-Commerce retailers and helps customers decide on purchases.

As part of the Reevo team I developed the embedded javascript widgets, backend APIs and infrastructure to support a highly available service.

Technologies used: Ruby on Rails, Javascript/jQuery, Redis, MySQL, AWS.



Tricycle Apps, Melbourne, Australia

Developer

March 2007 – December 2008

Trike provides prototyping and bespoke web app development.

At Trike I quickly learnt Ruby and Ruby on Rails and worked on many client applications and internal prototypes. I also adapted and extended the Reddit R2 codebase for making other online community websites.

Technologies used: Ruby on Rails, Python, AWS, Heroku, MySQL.



Idiom Software, Auckland, New Zealand

Developer

April 2006 – December 2006

Idiom Software is a supplier of graphical business logic tools to enterprise clients.

At Idiom I learnt Java and C#, developed feature additions the two versions of their GUI tools. I also worked on custom integrations with large clients such as District Health Boards.

Technologies used: Java, C# .Net



Zeald, Auckland, New Zealand

Developer

March 2004 – April 2006

Zeald is a supplier of custom designed E-Commerce web sites.

I joined Zeald after university and learnt Perl and HTML/CSS while there, quickly becoming proficient in their CMS system. I then started developing client customisations to some of the more complex sites including paypal integrations.

Technologies used: Perl, PHP, PostgreSQL, MySQL, HTML/CSS, Javascript.

Education history

BSc (Hons) in Computer science 2003

University of Auckland

21 day Classic course 2004

Outward Bound

Barista skills certificate 2006

Manukau Institute of Technology

Wine essentials 2016

Le Cordon Bleu

WSET Level 2, Merit 2017

Wine & Spirits Education Trust

Skills

Ruby/Ruby on Rails (Strong)

I have worked on many pre-existing and greenfield Rails apps providing both API services and website frontends and have a large understanding of their benefits and flaws and how to work with them effectively.

Python/Django/Flask (Strong)

I have used python for many personal projects since teaching myself the language at university. I've worked professionally on Django apps and embedded python for IoT devices. I've also developed Django apps for volunteer projects on several [/dev/fort](#) get aways.

Javascript/Node/React/Redux (Medium)

I a good understanding of classic javascript and a medium amount of experience developing in more modern frameworks. I have also built services in Node for handling websocket connections.

Architecture/System Design (Medium)

I have rearchitected monolithic systems to service oriented architectures, and managed migration to them as gradual development without downtime or rewrites.

AWS/Heroku/Kubernetes (Medium)

I have used various AWS technologies, mostly EC2, SQS, RDS and Elastic Beanstalk to run systems and build pipelines.

I have used and deployed to Heroku and have migrated services from it to Kubernetes clusters when they've outgrown the hosted platform.

SQL/PostgreSQL/MySQL (Strong)

I have used both PostgreSQL and MySQL and have experience dealing with their differences and strengths. I have debugged and corrected encoding corruption and locking problems in MySQL and various performance problems from problems with ORM usage.

git/GitHub/Source Control (Strong)

I have used multiple source control systems but git has been the dominant one. I have a detailed understanding of how git works internally and can explain and fix problems. I have been using GitHub since it began in 2008. I've also used Subversion and CVS in

the past.

