Blake Simpson

Senior FullStack Software Engineer

Experience

Freelance Software Engineer
Developing React, Node, Ruby, APIs for clients across Europe.

Procuros
Engineering Manager

First engineer to join this VC backed tech startup ($12,000,000+ invested). I lead the introduction of development processes with the CTO, with a strong focus on test coverage and stability.
Managed the developers (freelance & internal), oversaw the team from 1 team to 3 teams as we grew.
A key role in hiring developers + managers.

Continuously documenting our product internally and externally (e.g. https://docs.procuros.io/docs)

I performed 1:1s with my teams, planned career development steps but also still kept a strong hand in the code: architecting our customer facing frontend (React based) as well as designing API interfaces, coding critical-path features, PR reviews, etc.

Additionally I was the system admin for Slack, G-Suite, Notion, Sentry, Cloudflare, AWS, etc.

Personal

Location
Remote
Edinburgh, Scotland

Born:
26. October 1990

Nationalites
British (Scottish)
German

E-Mail
blake@blakesimpson.co.uk

Website
blakesimpson.co.uk

LinkedIn
linkedin.com/in/blake-simpson-freelance-fullstack-developer

GitHub
github.com/blake-simpson

MARCH 2021 – NOVEMBER 2021	**Incentive Games** Team Lead (FullStack) Lead a team of 4 developers to build online games. Technologies included: React, Node.js, AWS, Postgres. As well as architecting and developing new solutions, I lead 1:1s with my direct report developers and crafted their career development plans.
2017 NOVEMBER - OCTOBER 2021	**Celebrate** Senior Fullstack Developer (Chapter Lead) Lead developer of the "celebrate" app team (https://celebrate.app/). The photos app has a 4.9 on iOS / 4.6 on Android rating with > 2,000,000 users worldwide. Technologies: React Native, Ruby on Rails. TypeScript, Redux, Node.js
2014 OCTOBER - 2017 OCTOBER	**XING** Software Engineer Worked on the XING public API + developer platform (https://dev.xing.com/). This API serves over 500,000,000 requests per day. Worked in the mobile notifications team (push notifications, statistics, A/B tests etc.). Collaborated with Microsoft in Seattle to develop the "XING for Outlook" add-in for Microsoft Office. Technologies: Ruby on Rails, TypeScript, JavaScript, React, Redux, CSS, Node.js
2013 JANUARY - 2014 SEPTEMBER	**XYRALITY** Javascript and Frontend Developer Development of multiple browser games based on HTML5, JavaScript and CSS.

Knowledge & Skills

Languages
- English: Native
- Deutsch: Nicht Schlecht
- Hindi: shuruaat

Interests
- Qigong
- Tai Chi
- Chilli Horticulture
- Hot Sauce Maniac
- Programming

Open Source

expo-jwt
https://github.com/blake-simpson/expo-jwt

Used by over 200 public projects, 30+ stars.

2011 JULY - 2012 DECEMBER	**Ubilabs - Location Based Media** Google Maps / JS / Ruby on Rails Developer Technologies: Ruby on Rails, JavaScript, HTML, CSS, Google Maps SDK
2010 AUGUST - 2011 JULY	**Freelance Web Developer** I created websites for smaller sized companies in the UK whilst studying at University.
2008 MAY - 2010 AUGUST	**Kotikan** Junior Web Developer I cut my teeth in a dynamic startup when I was 17 years old, developing location based event management software for the original iPhone and the web.

Education

2008 SEPTEMBER - 2011 JUNE	**University of Abertay Dundee** Course: Web Design and Development Level: BSc (Hons) 1:1

Additional Trainings

2021	"Advanced React" (React Summit)
2019	React + GraphQL Training
2017 - 2019	Qigong Instructor
2017	React.js Training

Conferences

Edinburgh JS Meetup
Monthly

React Summit
Amsterdam: 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2022

JS Unconf
Hamburg: 2014, 2017, 2019

Ruby Unconf
Hamburg: 2019

Microsoft Build
Seattle: 2017

dotJS
Paris: 2016