

Alex Meah

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Opening

Frontend developer with over 10 years of commercial experience in both agency and product environments, comfortable working with teams of all sizes. I have a passion for writing performant and maintainable frontend solutions utilising but not limited to React, Next.JS, Webpack, Jest, React Testing Library, ESLint, Prettier, Git, and CI. Currently using and learning TypeScript.

Experience

Mar 2023 - Oct 2023

Freelance and Paternity Leave

Jan 2022 - Mar 2023

iVendi - Contract React/Javascript Developer

Added support for European markets to core products (Dealership CRM, Customer accounts and quote management platform).

Originally joined a team of four FE engineers, two juniors and two seniors, however the senior members left after one month and two months respectively. Following this I was directly involved with mentoring the junior team members as well as interviewing and hiring of new team members.

Introduced React Testing Library, React Query and Typescript. Lead workshops and mentored the team to up-skill them with new tooling.

Technologies used: React, Mobx, Redux, React Testing Library and React Query

Oct 2021 - Jan 2022

Freelance and Paternity Leave

Jan 2020 - Oct 2021

BrightHR (Remote) - Principal UI Developer

During this role I was responsible for migrating a legacy multilingual marketing site <https://www.brighthr.com> (~1700 pages) from Umbraco to React.

I investigated the benefits of two mature SSG frameworks, NextJS and Gatsby. In the end, I chose Gatsby as it had much better support for Headless CMSs (we chose DatoCMS) and remote MDX via its built-in GraphQL support.

I set up the foundations and tooling required to get the site into production and keep code quality high. This included automatic branch deployment for QA, hosting on Netlify, CircleCI for continuous

integration tests (React Testing Library) and an application gateway in Azure which allowed path based routing between both the Gatsby and Umbraco applications so we could deliver incrementally.

As part of the migration we also built a new checkout journey. For the payment API using Stripe and lambda functions deployed alongside the website in Netlify.

Also helped launch <https://lightning.brighthr.com/> which is a React app integrated with a C# backend using React Query.

Oct 2019 - Jan 2020

Valtech (Bristol) - Contract Developer

Employed as a React consultant to help re-skill the existing team and support them in their transition from a legacy Angular application.

Jun 2019 - Sep 2019

BrightHR (Manchester) - Contract Developer

Setup a new React project including associated tooling. Outlined patterns and best practices for the project which were maintained through pull requests in Github. Introduced new testing practices utilising React Testing Library (Enzyme was previously used) and facilitated the introduction of React Hooks.

Jan 2019 - Jun 2019

Valtech (Manchester) - Contract Developer

Helped deliver a time-sensitive MVP for BrightHR. The project was already underway when I joined however it was requested by BrightHR that Valtech bring me in to support and speed up delivery. I'd worked with the CTO before at Laterooms and on a previous Bright contract.

Sep 2018 - Dec 2018

William Hill (Leeds) - Contract Developer

Predominantly working on internal trading systems written in React. Utilising Jest, Enzyme, Redux, create-react-app, and SCSS. Some maintenance was also required on a legacy Angular 1.6 application. We worked in sprints to ensure we were on target to hit the tight deadlines required by the project.

May 2017 - April 2018

BrightHR.com (Manchester) - Contract Frontend Developer

I was initially hired as part of a small dedicated team to localise BrightHR's Angular web app, adding translation and timezone support as well as creating/extending features for the Canadian market. We worked closely with the API team as well as the Frontend and UX team to achieve this.

Once the initial requirements were delivered ahead of schedule I was integrated into the Frontend team where I helped the principal developer modernise the stack. This involved an iterative approach, first implementing Webpack so we could utilise ES2015+ and make the project more

modular. I then worked on a small proof of concept showing how we could gradually move to React, Enzyme, and styled-components to improve the codebase, which we began implementing shortly after.

Before the first React component was added to the core app I began building a component library utilising react-styleguidist. This was a great place to start creating the re-usable component that we could drop into the Angular app. It was also perfect for team members with less experience to familiarise themselves with React outside of the complexities of a full application.

January 2017 - May 2017

LateRooms.com (Manchester) - Professional Software Developer

I was due to leave LateRooms in December in order to start looking for contracting work. However in order to continue supporting new and existing team members on the evolving React project we worked out a part-time contract, working 3 days a week.

August 2015 - December 2016

LateRooms.com (Manchester) - Development Lead

Led the Web Platform team, to deliver a highly dynamic and performant frontend. We utilised modern industry best practices and technologies, such as ES2015, React, Webpack, Redux, Node, and TDD.

I ensured that as well as supporting the team in their career progression, I stayed hands-on with the codebase. This meant carrying out one-to-ones and performance reviews, whilst moving cards through the board and implementing new features.

May 2014 - August 2015

LateRooms.com (Manchester) - Professional Software Developer

Responsible for delivering a high-performance platform developed using Node.js, Express, Handlebars, and SCSS serving Laterooms core product pages.

My day to day responsibilities involved:

- Working closely with our BA (Business Analyst) and QA
- Delivering new Front End and Server Side features
- Writing test-driven code
- Peer reviewing code (Git, Github)
- Pair Programming
- Search Engine Optimisation (SEO)

May 2013 - May 2014

Havas Lynx (Manchester) - Frontend Developer

This was the start of my development career and after a few months of support from the senior developers I was independently responsible for delivering highly interactive iPad e-details for use

by sales reps around the world. I would also work closely with the design team and the accounts team as well as the wider business to clearly identify requirements and manage deadlines.

Courses

- <https://www.udemy.com/course/typescript-with-react-hooks-and-context/>
- <https://www.udemy.com/course/typescript-fast-crash-course/>
- <https://www.executeprogram.com/courses/typescript-basics>
- <https://www.executeprogram.com/courses/everyday-typescript>