



Bilaal Ahmad

Software Developer | Based in Manchester, UK

bilaal-ahmad@hotmail.co.uk

07568 461 389

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Profile

Experienced in both frontend & backend technologies, having recently used JavaScript/TypeScript, Next 13, Tailwind & MongoDB in development of an E-Commerce & Inventory Management solution for a local business, as well as a SaaS platform at an early-stage start-up. A prior background in retail providing high standards of customer service. Excellent logical thinking and problem-solving skills. Highly adaptable, and able to pick up new systems quickly and competently. Aiming to develop new skills in a team environment, whilst building on existing abilities obtained during my studies and employment.

Professional Experience

Fullstack Developer

August 2023 - Present

Osman Telecom (Remote / Freelance)

- Working with a local business & development partner to build an E-Commerce solution with **User-based Access & Control** and an **Inventory Management system**
- Collaboratively established site requirements, researched development tools, planned & implemented features, and tracked progress using Trello.
- Tech used: Next 13, Mantine, Tailwind, React Hook Form, React Query, MongoDB & more
- Implemented **role-based access** using **Auth.js** for Google & Email logins (authorised via **JSON Web Tokens**).
- Created an **admin dashboard** that will expand to manage regular & wholesale customers.

Fullstack Developer (Volunteer)

August 2023 - November 2023

Oreon (Remote)

- Tasked to build a web app (SaaS) designed to help entrepreneurs, start-ups & small businesses take their first steps into the online market and widen their reach
- Researched basic functionalities of ChatGPT, with intentions to use it to help clients with marketing & building an online presence
- Developed the frontend for a **multi-step setup form** in Next.js that collects data used to **build a business profile of the user**
- Connected the app to MongoDB & **configured team access & permissions**
- Attended **meetings for progress updates & decision-making**, at least weekly
- I was **selected as Team Lead** in my last month at Oreon, during which:
 - I managed Trello, breaking down & **delegating tasks** to team members
 - I **held 1-to-1s with dev-team members** to gain constructive feedback which I used **to improve communication** on the project & its management

Software Engineer Trainee

February 2023 - May 2023

Northcoders, Manchester Technology Centre (Hybrid)

- Covered software development fundamentals & delved into JavaScript-specifics.
- Worked independently, in pairs and in a team across a variety of mini projects and 2 major projects, using **Agile methodologies** (e.g. standups, kanbans, sprints, TDD).
- **Solo project - Socialite** - A social board-games review app.
 - **Frontend:** React Query & Material UI
 - **Backend:** Express, PostgreSQL, integration tests with Jest & Supertest
- **Team project - Cosmic Conflict** - A sci-fi themed, text-based **mobile** war-game.
 - **Frontend:** TypeScript, React Native & Expo
 - **Backend:** Express, MongoDB & Mongoose, integration tests with Mocha & Chai

Sales Assistant

September 2017 - July 2019

Cigtronica, Manchester Arndale Centre

- Assisted customers with enquiries, purchases, refunds and complaints.
- Conducted stock checks, processed weekly deliveries and **kept up to date with new products**.
- Worked towards store targets and kept track of KPIs (e.g. inventory-to-sales ratios, customer satisfaction & customer retention).
- **Trusted** to open & close the store; comprised of cleaning, cashing up, checking daily float, occasionally viewed audit rolls.

Professional Experience (Continued)

Joomla Web Developer - Work Placement

Ernest Bentley (Builders Merchant), Fallowfield

March 2016 - July 2016

- Worked with a team member to design a trial website using Joomla CMS, HTML5, CSS and a little JavaScript.
- Held regular consultancy meetings with clients, where swift decision-making, advice and guidance was provided.
- Adjusted the website using client feedback and presented changes made by an agreed deadline.

Featured Projects (View portfolio for demos & details)

Free Roam - Travel Agency Brochure & Blog

June - July 2022

- Utilised the Strapi CMS to create custom data models for managing site content, as well as image hosting via a Cloudinary plugin.
- Used Next.js, GraphQL & SCSS to build a responsive UI, query data from Strapi & implement a custom pagination solution for blog articles.
- Leveraged CSR, SSG & ISR rendering strategies for improved search engine optimisation and ensuring user has the most up-to-date data.

Book Worm - Keeps Track of Reading Lists

September 2021 - March 2022

- Created a Node.js REST API (using MVC pattern) that consumes the Google Books API for data & performs CRUD operations on MongoDB documents.
- Implemented a custom Auth solution using JSON web tokens, cookies & Redis (acting as a simple cache to rotate access & refresh tokens).
- Created a mobile responsive UI with React hooks, Context API & Material UI.
- When necessary, Local & Session Storage were used to cache API responses in the browser.

Crown Clothing - E-Commerce Web App

May 2020 - April 2021

- Built reusable & mobile-friendly components with React & Styled Components.
- Consumed a Redux data store, using Reselect to memoize selectors.
- Added route-based code-splitting using React Router and React Suspense & Lazy.
- Integration with Stripe using React & a simple Node/Express API.
- Used Firebase for user authentication & real-time data storage with Firestore.

Education

BSc (Hons) IT with Business Technologies

September 2014 - July 2017

Sheffield Hallam University

Classification: 2:1

Developer Toolbox (Non-exhaustive overview of tech I've used)

Comfortable



Familiar

