

Bilaal Ahmad

Software Developer | Based in Manchester, UK

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 Bilaal Ahmad

Portfolio

Live projects / demos & source code



bilaal-ahmad.netlify.app



Bilaal96

Profile

A reliable individual with experience in providing high standards of customer service. Able to work independently and as part of a team.

Proficient in HTML, CSS, JavaScript & React, with a growing knowledge of backend web technologies.

Excellent logical thinking and problem-solving skills. Highly adaptable, and able to pick up new systems quickly and competently.

Aiming to develop new skills, whilst building on existing abilities obtained during my studies and employment.

Developer Toolbox

Comfortable



Familiar



Soft Skills

Verbal & Written Communication

Efficient Time Management

Strong Work Ethic

Critical Thinking

Education

BSc (Hons) IT with Business Technologies

Sheffield Hallam University

September 2014 - July 2017

Awarded - 2:1

Professional Experience

Software Engineer Trainee

February 2023 - May 2023

Northcoders, Manchester Technology Centre

- 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.

Joomla Web Developer - Work Placement

March 2016 - July 2016

Ernest Bentley (Builders Merchant), Fallowfield

- **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.