Dave J. Horrocks

Full Stack Software Developer

👤 Profile

Professional and personable software developer with an acknowledged ability to learn, communicate and interpret. Highly organised and efficient. High attention to detail and always striving to add value in the most effective and efficient way. Happy working both alone and as part of a team. Confident in JavaScript and Python, supported by a high level of understanding and implementation of semantic HTML and CSS. Experience with Docker and shell scripting.

Successfully applying skills developed in mechanical and electrical based occupations into the fast-paced world of software development. Innovative approach to problem-solving and a confident lateral thinker. Great believer in well-implemented processes and efficient workflows. Excellent communication skills, especially bridging the gap between varying levels of technical expertise. Always eager to learn.

Contributor toward a number of private and public repositories on GitHub, including the GitHub docs themselves. A passion for clean, WET-DRY code with clear, implicit intent and additional documentation where required. Very comfortable with agile methodologies and working practices. Confident with unit testing and integration testing. Experience with Django, Flask, React and some lesser known web frameworks. Appropriating AI tooling to enhance development times and explore alternative approaches.

💼 Employment History

Software Engineer - Code Institute - *Remote (Ireland)*   *Sep 2024 - Present*

- Implement front-end frameworks to provide clean, responsive and accessible web applications
- Develop and maintain back-end services using Python and Django or Flask, ensuring robust and scalable solutions
- Maintain and contribute to a wide array of microservices for internal and consumer-facing applications
- Perform detailed pull request reviews for senior engineers with clear communication and identification of oversights
- Write unit tests, using a TDD approach, for Python and JavaScript based applications
- Write extensive integration tests, using Selenium and a BDD approach, for applications running multiple, interdependent, back-end services with individual web apps
- Implement relational and non-relational database interactions
- Debug and resolve issues within existing web applications and databases
- Implement new releases via CI-CD pipeline, developing locally, testing in a staging environment, and building versioned releases for production environments with high uptime SLAs in place
- Update CI-CD pipeline actions working with Docker, GitHub and AWS
- Reduce manual effort for content deployments by 80% via implementation of automations
- Deliver added value in iterations using agile methodologies
- Work in hybrid XP/SCRUM environment involving sprint ceremonies, scope, planning and velocity measurements
- Apply AI productivity aids to speed up development
- Create and maintain custom tooling/scripting for internal operations
- Reduce engineer interaction time with project management tools via more efficient processes

Technical Content Reviewer - Code Institute - *Remote (Ireland)*   Feb 2022 - Aug 2024

- Create and review coding challenges (Python, JavaScript, HTML and CSS)
- Write automated unit tests for coding challenges
- Drive exploration into implementation of AI tooling to assist workflows and reduce content development time by 60%
- Monitor common bugs being raised and resolve appropriately
- Liaise with, and assist, engineering team with deployments and issues as and when necessary
- Help develop and implement 'single source of truth' documentation and style guides
- Implement improved attention to accessibility requirements across content
- Explore and test various cloud deployment and hosting services
- Create student facing documentation for guides and walkthroughs
- Write functional scripts for use within CMS platform
- Contribute to GitHub hosted repositories through pull requests and code reviews
- Create and maintain Python tooling
- Review educational programming content for accuracy and clarity and provide clear and detailed instruction regarding required amendments
- Review proposed graphics for accuracy, clarity and added value to students' experiences

Sheet Metal Fabricator - Steel Frog Ltd. - *Weston-Super-Mare*   Mar 2020 - May 2021

- Reduce operation times by editing G Code files to speed up repetitive processes
- Update workshop layout to create a more efficient workflow
- Metalworking skills *(welding, grinding, polishing, etc.)*

Race Mechanic/Sales Prep - Copper Spark - *Nailsea*   Mar 2019 - Mar 2020

- Maintain and modify racing cars as required
- Various and extensive levels of maintenance and repair work to light vehicles *(mechanical, electrical and aesthetics)*

Security Systems Engineer - Astron Fire and Security Ltd. - *Bristol*   Apr 2015 - Mar 2019

- Milestone Systems accredited design and installation engineer
- Complex fire alarm and intruder alarm cause and effect programming
- Integration between IP, digital and analogue systems
- Logic programming with check controls
- Detailed report writing, with findings, recommendations and equipment used/required
- Work in large teams as lead engineer, alone as independent worker and liaise with third party companies when necessary
- Health and safety representative for engineering team within company
- Install, maintain, repair and upkeep a variety of intruder alarm, fire alarm/life safety, staff attack, CCTV/IP video systems and access control equipment
- Flexible working hours to suit business/client needs
- International operations when necessary *(Europe)*

Further history available on request

🖥 Courses & Extracurricular

Diploma in Full Stack Software Development - Code Institute   *Apr 2024*

Accredited by the University of the West of Scotland - RQF Lvl 5

- Slack Community Channel Lead - JavaScript
- Technical Content Writer for Code Institute Blog
- HTML/CSS Portfolio Project - Distinction
- JavaScript Portfolio Project - Distinction
- Python Portfolio Project - Distinction
- Full Stack Portfolio Project (Django) - Distinction
- React front-end Portfolio Project with DRF Database
- Hackathon Participant and Team Facilitator

codewars.com

Codewars consists of multiple coding problems, called Kata, that can be solved in a variety of languages. I have successfully completed over 200 Kata, often choosing JavaScript or Python as the solution language, and continue to enjoy the challenge and educational benefits of tackling more. I am currently in the **top 6%** of all users of the site (over half a million users).