Eiríkur "Erik" Ernir Þorsteinsson

Profile

Software engineer with 11YoE. Experienced as a tech Lead, developer, and teacher. I collaborate to build future-proof applications using modern technologies and tools. I believe good software gets built by good teams, and thus emphasize team health, work-life balance, emotional safety, and diversity and inclusion in my work.

Contact details

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✉ Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Personal information

Year of birth: **1987**

Citizenship: **Icelandic** (no work visa required in the Netherlands)

Languages: **English** (full professional proficiency), **Dutch** (basic), **German** (basic), **Icelandic** (native)

Skill keywords

- Java, Python, TypeScript
- Spring, Django
- PostgreSQL, MongoDB
- GraphQL, RabbitMQ
- Docker, Kubernetes
- Linux, Git

Experience

Tech Lead (Core Services). *Picnic Technologies.*   **2022–current**
◇ Founded and trained dedicated product team working on the company's most fundamental APIs and data models, expanding the types of projects the company can tackle.

◇ De-risked growth by increasing stability of the company's main database cluster via a multi-team effort involving technical, architectural and organizational components.

◇ Led effort to introduce new warehouse orchestration system in place of a legacy monolith, allowing the company to operate new types of warehouses.

Tech Lead (RUN Systems). *Picnic Technologies.*   **2020–2022**
◇ Led the productization of Picnic's "Runner App" used by drivers.

◇ Set up a GraphQL-based microservice architecture supporting both continuous feature delivery and smooth operational scale-out across markets.

◇ Oversaw the growth of the team from 2 engineers to 7. Enabled automated E2E testing strategies to ensure stable operations.

Software Dev (RUN Systems). *Picnic Technologies.*   **2018–2020**
◇ Backend development of Picnic's "Runner App" used by drivers, replacing a 3rd party system. Enabled a higher service level, increased road safety, and significantly increased data insight into the last mile delivery process.

Adjunct Faculty. *The University of Iceland.*   **2016–2018**
◇ Full-time university lecturer. Taught multiple courses with class sizes up to 300. Supervised TAs.

Programming teacher. *Technical College Reykjavík.*   **2013–2016**
◇ Taught programming to students in the 16-20 age band. Introduced and restructured upper level courses and wrote a textbook.

Leadership Skills

◇ I emphasize team learning and growth. I am used to provide actionable, relevant performance feedback as a line manager, both formal and informal.

◇ I am comfortable with being accountable for group outcomes, and growing groups to make sure goals are met. I have a proven track record of leading ambiguous, cross-team technical projects towards success.

◇ I am highly proactive about identifying and addressing productivity and happiness blockers I encounter in my work. I can confidently navigate conflict and steer conversations towards resolution.

Software and Engineering Skills

◇ I have been programming since 1998, working full time with technology for more than a decade. I consider myself a technical polyglot.

◇ I am passionate about software architecture as a means to bridge ever-evolving business and development team needs, as well as developing longer term technical strategies.

◇ Recent work has focused on developing cloud microservices, backed by both relational and document databases, facilitated with message brokers.

Education

MSc Computer Science and Pedagogy. *University of Iceland*. **2014–2017**
BSc Computer Science. *University of Iceland*.   **2009–2013**