Jordan Lee 0:01

Thanks for joining today, David. Could you start by describing your role at NovaWorks?

David Kim 0:06

Sure. I’m a backend engineer, mainly working on APIs that power our customer dashboards. I focus on scalability and reli

ability.

Jordan Lee 0:15

How did the shift to remote work affect your daily routine?

David Kim 0:18

At first it was chaotic. My apartment wasn’t set up for full-time work. Once I got a proper desk and monitor, it felt mo

re manageable.

Jordan Lee 0:25

How did it impact your collaboration with teammates?

David Kim 0:28

Code reviews slowed down. In the office, I could just tap someone’s shoulder. Now I leave comments in GitHub and wait ho

urs for replies.

Jordan Lee 0:36

What tools became essential?

David Kim 0:40

Slack, Zoom, and GitHub of course. We also started using Linear for issue tracking because it’s cleaner than Jira.

Jordan Lee 0:48

Did remote work affect your productivity?

David Kim 0:52

In sprints, yes. Interruptions at home were tough early on. But once I got routines, I actually delivered more consisten

tly.

Jordan Lee 1:00

How about mentorship opportunities?

David Kim 1:04

That’s been the hardest part. As a mid-level engineer, I miss overhearing senior engineers troubleshoot. I learn less by

osmosis now.

Jordan Lee 1:12

How do you compensate for that?

David Kim 1:15

I schedule pairing sessions. It’s intentional now. It helps, but it feels more formal than learning naturally in an offi

ce.

Jordan Lee 1:23

Has remote work affected team culture?

David Kim 1:27

Yes. We’re more transactional. Less small talk. To fix that, our manager started “virtual game nights” once a month.

Jordan Lee 1:35

What’s been your biggest personal challenge?

David Kim 1:38

Loneliness. I live alone, so days felt repetitive. I had to push myself to join online communities outside of work.

Jordan Lee 1:46

Do you think remote work changed your career perspective?

David Kim 1:50

Definitely. I realized I can work from anywhere, which opens opportunities. But I worry about being overlooked compared

to onsite employees.

Jordan Lee 1:58

What unexpected benefits have you seen?

David Kim 2:02

Focus time. With fewer in-person meetings, I can code for longer stretches without interruption.

Jordan Lee 2:10

How do you see the future of work at NovaWorks?

David Kim 2:14

Likely hybrid. They plan to keep the office for client meetings but won’t require everyone in daily.

Jordan Lee 2:22

What improvements would you like in remote engineering tools?

David Kim 2:26

Better integrations between GitHub and video chat. Sometimes I want to walk through a pull request live while keeping th

e comments synced.

Jordan Lee 2:34

What advice would you give to engineers new to remote work?

David Kim 2:38

Build structure. Have clear work hours, take breaks, and don’t let Slack dictate your entire day.

Jordan Lee 2:46

Anything else you’d like to add?

David Kim 2:50

Remote work taught me independence. But it also showed me the importance of proactive communication. That’s what makes t

eams succeed remotely.