I am a Software Developer currently seeking employment.

I studied a hybrid major of Applied Math & Computer Science at the University of Wisconsin-Stout. I chose that major because I was good at(for the?) Math but ended up falling in love with the Computer Science part. Working on programming projects was the first time I felt empowered to creatively come up with my own vision and then make that vision a reality.

My first time working professionally was an internship at Marshfield Clinic Information Services where I worked on a ‘patient portal’ mobile app using Xamarin. This was my first time using .NET (C#/XAML/Visual Studio?) and I was blown away by how simple and easy it was compared to working with Java(/Swing/Eclipse?).

After graduating I worked at Menards home office. My department worked on applications for inventory and sales tracking. This opened my eyes to just how much of a developer’s job is the unglamorous task of dealing with legacy code that an employee no longer with the company wrote in a rush a decade ago (most of it).

My struggles dealing with legacy code helped me realize that the true test of a developer isn’t just whether their code works today. It’s also whether the next developer can understand the code when it is inevitably passed along in the future.

Building small one off projects is fun but truly worthwhile applications take a team of people building and supporting. It was at Menards that I became a true professional (in my eyes) by learning the things that allow a group of individual programmers to work together building large apps.

I learned things like code reviews, working on a scrum team, writing documentation, source control and writing unit tests. For 2 years at Menards I’m proud to say I was a contributing member of 1 such team that dealt with large integrated systems.

The specific tech stack I used at Menards was WPF(xaml, C#) front end, git(tortoise git) source control, Informix and SQL Server databases(mostly Informix). Our nightly processing was run on servers running linux so I learned the basics of linux command line.

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It was very gratifying to be part of a scrum team where (for the most part ) you could trust