

I am a .NET 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 Math but ended up falling in love with the Computer Science part.

Working on programming projects was the first time I felt empowered to have a vision of something cool in my head and actually create it.

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 and I was blown away by how simple and easy it was compared to working in the Java world.

After graduating I worked at Menards corporate office.

My department worked on applications for inventory and sales tracking. Building small, one off, projects in college was fun but Menards was the first place I worked on large applications that truly took a team of people to build and support.

It was working on these large interconnected systems that, in my mind, made me into a professional.

At Menards I learned the techniques that allow a group of individual programmers to work together on a common goal. 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 a team in charge of vital line of business applications.

Menards had lots of legacy applications which opened my eyes to just how much of a developer’s job is the unglamorous task of dealing with legacy code.

Often the code’s author is no longer with the company and wrote the code in a rush over a decade ago. 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.

I believe fighting complexity in systems is a programmer’s main job.

1 other thing I’ve learned in these last 2 years working professionally is that programming is what I was meant to do. They say “do what you love and you’ll never work a day in your life”, I’m not saying I loved every moment of work but there were definitely moments mixed into the daily grind that I did love and which kept me going through the day to day.

There were times tracking down bugs that I stayed late not because it was my job but because I was genuinely curious how the system worked.

Times I went overboard on making a user control because I thought it was cool. Weekends I would learn new things not because it was mandated but because I wanted to.

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

Please consider me for your position and maybe I can help you build amazing things.

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. Things like code reviews, working on a scrum team, writing documentation, source control and writing unit tests. Building small one off projects is fun but truly worthwhile applications take a team of people building and supporting. For 2 years at Menards I’m proud to say I was a contributing member of 1 such team.

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