

James Bao

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Career Objective

I am **chasing opportunities** to grow my love for **software** and **full-stack web development**.
I love active problem-solving and **tinkering** until something is exactly right.
I want to **improve human lives**—whether through software, hardware, or a **beautiful combination of both**.
I am always looking to **learn** new things and **grow** as a person—and I apply this mindset to everything I do.

Skills Summary

Problem Solving

- I **apply** my strong **logical thinking** to challenging situations, and leave things **better than I found them**.

Communication Skills

- I am an effective communicator with an aptitude for **breaking down challenging concepts**.

Leadership

- I am passionate about intent-based leadership and **understanding** each member's **strengths and weaknesses**.

Teamwork

- I strive to **be an asset** to any team. I am known for my reliability—I **do not make promises I cannot keep**.

Education

Bachelor of Engineering (Honours)

The University of Auckland

2021 – 2024

- Specialising in **Computer Systems** Engineering
- Cumulative GPA of 8.2/9.0 (A)

Experience

Course Cadet Staff

New Zealand Cadet Forces

Jul 2021
Auckland, NZ

- Selected to staff the Northern Area Junior Non-Commissioned Officer's Course 04/21
- A mentor and **role model** to the course of 50+ students
- Aided Directing Staff in **training delivery**, student assessment, and welfare management

Freelance Software Developer

2020 – 2021

- Back-end development with JavaScript, **Node.js**, and **MongoDB**
- Built a custom Discord bot tailored to streamline **digital order management** and processing

Technical Skills

TypeScript/JavaScript

- Front-end **browser** and back-end **Node.js** applications
- Object-oriented and functional patterns
- **async/await**, Promises, and callbacks
- **Serverless functions** with Next.js and Cloudflare Workers

C/C++

- Familiarity with **Arduino**-flavoured C++ and standard C
- Learnt through **projects** in high school and University Engineering courses
- Currently using C to develop **firmware drivers** for an **ATmega328PB**

Git/GitHub

- Git version/source control and GitHub project management
- Usage of **feature branches**, pull requests, issues, and GitHub Actions
- **3000+ contributions** accrued over the past **4 years**

Other Languages I also have limited experience in **Python**, **Java**, and **MATLAB**.

Project Experience

notion-assignment-import

2022

jamesnzl.xyz/notion-assignment-import

- **Cross-browser** extension that loads Canvas assignments into a Notion database
- **60+ users** in under **two months**
- Variety of tools including **Gulp**, Browserify & ESBuild, **Sass**, and PostCSS
- Learnt more about **APIs**, HTTP and HTTP clients, and **OAuth2**
- Git and GitHub
- Sass and PostCSS
- Insomnia
- TypeScript, HTML
- Gulp, Browserify, and ESBuild

Pronto

2020 – 2021

aucklandarmycadets.github.io/Pronto

City of Auckland Cadet Unit

- Full-featured Discord bot to **streamline** Unit **procedures**
- Comprehensive **codebase documentation** with **JSDoc**
- Experimenting with **Cloud Computing** services including DigitalOcean, Linode, Vultr, and currently **Oracle Cloud**
- JavaScript, Node.js
- JSDoc
- SSH, Bash, Unix CLI
- MongoDB
- Virtual Private Servers

Unit Website

2022

github.com/aucklandarmycadets/aucklandarmycadets

City of Auckland Cadet Unit

- A **modern, performant website** to overhaul my Cadet Unit's online presence
- Serverless functions with both **Next.js** and **Cloudflare Workers**
- Created my **own CDN** to cache Notion's ephemeral images and **optimise performance**
- Experience in managing **DNS records**, administering Google Search Console, and enhancing **SEO**
- Next.js (and React) with Vercel
- Serverless functions
- DNS Records, SEO

Other Projects More projects can be found on my [GitHub profile](#).

Achievements

2021

- **First in Course Award** for ENGEN 131: Introduction to Engineering Computation and **Software Development**

Pre-2021

- Bayonet of Honour
- School Prefect and Deputy House Captain
- Cadet Warrant Officer Class Two
- First in Level 3 Calculus
- Top of Course Award
- First in Level 2 Physics
- NZCF Senior Non-Commissioned Officer's Course
- First in Level 2 Programming

Interests

Outdoors I have a deep love for the outdoors, and find it an amazing outlet to recharge my batteries.

Teaching I love crafting intuitive explanations for difficult, technical concepts—and seeing the lightbulb moment.

Te Ao Māori I care deeply about engaging with the indigenous culture & language of Aotearoa New Zealand.

Youth Development I am an Officer Cadet in the New Zealand Cadet Forces. I was previously a cadet for five years, including 17 months as a Cadet Warrant Officer Class Two.

References

Captain James Green, NZCF

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James has been a **significant mentor**, and has heavily **guided** my growth as a person.

Cadet Unit Commander
City of Auckland Cadet Unit

Rebecca O'Gram

rog@westlake.school.nz

Rebecca was my Year 13 Calculus **teacher**, and is one of the **most influential** teachers I have ever had.

Associate Principal
Westlake Boys' High School

Matua Johnny Waititi

jwa@westlake.school.nz or +64 20 410 53400

Matua Johnny was my Te Reo Māori **kaiako** and **form teacher**, and has also played a **pivotal** role in my life.

Te Kaihautū o Te Puna
Westlake Boys' High School