

James Prentice

Personal Details

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Portfolio: portfolio-jamesprenticez.vercel.app

Career Objective

I'm an Enspiral Dev Academy graduate on a journey to becoming a professional *full stack web developer*. I have a keen interest in working with databases and transforming that data into an unforgettable user experience.

I get excited about the architecture of an application, what features are required and how they might be implemented. I think a well-designed system is a thing of beauty! I want to be involved in a company that values communicating ideas, collaboration and sharing knowledge.

Core Skills Summary

Turning Ideas into Reality

For me, taking a problem and finding a solution yields enormous satisfaction. In one of my previous roles as a Quantity Surveyor the company I was working for had a problem with repetitive data entry. I discussed the issue with those performing the task and used my programming knowledge to design and implement a "one click, ordering system" that ultimately turned an 8-hour task into a 5-minute task.

Analytical

While employed as a Quantity Surveyor I was working on a particularly complex residential home. The architect had issued a revised set of plans and asked for updated pricing. I put together a comprehensive list of all of the changes and the cost implication that they would have. The architect commended my work and went out of their way to mention how impressed they were to my boss.

Problem Solving

I am a lateral thinker - I use my imagination to look at problems in a fresh way and come up with new solutions. This strength allows me to innovate and create new products. I often ask "what if I do this, what will happen?" I believe this strength is responsible for my love for coding and reason I enjoy building so many personal projects.

Self-Development & Learning

I love to feed my mind with new information. I am always looking for new sources of information be it tertiary institutions, online courses or books. I like to focus on developing my psychological understanding, social skills, entrepreneurship and of course my programming knowledge. This desire to continually upskill is the reason for my desire to change careers from the construction industry and venture into the innovative and exciting technology industry!

Technical Skills Summary

React / Next.js

At bootcamp I learnt to use React with class-based components, I built projects such as a basic to-do app and a simple store front, I have learnt to implement state and watch for changes with componentDidMount and componentDidUpdate and am comfortable implementing global state with the Redux library.

Since bootcamp, have now use more modern functional components with useState and useEffect hooks. I have leveraged the power of Next.js server-side to build a complex blog website and also an advanced to-do list. I have a lot of experience with CSS and like to use frameworks such as Tailwind for its tidy inline implementation.

Relational Databases & Query Builders

At bootcamp I learnt to build a custom backend server with Express. Using Express, I have made several small example projects to understand routing, APIs and how to query a database with tools like Knex to perform CRUD operations.

Since bootcamp I have now progressed to using Next.js. I like Next for its out of the box routing and API. I often build my hobby projects with SQLite3 as a development database and use Prisma as the query builder.

Other Technologies I am comfortable

Javascript, Git, Node

Other Technologies I have some experience in

Sockets, Solidity, Firebase, PHP, Python

Work History (Construction Industry)

- Intermediate Quantity Surveyor – 2017 - 2021

Education

- Enspiral Dev Academy – Full Stack Web Development Online Bootcamp - July 2020 - October 2020
- Otago Polytechnic – National Diploma in Quantity Surveying - 2015 - 2017

Hobbies

When I am not coding you will often find me out in the garden planting trees or harvesting vegetables. I love to explore the great outdoors and often to go on day walks through the forest or down to the beach. On a rainy day I like to play strategy-based video games and every now and then will get the tools out to do a bit of building or landscaping.

References

- Joshua Vial – Lead Lecturer - Dev Academy Bootcamp
- Laché Malvin – Course facilitator - Dev Academy Bootcamp
- Mark Smale – General Manager - Jennian Homes