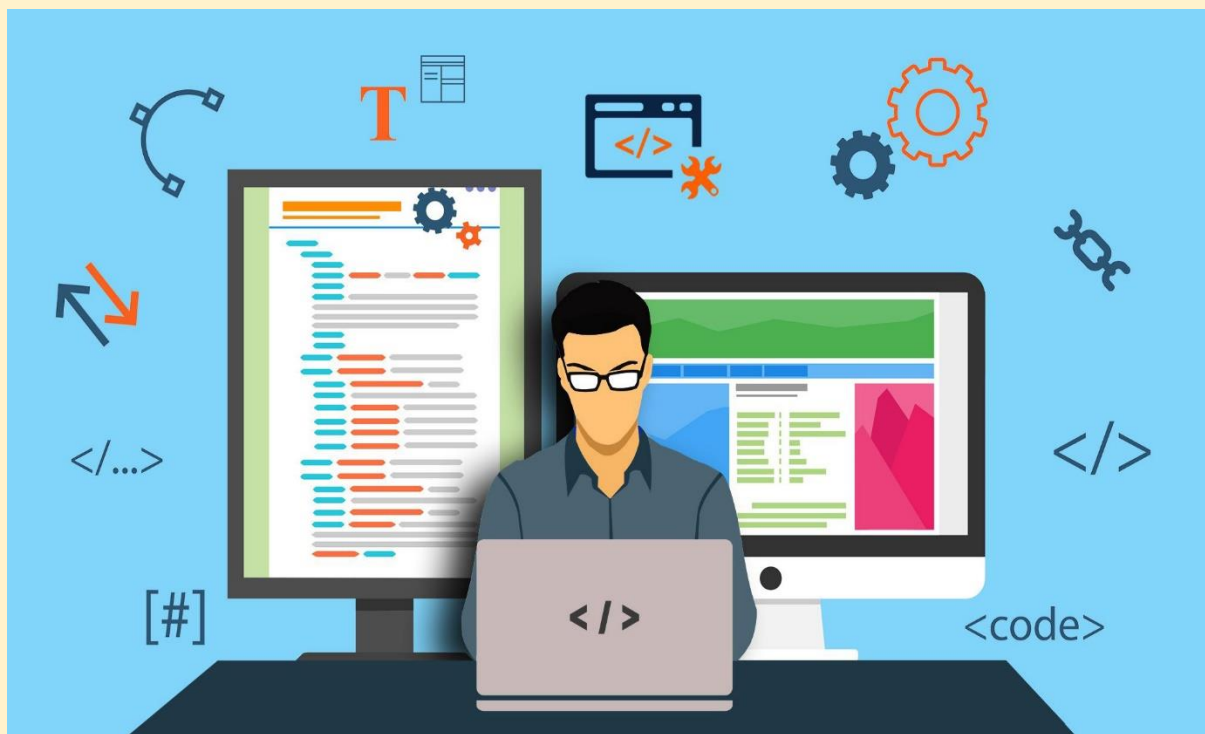


## Computer Science Graduate Employment

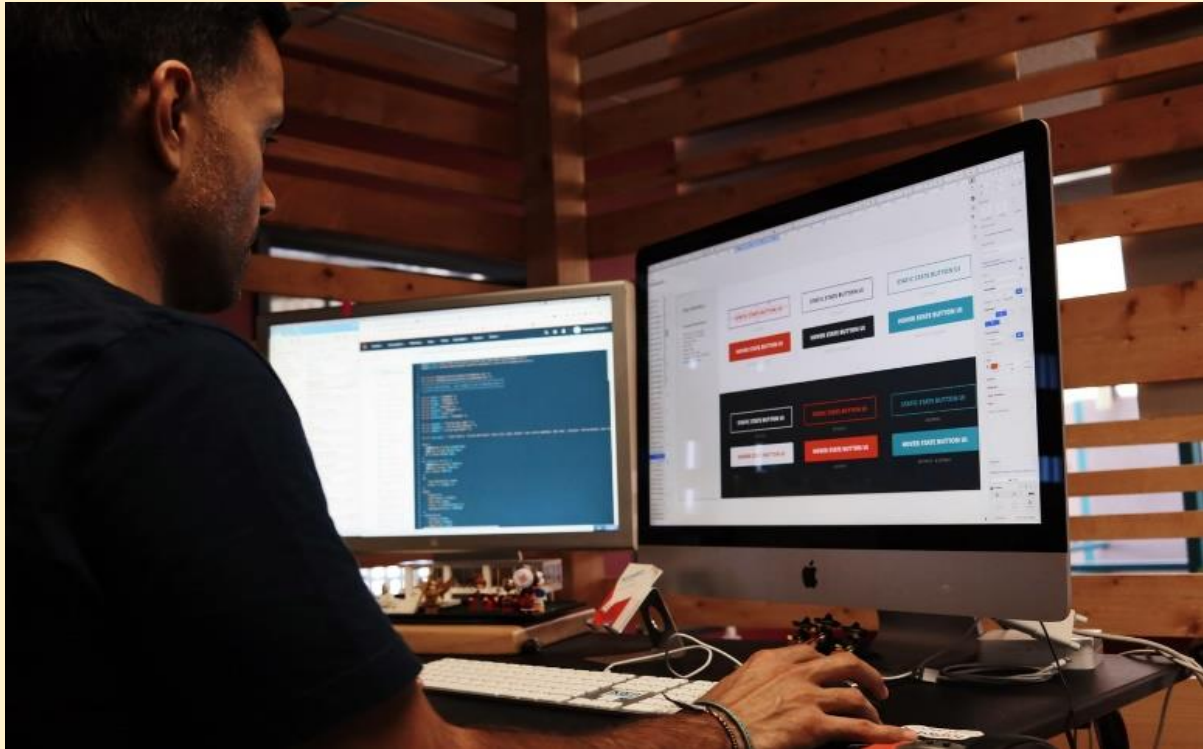
# Web Developer



*Figure 1: Web Developer (Webskittersacademy, 2015)*

**Author:** Katie Hoult

## Job Description:



*Figure 2: Front-end Developer (Betterteam, 2023)*

As a Web Developer, you will be responsible for the ‘coding, innovative design and layout of our website using standard HTML/CSS practices. A Web Developer will ensure that a website looks good and functions properly’ (Workable Technology Limited, 2012-2023). In addition as a Web Developer you will have to collaborate with web designers as well as ‘monitor website traffic, troubleshoot website problems when they arrive and update websites as necessary’ (Workable Technology Limited, 2012-2023). The need to be able to integrate data from various back-end databases and services is also required.

## Technical Skills required:

Some of the technical from the web developer job profile (AGCAS & Graduate Prospects Ltd, 2021) are as follows:

- You need technical knowledge in client-side components and server-side languages.
- You need a good understanding of web frameworks and database management systems.
- You need to understand the architecture of web applications, web security and encryption.
- Experience with version control systems.
- Logical thinking and approaches to problem solving.
- Experience in methodologies such as Agile and Waterfall.

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- The ability to manage a complex range of tasks.
- Attention to detail.
- Excellent time management skills.

### Professional Skills & Behaviours required:



*Figure 3: Web Development Team (Maskot, 2023)*

- ‘An ability to work independently and in mixed teams.
- Good communication skills’ (AGCAS & Graduate Prospects Ltd, 2021).
- ‘The goal to keep up to date with the industry.
- To capture feedback as well as taking and offering honest and respectful criticism where appropriate’ (Usersnap, 2023).

In more general terms, a Web Developer must be professional and henceforth follow basic codes of conduct such as the following:

- ‘A web developer must respect and value alternative viewpoints
- A web developer must conduct their professional activities without discrimination on the grounds of sex, sexual orientation, marital status, nationality, colour, race, ethnic origin, religion, age or disability, or of any other condition or requirement.
- A web developer must also have due regard for the health, privacy, security and wellbeing of others and the environment’ (Trustee Board, 2022).

## How much might you earn? :

Company type and location play a large factor in the varying salaries and well as skill level. The typical salary for a Web Developer can range from '£19,000 to £75,000'. Salaries reaching the 75,000 mark are usually found when a person is employed by a large company in London.

On the Prospects (2023) you will find that 'salaries for junior or entry-level web developers can range from £19,000 to £25,000. Whilst mid-level and senior web developers on average earn between £25,000 and £35,000. Lead developers have the potential to earn anything between £35,000 and £60,000, rising to £75,000 depending on where they are based in the UK'.

The high average salary for a web developer comes from the fact that Web Developers are still very high in demand. This is due to Web Developers being 'expected to perform more complex and elaborate tasks that ever before in the tech world. There is a rise in demand for multi-skilled web developers due to the increase in use of cloud, mobiles and increased complexity of operations needed in the Internet of Things' (A. Shujaat, 2018).

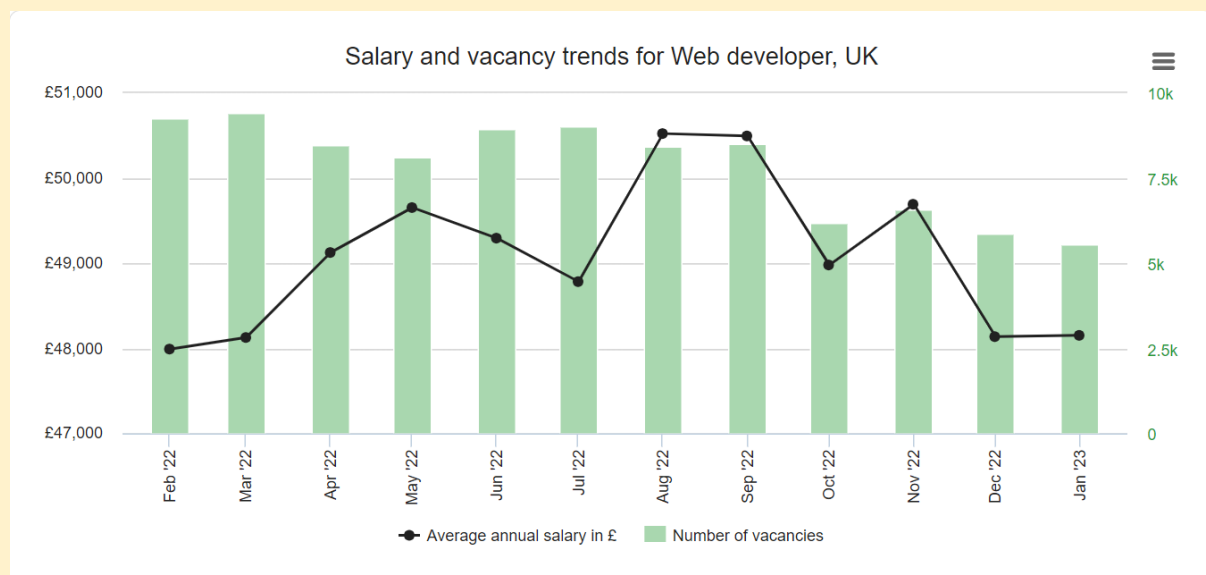


Figure 4: Salary and vacancy trends (ADZUNA LTD, 2023)

In figure 4, you can see an up-to-date graph presenting the trend for salary and vacancies for Web Developers in the UK. From the graph you can see that the average salary January 2023 is at approximately £48,100.

## Example job:

<https://www.qq-life.co.uk/site/recruitment/view/web-developer/>

Below in figure 6 is a screenshot of a current job advertisement posted by a company called Quick Quote Life. (17/02/2023). On this website were two advertisements, one for a Junior Web Developer and one for a Web Developer which is the one displayed in figure 6.

The screenshot shows a job advertisement for a 'Web Developer' position. The title is in large purple font at the top. Below it is a breadcrumb trail: 'Home / Recruitment / Web Developer'. The ad lists the following details:

- Hours:** Monday – Friday, 9am – 5pm [Office based or home based subject to agreement]
- Job Type:** Full Time, Permanent
- Salary:** £30,000 - £60,000 [depending on experience]

The description states: 'We are looking for an experienced Web Developer. Suitable candidates will ideally have 2 + years' experience and a proven track record. The successful candidate will play an integral role in maintaining and enhancing our existing websites, and building new and innovative designs, whilst always adhering to best practice. You will be tasked with producing high quality coding and designs both quickly and efficiently. You will work closely with our Social Media Marketing team and the senior managers. The projects you will be working on will be challenging, interesting and exciting.'

**Key Responsibilities include**

- Work on the development and maintenance of our web sites
- Creation and maintenance of site layout to create striking websites with a focus on creating first-rate user experience.
- Produce responsive sites using media queries
- Enhance and improve the company's platforms
- Design and implement new features
- Develop specifications
- Keep up to date with industry and technological changes

**To exceed in this role, you will need to have:**

- Experience in developing as well as designing websites
- Good skills in PHP, OOP and MySQL and other similar languages
- Understanding and proven experience in using HTML, CSS, JavaScript, AJAX, JQuery
- Excellent problem-solving skills
- Good communication skills - both verbally and written
- Ability to work under pressure
- Keen eye for detail and deliver work with high levels of accuracy.
- A passion for technology and an ability to resolve IT issues in an effective and timely manner.

**Desirable skills/Knowledge:**

- Knowledge of general CMS platforms like Wordpress/Joomla.
- phpMyAdmin
- Experience using MVC (preferably Laravel but not essential)

**What's in it for you?**

- Competitive salary with a generous performance related bonus
- Career Progression
- Free onsite Parking
- We are a people focused company – personal and career development for 'our people' is at the heart of everything we do.
- We offer individuals a lively, fun and dynamic environment in which to develop their career
- We have a fantastic team atmosphere.

Figure 5: Job Advertisement (Quick Quote Life Ltd, 2023)



## Extra Insight:

An interesting fact about being a web developer is that generally ‘web developers have different mind-sets to those who don’t program’ (Sebastian, 2019). Due to programming and using different languages to do so, web developers are commonly known to have the ability to solve seemingly complex problems in any area of their life. Below is a quote that states Mohammed’s exposure to programming has changed his mental ability to problem solving.

*“After completing the **Java course** with Ubiquum...not only has my programming knowledge greatly expanded, my way of thinking and problem-solving in life has completely transformed. I now have access to a very different mental model.”—**Mohammed Najjar***

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## Further Reading:

A. Shujaat (2018). *How to Capitalize On the Skills Gap in the Web Development Sector*. Available from: <https://www.quickstart.com/blog/capitalize-on-the-skills-gap-in-the-web-development-sector/>. [Accessed 17 February 2023].

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