



Jean-Michel Fayard

Tech lead / Senior Backend Developer / Kotlin, Java & more

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- <https://github.com/jmfayard>

Summary

- **Jean-Michel Fayard**, 43 years old, 15 years of experience
- **Role:** Team Lead / Senior Backend Developer / Developer Coach
- **Stack:** Kotlin & Java expert, open to other techs
- **Education:** MSc in Computer Science (France & Germany)
- **Location:** Berlin or full remote (Germany/EU time zone)
- **Availability:** ASAP
- **Contract:** Open to Permanent or Freelance
- **Salary:** €80k+ annually or €80/h freelance
- **Keywords:** Spring Boot, Ktor, Microservices, Kafka, Kubernetes, Terraform
- **Languages:** French (native), English, German, Spanish (C1-C2), Japanese, Italian, Esperanto (basic)

Experience

03/2024 - 06/2025

Crédit Agricole Investment Bank

Senior Backend Developer

Paris

<https://www.ca-cib.com/en>

Championed the **adoption of AI** tools (GitHub Copilot, ChatGPT) to boost developer productivity and team confidence. Led hands-on workshops and created internal **guidelines** for responsible AI usage. Facilitated regular retrospectives to foster **continuous improvement** around AI-assisted workflows.

→ Result: **improved developer morale, faster onboarding**, and more intentional use of LLMs in daily work.

Contributed to a critical component of the bank’s infrastructure — a real-time stream handling over 400,000 financial transactions daily, with end-of-day and end-of-month load peaks.

Improved system observability and alerting, with most root-cause analysis taking place in < 1 hour and higher operational confidence during production incidents.

Skills: Java, Kotlin, Spring Boot, Kafka, Kubernetes, REST, GraphQL, Terraform, GitLab CI, ArgoCD, Helm, AWS, DevOps, Observability, OpenTelemetry, Iceberg

05/2023 - 05/2024

Coaching for Developers

Entrepreneur

Paris

<https://substack.jmfayard.dev/>

Helped 13 developers land more fulfilling jobs through technical coaching, mock interviews, and career guidance

Gave interview preparation with consulting companies such as CodeBusters.

Created long-form, high-signal content with over **260 technical blog posts** written over 6+ years, covering both hard skills and dev career strategy.

Spoke at internal and public meetups on careers and culture-related questions.

Skills: Developer Coaching, Career Orientation, Technical Training, Writing, Public Speaking, Entrepreneurship, Developer Marketing

05/2020 - 02/2023

Tignum

Team lead - Senior Backend Dev

Remotely, from Paris

<https://www.tignum.com/>

Rescued a stalled project from over-engineering by advocating for simplicity, lean architecture, and faster delivery. Defined and led the design of a new backend in Kotlin (Ktor), choosing “the simplest solution that works” to maximize feature delivery with a small team.

Promoted a writing-first culture in a fully remote environment, enabling clear decision-making, reduced interruptions, and faster onboarding.

Broke down silos between backend and frontend by encouraging shared ownership, cross-team reviews, and collaborative architecture decisions.

Mentored an Android developer into a proficient backend contributor, fostering a culture of upskilling and full-stack curiosity.

Organized regular internal meetups to share knowledge, discuss architecture trade-offs, and improve async collaboration in a fully remote team.

Skills: Kotlin, TypeScript, Ktor, GraphQL, Java, Software Architecture, Gradle, CI/CD, Docker, Heroku, Lean Startup, Agile Development, Remote Team Leadership

03/2018 - 01/2019

Payala

Senior Dev

Remotely, from Berlin

<https://www.payala.com/>

Invented a patented, cryptographically secure, offline-first payment system that extends financial access to unbanked populations — enabling instant, secure transactions without the need for reliable connectivity, a smartphone, or a bank account.

Developed an Android app used as a contactless payment terminal.

Collaborated with cryptography experts to integrate Java-based smartcards that securely store balances and perform local verification.

Keywords: Java, Kotlin, Go, Gin, Android, Java Smartcards, Offline-first systems, digital wallets, contactless smart cards, resilient architecture, cybersecurity, field-tested payments, financial inclusion

10/2014 - 10/2017

Smart Mobile Factory

Backend and Android Developer

Berlin, Germany

<https://www.linkedin.com/company/smart-mobile-factory/>

Delivered or maintained 13 mobile projects — often juggling up to 3 in parallel — for various B2C and B2B clients. Collaborated closely with designers and product owners in agency-style environments with a culture of extreme ownership and developer-to-developer mentoring.

Started as an Android developer, then transitioned to backend development, switching fluidly between Java, TypeScript, PHP, and Kotlin depending on project needs.

Developed a pragmatic, polyglot mindset and became highly effective at ramping up on unfamiliar stacks through pair programming and peer-driven learning.

Built a solid technical foundation across mobile and backend ecosystems, gaining exposure to diverse codebases, architectures, and team dynamics.

Skills: Android, Java, Kotlin, TypeScript, PHP, Spring, Spring Boot, Symfony, REST APIs, Agile Delivery, Pair Programming, Tech Onboarding, Pragmatic Software Design

01/2007 - 01/2012

Cap Gemini

Software Consultant

Paris

<https://www.capgemini.com/>

Consulting for big french companies (CAC 40)

Development and automated testing

Android programming

Projects

- **gradle refreshVersions**
Life is too short to google for dependencies and versions
 <https://github.com/jmfayard/refreshVersions>
- **GitHub Workflows Kt**
Authoring GitHub Actions workflows in Kotlin. You won't get back to YAML!
 <https://typesafegithub.github.io/github-workflows-kt/>

Profiles

- [jmfayard](#)
- [refreshVersions](#)
- [jmfayard](#)
- [jean-michel-fayard](#)

Education

- 2006-01-07

ENSIMAG

Master

Computer Science

- 2006-01-07

Universität Karlsruhe

Computer Science

Master

2024

Blendy

Recruitment

Publications

Technical blog
 <https://dev.to/jmfayard/>

Languages

Français

Natif

English

C2

Deutsch

C2

Español

C2