

King David Simmons III

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SENIOR BACKEND SOFTWARE ENGINEER

Results-driven Senior Backend Software Engineer with 5+ years of experience building scalable backend systems using Java, Kotlin, Spring Boot, SQL, NoSQL, and cloud platforms (AWS, GCP). Proven success in delivering high-impact backend services, improving observability and reliability, and supporting systems serving hundreds of millions of users. Strong background in data modeling, messaging systems, and production operations. Adept at cross-functional collaboration, rapid problem solving, and improving team velocity through code quality and mentorship. Passionate about creating efficient, reliable solutions and continuously growing through learning and team leadership.

SKILLS

Java | Kotlin | Python | Spring Boot | GraphQL | PostgreSQL | REST APIs | AWS | GCP | Docker | Pub/Sub
Messaging Systems | Observability | Tracing | Git | Selenium | CI/CD | Unit and Integration Testing | Agile
Python | React | JavaScript | TypeScript

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

THE HOME DEPOT, Remote

August 2025 - Present

Senior Software Engineer

Designed, maintained, and deployed distributed backend services supporting pricing, logistics, and vendor communication systems. Worked across GCP infrastructure, pub/sub messaging, relational databases, and test automation to ensure service reliability and production readiness. Collaborated with cross-functional teams on architecture, debugging, and last-mile delivery under tight deadlines.

- Implemented trace context propagation across multiple Pub/Sub services, enabling full end-to-end observability and reducing root-cause debugging time by 30%.
- Built a reusable E2E testing framework with templates, a dynamic test data generator, and onboarding docs to reduce manual setup time by 50%.
- Delivered last-minute architectural fixes to resolve critical production blockers before deployment, preserving delivery timelines for systems used by 1,000+ internal users.
- Owned GCP resources including Pub/Sub, BigQuery tables, and scheduled queries, optimizing data flow across 100,000+ daily events.
- Led backend deployments and schema changes for PostgreSQL and Oracle databases across 5+ services, ensuring reliable rollouts and maintaining zero-downtime standards.

INDEED, Austin, TX

May 2022 - July 2025

Software Engineer

Designed and built backend services and GraphQL APIs powering user-facing dashboards, collaborating cross-functionally to ensure scalability, performance, and reliability. Contributed to CI/CD pipelines and Docker based deployment, automated testing, and production deployment processes to improve system reliability.

- Designed and launched a profile enrichment system using Java, Kotlin, Spring Boot, PostgreSQL, and AWS S3, increasing profile completeness by 50% and improving discoverability for millions of job seekers.
- Enabled profile-based discovery for 40M+ US and 230M+ global users by leading launch-critical backend service development in Java, resolving 10+ production issues and building dashboards to monitor adoption.
- Built and deployed scalable microservices using Kotlin and Spring Boot, integrating with REST APIs and PostgreSQL, and automating infrastructure setup with Terraform to interact with AWS S3.
- Improved email engagement for external profiles by leading backend and frontend efforts and utilizing A/B testing, achieving a 15–20% uplift in open and conversion rates.

- Reduced feature delivery time by ~25% using AI-assisted development tools; collaborated with UX and PMs to optimize user flows and acceptance criteria.
- Mentored 3+ new engineers, led retrospectives, and introduced process improvements that enhanced team communication post-reorg.
- Contributed minor frontend refactors to support backend-driven privacy workflows.

GENERAL MOTORS, Austin, TX

January 2021 - April 2022

Software Engineer - Backend Testing & Reliability

Focused on backend service reliability through automated API testing, CI/CD integration, and validation of distributed system workflows. Designed and executed automated tests for backend RESTful services to ensure stable integrations across frontend and backend systems. Collaborated with developers and QA to define test plans, acceptance criteria, and improve automated tests coverage in a fast-paced Agile environment.

- Automated UI and REST API tests for 15+ features using Java, Selenium, and REST Assured, reducing regression testing time by 50%.
- Improved test automation workflows and CI/CD pipelines in a SAFe Agile environment, increasing iteration velocity by 37%.

EDUCATION

Bachelors of Science (BS) Computer Science

University of Georgia, Athens, Georgia