

Merrick Pilon

Developer

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www.merrickpilon.ca

Enthusiastic full-stack developer with experience building scalable, cloud-ready web applications. Proficient in both frontend and backend technologies with strong SQL skills in PostgreSQL/MySQL. Demonstrated ability to architect REST APIs, automate workflows, and deploy apps using AWS and CI/CD pipelines. Passionate about writing clean, testable code and collaborating in Agile teams.

Education

Computer Programming – With Distinction

Conestoga College, School of Applied Computer Science & Information Technology

September 2023 – April 2025

Certifications

- CompTIA Security+ (in progress)

Projects

Back-Rank/Chaos Chess

- Developed a React-based web chess platform where you can compete against an AI opponent powered by Stockfish AI.
- Based on the sequence of moves or FEN, the app detects common opening names (e.g., Queen's Gambit, Sicilian Defense).
- Harnessed OpenAI's o3-mini to give dynamically generated explanations and insights based on the current position.
- It is being updated to support matches against other players and custom chess variants, using WebSockets, Docker, and Kubernetes for scalability.

Budgeting App

- Built a personal finance tool with file upload, transaction parsing, and dynamic budget visualizations.
- Backend: Hono API with PostgreSQL and Drizzle ORM.
- Frontend: Next.js (App Router), Zustand for state, TanStack for data fetching.
- Integrated CI/CD for automated testing and deployment.

Ticker Tracker

- Developed a real-time stock and cryptocurrency tracking web application to help users monitor their investments and watchlists efficiently.
- Deployed on both Vercel and AWS Amplify.

- Integrated multiple financial data APIs, including Alpha Vantage and Twelve Data, for comprehensive market coverage.
- Designed and implemented the backend using Hono API with robust schema validation through Zod and AWS DynamoDB for scalable data storage.

AI-Powered Mental Health Platform

- Architected a scalable web platform offering AI-powered assessments and real-time video sessions.
- Designed back-end logic with PostgreSQL (Neon.tech) and Prisma ORM; used Next.js API routes.
- Integrated secure authentication (NextAuth), built a responsive UI with Tailwind and Shadcn.

Experience

Designated Trainer

St. Jacobs, ON | Home Hardware Stores Ltd. | April 2016 - Sept 2024

- Led onboarding and technical training for new employees, enhancing team efficiency and knowledge retention.
- Managed inventory systems and collaborated on optimizing workflows.
- Developed internal digital tools and automated workflows, improving operational processes and data handling.

Environmental Consultant

London, ON | 2cg Inc | Jan 2013 – April 2016

- Led a team in conducting comprehensive waste audits across multiple sectors
- Analyzed waste management practices and prepared detailed reports based on findings.
- Coordinated with city officials to ensure compliance with environmental regulations and best practices.
- Provided recommendations for sustainable waste management improvements.

Achievements

- Winner of ConHacks 2025 (Hackathon) – link to [Conestoga Article](#)
- Conestoga College 3.75 GPA (89%)