

# Steven Klavins



An alumnus of [Makers](#)

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I'm a highly ambitious developer in pursuit of a career where I can grow, share my love of tech, and nurture my creativity. Last year I took a huge risk and left the stability of my job to pursue my passion.

Following my resignation, I taught myself OOP principles, attended Makers academy, and immersed myself in new tech. It was an amazing experience working alongside other developers and I grew exponentially. I have newfound confidence I can pick up anything with the right approach, whether that be a new framework or an entirely new language altogether.

## Notable Projects

Project	Description	Tech Used	Website
<a href="#">WhatStack</a>	A collaborative developers platform for asking questions and sharing solutions, a hybrid of Stack Overflow, and WhatsApp with real-time chat.	JavaScript, React, MongoDB, Express, NodeJS, Socket IO, Heroku, Jest, HTML, CSS	<a href="#">Link</a>
<a href="#">Off The Rails</a>	A web app for posting articles, users can comment on, update, and delete posts.	Ruby, Rails, HTML, CSS, PostgreSQL, RSpec	
<a href="#">Portfolio Website</a>	My personal portfolio website.	Javascript, React, NodeJS, HTML, CSS, Axios, Github API V3, Flickr API, Framer Motion, Jest, Enzyme	<a href="#">Link</a>
<a href="#">Bank Tech Test</a>	A bank account application used via the command line, built following TDD.	Javascript, Jasmine	
<a href="#">Lost Horror</a>	A custom WordPress theme built for a archive/blog documenting obscure horror films from the past.	PHP, WordPress, JavaScript, HTML, CSS, Twitter API, IMDB API	

## Skills

### A methodical learner

My team and I approached learning with the mentality of "no one gets left behind". Jumping into new tech can be rather intimidating and the worry of falling behind your team is a rather daunting prospect. In the project [WhatStack](#) supporting each other's learning journey raised knowledge and morale collectively. It was here I found my experience as a supervisor particularly useful, it was in that time I had developed a higher level of emotional intelligence and the ability to motivate my colleagues. We all had knowledge gaps particularly in the task of using WebSockets, through our collective knowledge sharing we made incredible strides in the right direction.

When overcoming challenges independently I found reinforcing and sharing knowledge through my [blog](#) particularly helpful. From a young age, I would often learn through reverse engineering, I would pull everything apart to see how it worked. Truth be told I didn't always know how to put it all back together, nevertheless after years of refining this process I now fix more than I break.

### An agile worker and XP proponent

Stating "I am an agile worker" is a fairly ambiguous statement, however stating I adhere to the XP values (feedback, simplicity, communication, courage, and respect) provides a little more substance. These values contributed to a large portion of the success my teams at Makers had. Ensuring everyone felt valued within our team produced positive morale and the motivation to overcome challenges. A number of my colleagues have stated I have a calm yet focused approach when working in a team, I believe this to be a quality obtained from my years of customer facing roles.

### A meticulous problem solver

Arguably one of the most important things a developer can be is an effective problem solver, not only in the context of tech but everyday soft skills too. Throughout my career, I have demonstrated an exceptional ability to problem solve under pressure. Just some examples of this include dealing with hostile customers in a calm and constructive manner (showing a little empathy can go a long way), finding team consensus on how specific tech problems should be tackled, and sharing solutions to common problems others may also have. Just a few days prior to writing this CV I helped two of my colleagues retrieve hundreds of code contributions by sharing a solution I found when experiencing the same problem.

### What makes me a little different

I suppose some could call me quirky or a little bit of an oddball but this all comes from my love of creativity and expression. I like to think of myself as a rather warm individual and I conduct myself in a professional manner. I enjoy working with those who like to foster a friendly, open working environment. You may ask "What drove you to the industry?" What motivates me is my desire to utilize tech to create positive change in the world, I want to achieve this through exciting new forms of innovation. Ever since I started coding I've been hooked, it's not just a job to me, it's an outlet for my creativity and passion.

## Employment History

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Organization	Job Title	Dates of employment
Willis Towers Watson	Call Centre Agent	09/2018 - 06/2019
Sainsbury's	Supervisor	10/2017 - 06/2018
Sainsbury's	Floor Staff	09/2015 - 10/2017
Maplin Electronics	Sales advisor	12/2014 – 09/2015
Musician	Composer/Guitarist	01/2009 – present

## Education

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### Makers Academy (02/2020 - 06/2020)

- Object orientated programming, Test-driven development
- Agile/XP principles
- Ruby, JavaScript
- Rails, React, Socket IO, jQuery, NodeJs, Express
- PostgreSQL, SQL, Mongo DB
- RSpec, Jasmine, Jest, Capybara

### Self Directed Learning (06/2019 - 02/2020 / 06/2020 - present)

- Java, Python, PHP, WordPress, React Native
- OOP principles
- Android Development
- Basic Algorithms
- Arduino micro-controllers and basic electronics

### University Of West London/ Kingston College, Richmond Road (2013-2016)

- Subject: Digital Arts
- HTML/CSS, Processing (programming language)
- Photoshop, After Effects, Maya, Cinema 4D, Unreal Engine

## Hobbies

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### In my leisure time:

- I am a devoted musician and love music production, I have performed in a number of London venues. You can see a live performance [here](#), some of my favorite acts just to name a few are Periphery, Animals As Leaders, Veil of Maya, Billy Talent, Snarky Puppy, and Skyharbor.
- I enjoy working with all kinds of tech including but not limited to; 3D printing, modeling, microcontrollers, pro audio, and a large list of languages and frameworks.
- I'm also a keen artist and explore many mediums, I am a creative thinker and like taking a practical hands-on approach to my work.
- I also enjoy photography and most work situated within the Adobe suite.
- Furthermore, I'm learning to speak German as I'm a keen traveler.