

# Front-end Project

- **Customer:** [Retool](#) - a platform that makes building internal tools fast and easy by connecting to data sources, building your queries and logic, connecting queries and logic to prebuilt components, and organizing and connecting features of your app.
- **Audience:** Professional front-end developers who are looking to A) stay up to date on new technologies and B) improve their workflows for building web apps.
- **Voice/Content:** Write this article like you're writing to a fellow developer. You should be conversational and opinion-forward (and a little edgy, where appropriate). For example, [this post](#) from Technically shows the tone we want to achieve for this piece.
- **Topic:** *Front End Developer Tools You Should Use in 2020 (and What We Love About Them)*
  - Use your imagination (and your experience) here to round up the front-end tools that you think devs in 2020 shouldn't live without. Differentiate this from a run-of-the-mill listicle by including why each tool is significant in the day-to-day workflow of front end devs and how each could fit within the reader's stack.
- **Total Word Count:** 1,200-1,500 words
- **Goal of Article:**
  - **Primary:** Traction on social media and within D2D communities like Hacker News.
  - **Secondary:** Rank in search engines. (You choose the keyword to optimize your article for.)
- **Intended distribution channel:** Social, search

# Front End Developer Tools You Should Use in 2020 (and What We Love About Them)



“The Web as I envisaged it, we have not seen it yet. The future is still so much bigger than the past.”

**Tim Berners-Lee, Inventor of the World Wide Web**

Because the web development industry is rapidly growing, it is important to keep up with the latest tools. In this increasingly competitive and constantly adapting industry, you should always be looking for ways to increase your competitive advantage.

Developers using the latest web tools are more efficient and often the most successful. Based on current market trends and user adoption, we're going to list some of the most popular web tools for front-end developers, so that you can be ahead of the technology curve and competitors.

## **1. Sublime Text**

Sublime Text is a popular text editor for web design that supports Windows, Mac, and Linux platforms. It can be used to code, markup, and prose. Developers really like Sublime because of its variety of features which cut down on hours of editing. First, let's talk about its main feature, Split Editing. This feature allows you to edit files side by side. You can even edit the same file at two different locations. With Split Editing, you can also maximize your display across multiple monitors. Second, it has a really useful command called the GoTo Anything command, which is literally what it sounds like, a command that helps you find any piece of code or open any file. When using this command, you can use a part of a file name, line numbers, symbols or even use the search feature within the file. And lastly, it has a Multiple Selections command which allows you to make up to ten changes at the same time. Sublime Text uses Python API to enable plugins to provide more built-in functionality, while additional functionalities are available in the command palette. Sublime Text is available for download and evaluation for free. However, you must purchase a license for continued use.

## **2. Angular.js**

Angular.js, an open-source web application framework, is another excellent tool for front-end developers. Its main feature is the extension of HTML syntax for web applications, resolving HTML's inability to work with dynamic views. Angular.js also allows you to create RICH Internet Applications, manage corresponding JavaScript code for each browser, and the option to write client-side applications using JavaScript using MVC. Lastly, it is free, open-source, and used by developers around the world. Overall, Angular.js will provide you with the toolset you need to build frameworks for application development along with an environment that is more expressive, readable, and efficient for rapid development.

## **3. Sass**

Next, we come to Sass, an eight-year-old open-source project which laid the groundwork for the genre of modern CSS preprocessors. This is the main reason why it is considered the most reliable CSS extension language. It helps extend existing CSS

such as variables, inheritance, and nesting. It also contains many useful functions to help manipulate colors and values and an advanced feature for library control directives. Overall, Sass can offer you a straightforward, well-formatted experience minimizing the amount of CSS you actually need to code. Sass can be used on Mac, Linux, and Windows platforms.

#### **4. Chrome Developer Tools**

Conveniently built into both Chrome and Safari, Chrome Developer Tools is yet another excellent framework. Simply put, Chrome Developer Tools, or Chrome DevTools for short, allows you to make changes in your code without leaving the active tab. You can even modify elements in the element inspection option and see the changes in real-time. For example, you can edit your HTML and CSS in real-time or even debug your JavaScript while viewing your website's detailed performance analysis. There are also several network tools that can help you improve loading flows and better understand your browser. Additionally, you can add custom CSS rules, view margin, border, and padding, and even mirror mobile devices.

#### **5. TypeScript**

TypeScript, an open-source front end scripting language, is the superset of JavaScript. It gives you the option of static typing, which helps to reduce error-prone code and allows for better performance during execution. This statically typed feature enables you to find a balance between flexibility and correctness. TypeScript is designed for the development of large applications that compile to JavaScript. Some of its main features are its support of other JS libraries and definition files containing information from JavaScript libraries, portability across browsers, devices, and operating systems.

#### **6. jQuery**

jQuery is known for its JavaScript library. Because of its large library, it directed developers to focus on different aspects of functionality. As a result, development became easy, such as HTML documentation, traversing, and Ajax. jQuery offers an easy-to-use API that can work in a multitude of browsers. Finally, it provides a powerful

theme mechanism, stability, and easy maintenance, but most importantly, it offers extensive browser support, is open source, and free to use. It can be used with Chrome, Edge, Firefox, IE, Safari, Android, iOS, etc.

## **7. NPM**

NPM, which stands for Node package manager, allows you to build through essential JavaScript tools. NPM helps in the discovery and unique assembly of reusable code packages. In fact, you can discover and reuse over 470,000 free code packages in the registry. Additionally, you can publish and control access to namespace and manage public and private code using the same workflow. Finally, it has functionalities specifically for team management and organizations. NPM was recently acquired by GitHub, which we will discuss next.

## **8. GitHub**

Finally, we come to GitHub, a rich open-source development community that makes collaboration between teams easy. It allows developers to review code, manage projects, and build software. It also provides several other features like bug tracking, feature requests, task management, and wikis for every project. It can be easily integrated with tools you are already using and can be deployed either as a self-hosted solution or a cloud-hosted solution. GitHub is a platform inspired by the way you work and a great way to get involved and learn from experts with a variety of open-source projects to choose from.

I hope the list of front-end development tools I provided is helpful. Of course, this is not all, and there are many more tools that have proven to be super useful for web development. All of the development tools listed are free, and I hope this helps your search and makes your development process more straightforward, better, and more interactive. You may find some similarities between some tools, but keep in mind that the web development tool you choose should be based on your projects' needs. Using the appropriate front-end web development tool will help you improve your skillset, build applications and websites, and, most importantly, save time. This will allow you to get

more work done in a shorter amount of time and still produce high-quality work. Keep in mind; however, the tools we have discussed in this article may change along with the projects they are suitable for. This article should give you a good idea of which tool may work the best.