

WHO I AM

Web development is my lifelong obsession.

I like to think of myself as a well-rounded engineer (I cut my teeth as a dev on Microsoft Office, learning the intricacies of C++ and Win32 programming), but engineering for the web has been my primary area of personal passion and professional expertise for more than twenty years.

I have built single-page applications, server back-ends, TCP/IP chat servers, bookmarklets more complicated than many phone apps, even entire JavaScript frameworks—deployed in products used by billions of users.

I endeavor to know JavaScript inside out, and I care about using it to do good engineering.

Proper build engineering, robust testing, static analysis, and true code modularity are finally being taken seriously in the web world. One of the most rewarding parts of my career has been mentoring others on the many arcane (and poorly understood) nuances of web development—and reinforcing general principles of sound engineering and design. For example, I've been championing TypeScript adoption since 2013.

EMPLOYMENT

Facebook – Front End Engineer – Menlo Park, CA – 2016 to Present

I was a founding member of the team that rebuilt facebook.com from scratch while modernizing the tech stack. I contributed to the prototype, was a tech lead on the team that rewrote the Facebook Groups product, lead all experimentation, and managed the gradual rollout of the new site. I was a well-reviewed and highly respected member of this team and aspired to shape the culture as we grew from 2 people to 50.

I had many side projects that had broad impact, such as leading the effort to apply Prettier, the automatic code formatter, to the entire Facebook codebase.

Microsoft – Senior Software Engineer – Cambridge, MA – 2006 to 2016

I received numerous company accolades/awards (multiple “Gold Stars”, “high-potential” employee program, etc.). I was actively involved in cultivating a positive workplace culture: serving on the Microsoft New England Research & Development’s Employee Council, as formal mentor to peers, and as a coach and recruiter for Microsoft Foundry intern program etc.

Visual Studio Team Services (visualstudio.com) - 2015 to 2016

Worked on single-page app related to Git version control management and led a performance improvement project.

Azure Machine Learning - 2014 to 2015

Senior developer on a UX team building a rich, browser-based single-page application, an IDE for Data Scientists. Brought an inexperienced team of 5 up to speed on web development, delivering a beta and then public release.

Office division - 2006 to 2014

Worked on projects spanning a wide diversity of languages and platforms such as building a jQuery framework replacement, Win32 development in C++, server development in C#, iOS development in Objective-C, etc.

Agora Studios – Troy, NY – Fall 2006 - Software Developer

Developed applications in C++, PHP, Ruby, and Ruby on Rails

ForSaleByOwner.com – New York, NY – Summer 2005 – *Web Developer Intern*OPEN-SOURCE
PROJECTS**Bookcision** – Bookmarklet to download Kindle highlights & notes – 1K active users/month

Architecture Write-up: <https://alan.norbauer.com/articles/bookcision>

handlebars-loader – webpack plug-in for handlebars template compilation – 100K downloads/month

NPM Package: <https://www.npmjs.com/package/handlebars-loader>

html-cdnify – Transform URLs in HTML to point to a CDN

NPM Package: <https://www.npmjs.com/package/html-cdnify>

WRITING

<https://alan.norbauer.com/articles/browser-debugging-tricks>

<https://alan.norbauer.com/articles/cross-platform-nodejs>

EDUCATION

Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute – B.S. in Computer Science, minor in Social Psychology, 2002-2006