

# Zachary Howell

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## PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

**Senior Front-End Engineer** with 5+ years crafting pixel-perfect, responsive web applications and data-intensive dashboards that scale effortlessly under production traffic. Expert in **React/Angular/TypeScript** with proven mastery of **HTML5/CSS3/TailwindCSS**, delivering **100/100 Lighthouse scores** across Performance, Accessibility, and SEO. Specialize in **Vite/Webpack bundling**, **Git/CI-CD workflows**, and cross-browser responsive design systems that ship clean, maintainable code through rigorous PR reviews and junior mentorship. Track record of **3x performance gains**, **99.9% uptime**, and leading technical delivery for **60+ enterprise accounts** while collaborating closely with UX designers and product teams to exceed business goals.

## EXPERIENCE

### Frontend Engineer, Freelance

10/2025 – Present  
New Berlin, Wisconsin

- Delivered **mobile-first React/Vite/TailwindCSS** applications (**Upper Crust Pizza, Kettle Moraine Cleaners**) achieving **100/100 Lighthouse** Performance/Accessibility/SEO via **Webpack-equivalent Vite bundling**, code splitting, image optimization, and **cross-browser responsive design** across all devices.
- Engineered **60fps GSAP interactions** ("Before & After" reveals) with pixel-perfect **TailwindCSS design systems**, collaborating directly with non-technical UX stakeholders to translate business vision into intuitive, accessible UIs through rapid iteration cycles.
- Built **real-time Firestore CMS** dashboards enabling owners to manage content/inventory without developer intervention, writing **clean, maintainable React/TypeScript** code with comprehensive documentation and **Git PR workflows**.
- Managed **CI/CD pipelines** (Netlify/GitHub) with automated testing/deployment, conducting self-reviews equivalent to team **code reviews** to ensure **99.9% uptime** and zero visual regressions across production sites.
- Troubleshoot complex issues** (API async flows, performance bottlenecks, cross-browser quirks) while staying current with front-end best practices, delivering scalable UIs that balance immediate UX needs with long-term maintainability.

### Founder & Lead Full Stack Software Engineer, Claw and Decay Clothing

01/2024 – Present  
New Berlin, WI

- Architected **responsive React/TypeScript e-commerce platform** with **Vite bundling** and custom **TailwindCSS component library**, delivering **100/100 Lighthouse scores** across all devices and browsers through systematic performance optimization.
- Engineered **complex responsive state management** (cart, filtering, real-time inventory) using React Hooks/Context API, ensuring **60fps rendering** during high-concurrency checkout flows with pixel-perfect mobile/desktop parity.
- Integrated **RESTful APIs** (Stripe payments, Printify fulfillment) with robust async patterns, error boundaries, and **Git-based CI/CD pipelines** (Netlify), maintaining **99.9% uptime** through rigorous code review workflows.
- Built **scalable, maintainable component architecture** with comprehensive documentation and **cross-browser testing**, balancing rapid UX iteration with long-term code maintainability for production traffic spikes.

### Software Engineer (Frontend & Integrations), North American Fulfillment

08/2021 – 08/2025  
Brookfield, WI

- Led **Angular/JavaScript** development for **60+ client dashboards**, building **responsive data visualizations** from REST APIs/AWS S3 with **99.9% production uptime** and **cross-browser compatibility** across enterprise browsers.
- Optimized performance-heavy UIs** with virtual scrolling, efficient data fetching, and rendering techniques, achieving **3x faster load times** while maintaining pixel-perfect responsive layouts for diverse client workflows.
- Collaborated with UX designers and product managers to **translate complex requirements** into **clean, maintainable Angular code**, conducting **code reviews** and establishing front-end best practices across the team.
- Troubleshoot and debugged** critical issues (API failures, rendering bottlenecks, cross-browser inconsistencies), ensuring seamless frontend-backend integration and production reliability under high-stakes client delivery.
- Participated in **Git-based workflows** and agile ceremonies, mentoring juniors on responsive design principles, **Webpack bundling equivalents**, and scalable component patterns that balanced speed-to-market with code quality.

## EDUCATION

### Full Stack Web Development Bootcamp Certificate, UWM Extended Campus Online

24-week intensive program focused on MERN stack, modern JavaScript, and backend development.

## TECHNICAL SKILLS

### Frontend & UI Architecture:

**React.js** (Hooks, Context API, Redux Toolkit), **TypeScript**, **JavaScript** (ES6+), **HTML5**, **CSS3**, **Tailwind CSS**, **Vite**, **GSAP**, **WCAG Accessibility**, **Lighthouse Optimization**, **Webpack**

### Cloud & DevOps:

**AWS** (S3, Lambda, EC2, Glue), **Docker**, **Kubernetes**, **Terraform** (Infrastructure as Code), **GitLab/GitHub CI/CD**, **Netlify**, **Google Secrets Manager**, Environment-based configuration

### Backend & API Development:

**Node.js** (**Express/NestJS**), **Java** (**Spring Boot/ETL**), **Python**, **RESTful API Design**, **gRPC**, **WebSockets**, **Microservices Architecture**, **MS SQL/PostgreSQL** (querying/schema), **.NET** Core familiarity

### Data & Database Systems:

**PostgreSQL**, **DynamoDB**, **Firebase/Firestore**, **AWS RDS**, **MongoDB**, **SQL (Query Optimization)**, **Data Modeling**