

Alan Norbauer | alan@norbauer.com | <https://alan.norbauer.com>

WHO I AM

Web development is my life. I've been doing it for nearly 30 years.

Although I started as a professional developer working on Microsoft Office, learning the intricacies of C++ and Win32, engineering for the web is my first and greatest love.

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

I endeavor to know JavaScript inside out.

I love mentoring others on the many arcane (and poorly understood) nuances of web development—building teams and tech stacks that scale from five developers to thousands, such as by championing TypeScript adoption and educating the world about [Relay-style GraphQL](#).

EMPLOYMENT

Anza (a Solana Labs spinoff) – Software Engineer – 2025 – Los Angeles, CA

Anza created and maintains the core software powering the Solana blockchain. I worked on a distributed Rust application that is a critical part of the network's infrastructure.

Netflix – Senior Software Engineer – 2022 to 2025 – Los Angeles, CA

I worked on the front-end of web apps powering the world's first high-tech movie studio. I also led an effort to improve and promote shared engineering tools and practices across the studio.

Facebook – Front End Engineer – 2016 to 2022 – Menlo Park, CA

I was a founding member of the team that rebuilt facebook.com from scratch in 2020, which we grew from a group of 2 to 50. I contributed to the prototype, was a tech lead for the Facebook Groups product rewrite, led all experimentation, and managed the gradual rollout.

I had many side projects that had broad, company-wide impact, such as applying Prettier, the automatic code formatter, to the entire Facebook codebase.

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

I received numerous company accolades/awards (multiple patents, "Gold Stars", "high-potential" employee program, direct praise from Satya Nadella, etc.), was a formal mentor to peers, and was coach and recruiter for the Microsoft Foundry intern program.

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

Developer on a UX team building a rich, browser-based IDE for Data Scientists.

Office division – 2006 to 2014

Worked on projects spanning a wide range 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 – Software Developer – 2006 – Troy, NY – C++, PHP, Ruby, and Ruby on Rails

ForSaleByOwner.com – Web Developer Intern – 2005 – New York, NY

OPEN-SOURCE PROJECTS

Bookcision – Bookmarklet to download Kindle highlights & notes, now part of Readwise

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

handlebars-loader – webpack plug-in for handlebars template compilation – [100K downloads/week on npm](#)

Monorepo for all my npm packages: <https://github.com/altano/npm-packages>

WRITING

My writing has been featured at the top of programming sites like Hacker News and Lobste.rs:

[67 Weird Debugging Tricks Your Browser Doesn't Want You to Know](#) ([Hacker News discussion](#))

[Relay-style GraphQL](#) ([Lobste.rs discussion](#))

[Upgrade your Development Environments with Devbox](#) ([Lobste.rs discussion](#))

More writing at <https://alan.norbauer.com>

EDUCATION

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