

# Alan Norbauer | [altano@gmail.com](mailto:altano@gmail.com) | [alan.norbauer.com](http://alan.norbauer.com)

## WHO I AM

**For over twenty years, web development has been my life's obsession.**

Though 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 single-page applications, server back-ends, TCP/IP chat servers, bookmarklets more complicated than many phone apps, even 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.**

Now that proper build engineering, robust testing, static analysis, and true code modularity are finally being taken seriously in the web world, 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

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

I currently work on the front-end of web applications powering the world's first high-tech movie studio, unifying the tech stack that powers these applications, and working to promote better engineering practices across the company.

**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. I contributed to the prototype, was a tech lead for the Facebook Groups product rewrite, lead all experimentation, and managed the gradual rollout. I was a well-reviewed and respected member of this team and shaped 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** – 2006 to 2016 – Cambridge, MA

I received numerous company accolades/awards (multiple “Gold Stars”, “high-potential” employee program, etc.). I served on the Microsoft New England Research & Development's Employee Council, 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