



ARNO VAN STADEN

FRONTEND ENGINEER

Overview

- Berlin
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- arnovanstaden
- arnovanstaden

Education

- Bachelor (Informatics)
 University Of Stellenbosch
- Bachelor (Accounting)
 University Of Stellenbosch

Languages

- English (Native)
- Afrikaans (Native)
- German (B1)

Skills

- HTML
- CSS (SASS)
- TypeScript
- React
- Next.js
- Node.js
- SQL / MongoDB
- Jest / Playwright

Introduction

As a seasoned Senior Frontend Engineer, I have a proven history of taking the lead on critical web-based projects, setting technological directions, and guaranteeing outstanding user experiences. My collaborative approach has allowed me to seamlessly work alongside various teams, consistently producing cutting-edge and user-focused solutions. From prototyping unique MVPs to overhauling entire platforms, I approach each challenge with passion and precision.

Experience

Sept 2024 - Present Zendesk - AI Agents Advanced (Formerly Ultimate AI)

Senior Frontend Engineer

- AI Feature Development & Delivery Ownership:** Owned frontend delivery of AI-powered features, working closely with Design, Product, and AI engineers to plan, coordinate, and ship scalable, user-friendly solutions.
- UI Library & Design System Migration:** Led the migration of applications to Zendesk’s Garden UI library and design system, improving consistency, accessibility, and long-term maintainability post-acquisition.
- Testing & Quality Enablement:** Introduced and scaled frontend testing practices, including unit and end-to-end tests, helping establish quality standards and increase confidence in releases.
- Mentorship & Technical Leadership:** Mentored junior engineers through code reviews and pairing, contributing to higher code quality, shared ownership, and overall team growth.

Jul 2023 - Sept 2024 Tandem Language Exchange

Senior Frontend Engineer

- Technical & Product Leadership:** Took ownership of frontend technical decisions, prioritization, and backlog planning, effectively operating at the intersection of engineering and product.
- Platform Impact & Direction:** Helped shape Tandem’s web platform by improving core functionality, maintainability, and overall user experience beyond day-to-day maintenance.

Jul 2021 - Jul 2023 Tandem Language Exchange Berlin, Germany

Frontend Engineer

- Website & Web App Overhaul:** Led the refactor and redesign of the public website and web app, supporting thousands of daily users with a modern, scalable frontend stack.
- Admin Tools & Internal Systems:** Rebuilt internal admin tooling into a user-friendly full-stack application, improving usability and efficiency for internal teams.
- Cross-Functional Delivery & Prototyping:** Collaborated closely with product, design, and marketing to prototype MVPs and deliver web-based solutions for new ideas and niche use cases.

Apr 2018 - Jul 2021 Freelance Cape Town, South Africa

Fullstack Engineer

- End-To-End Product Development:** Delivered full-stack websites and applications from concept to launch, ensuring responsive, cross-browser experiences and solid backend integration.
- High-Volume Client Work:** Built and shipped 45+ websites and applications using modern frontend technologies including React, Next.js, and TypeScript.
- Client Trust & Long-Term Partnerships:** Worked directly with 40+ clients to translate business goals into functional products, earning repeat engagements through consistent delivery.