



ARNO VAN STADEN

SENIOR FRONTEND ENGINEER

BERLIN | REMOTE (GERMANY / EU)

Overview

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Introduction

Senior Frontend Engineer with a strong focus on TypeScript and React, experienced in building and scaling production web applications used by thousands of users. Comfortable taking ownership, working closely with product and design, and turning ambiguous requirements into fast, reliable, user-friendly interfaces.

Experience

- 📅 Sept 2024 – Present 💼 Zendesk - AI Agents Advanced (Formerly Ultimate AI) 📍 Berlin, Germany
- #### 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 📍 Berlin, Germany
- #### 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 user experience across customer-facing surfaces.
- 📅 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
- **High-Volume Client Work:** Built and shipped 45+ websites and applications using modern frontend technologies including React, Next.js, and TypeScript.
 - **End-To-End Product Development:** Delivered full-stack websites and applications from concept to launch, ensuring responsive, cross-browser experiences and solid backend integration.
 - **Repeat Client Engagements:** Delivered consistent, high-quality work for 40+ clients, resulting in long-term partnerships and repeat engagements.

Core Skills

- typescript TypeScript
- react React
- nextjs Next.js
- jestplaywright Jest / Playwright

Additional Skills

- htmlcss HTML / CSS (SASS)
- sqlmongodb SQL / MongoDB
- nodejs Node.js

Education

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

Languages

- englishnative English (Native)
- afrikaansnative Afrikaans (Native)
- germanb1 German (B1)