

# Ashton Alva

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## Experience

**Technician, Freelance** May 2023 - Present  
**Self** Fullerton, California

- Spearheaded server installations, cabling, & troubleshooting to optimize data center efficiency, yielding a **30% increase**, utilizing hardware swap for this cutting-edge data center infrastructure
- Performed end-to-end setup, assisted in configuration, and migrations of Cisco VoIP phones to streamline communication processes and enhance efficiency by **30%** for migration programs
- Successfully installed over 10 network equipment installations for clients, specializing in **Cisco brand equipment**
- Streamlined configurations & installations of POS systems & peripherals like printers, scanners, & Stripe card readers alongside support technicians, resulting in a **20% efficiency boost**
- Managed battery testing and replacement for **1900+ barcode, QR code, and RFID hand scanners**
- Drove a **35% surge** in customer satisfaction by meticulously executing checklists, conducting spot checks, & performing regular audits to ensure precise client merchandise placement & display for optimized inventory turnover
- Supported in the verification and installation of **over 30 client posters and take-ones** using Adobe Acrobat, MS Office, and Canva

## Education

**Bachelors of Science in Computer Science** March 2026  
**California State University, Fullerton** Fullerton, California

- Relevant coursework: Programming Concepts (C++), Data Structures, Operating Systems, Algorithm Engineering, Compilers & Languages, Software Engineering, Cloud Computing, Artificial Intelligence, Mobile App Development, Database Systems

**Associates in Math and Science** May 2023  
**Fullerton College** Fullerton, California

- Relevant coursework: Transferred to CSU Fullerton after completion of foundational STEM coursework (Calculus I–II, Chemistry, Biology, and Intro to Programming)

## Technical Skills

C++, C#, Python, x86 Assembly, HTML, CSS, JavaScript, Git, GitHub, Agile, Linux, Windows, Software Troubleshooting, iOS, Android, Hardware Installation, Data Structures (Arrays, Linked lists, Stacks, Trees), Algorithm Design, Class Libraries Development, Data Abstraction, Large-Scale Programs, Algorithm Efficiency, Data analysis, Numpy, Node JS, Flask, SQL

## Languages:

English, Hindi, Urdu, Konkani

## Certificates

**AI & Machine Learning:** Introduction to Artificial Intelligence (AI), Generative AI: Introduction and Applications, Generative AI: Prompt Engineering Basics, Generative AI and LLMs: Architecture and Data Preparation, Gen AI Foundational Models for NLP & Language Understanding, Generative AI Language Modeling with Transformers, Generative AI Engineering and Fine-Tuning Transformers, Generative AI Advanced Fine-Tuning for LLMs, Fundamentals of AI Agents Using RAG and LangChain, IBM Generative AI Engineering, Introduction to Deep Learning & Neural Networks with Keras, Building Generative AI-Powered Applications with Python

**Programming & Development:** Python for Data Science, AI & Development, Developing AI Applications with Python and Flask, Data Analysis with Python, C++

**IT & Cybersecurity:** Cyber Security CompTIA, Google IT Support on Coursera

## Projects

**Cafeteria Ordering System (COS) – Python, React, Flask, SQL**

- Served as Team Lead in developing a full-stack cafeteria ordering system to streamline menu browsing, order placement, and tracking.
- Designed and implemented the React front end and Flask back end, coordinating teammates’ contributions and ensuring consistent integration.
- Developed RESTful APIs for menu retrieval, order submission, and authentication while managing a SQL database for persistent data storage.
- Guided the team through version control, modular design, and testing using Git/GitHub, achieving timely delivery of project milestones.

**AI-Based Emotion Detection Web Application: - Python**

- Developed a Flask-based AI web application for emotion detection, leveraging IBM Watson NLP for sentiment analysis.
- Designed and implemented a text-based emotion detection model, formatting output for enhanced readability.
- Packaged and deployed the application on a web server, ensuring scalability and usability.

**RAG Chatbot using IBM Watsonx, LangChain, and Gradio - Python**

- Developed a Retrieval-Augmented Generation (RAG) application that answers user queries based on uploaded PDF documents.
- Integrated IBM Watsonx Foundation Models (WatsonxLLM, WatsonxEmbeddings) with LangChain for document embedding and LLM-based response generation.
- Implemented a full pipeline: document loading, text splitting, vector embedding (Chroma), and QA retrieval via LangChain’s RetrievalQA.
- Built a Gradio web interface allowing real-time question answering using PDF uploads, enhancing document accessibility and usability.