

Bassel Al-Sayed

Adaptable, motivated and passionate full stack engineer with strong ethics, planning, logic and communication skills who is ideally suited for a role in a startup or corporate environment.

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tech stack

Ruby 303 commits JavaScript 209 commits CSS 196 commits HTML 179 commits SQL 55 commits
Python 27 commits

Background

Unknowingly, I first started debugging around age 10. Running cracked games was often a multi-step process

During time at Brooks Holdings, was responsible for 5 businesses in 3 industries.

Brooks Holdings was a family office with a startup environment, worked closely with the Founder. Was involved with a diverse range of simultaneous projects. Shown to be a creative problem solver who contributes to his team. I have been thrown into many situations many situations outside of my comfort zone and consistently came out successful. This versatility proved beneficial throughout the Makers bootcamp.

I decided to switch careers after almost three years at my previous role when I felt the learning had plateaued. I thrive in environments with constant challenge and I thoroughly enjoy having found an industry where I can combine my love of tech with creative problem solving on a daily basis.

Projects

Name	Description	Build Time	Tech Stack
Pocket Positivity	Makers Help for Heroes hackathon. Build an app that could help key workers during the current crisis. This is an idea I had for a cross platform native mental health personal tracker app, including mood logging (with graphing), scheduled push notifications with positive mantras and a chatbot with resources. I spent an additional 3 weeks integrating with firebase and making some improvements bringing it to 'production ready' status.	2.5 days	tech stack
Algorithm-Visualiser	Built purely in react, this app visualises different route finding algorithms. Was a good learning opportunity for walking the user through an abstract idea. Was a nice opportunity to try hooks. Also first time looking at algorithms, learned a lot about recursion. Built with TDD.	3 Weeks	React.js

Name	Description	Build Time	Tech Stack
Finbot: Frontend , API	Final project at makers. Chatbot using react, django and tensorflow to provide brief educational responses and links to recommended resources on matters related to personal finance. It offers users the choice of additional resources on some topics.	2 Weeks	Frontend: tech stack API: tech stack
Acebook	Clone of Facebook. Users can sign up, login, add friends, post publicly, to their own wall or others' wall, post comments on all types of posts. Built with TDD	2 Weeks	tech stack

Skills

Teamwork, Leadership and Soft Skills

During my time at Makers my ability to work productively in a team has increased dramatically. Although initially finding difficulty keeping my teammates in constant consideration under the pressure of a deadline, I learned patience and that I equally enjoy following as well as leading. I have strong, empathy and communication skills that allow me to challenge my team and share ideas in a comfortable, non-confrontational manner. These skills transfer to managerial, presentational and client facing scenarios. I have a passion for sharing knowledge, and I enjoy helping and showing others what I have learned. I had two mentees while at Makers.

Adaptability

While growing up I lived in different environments, in my work life I frequently faced new and unexpected challenges. I have excelled in many of these situations thanks to my growth mindset, creativity and decisiveness. For our final project, we learned enough python, django, react, circleci, jest, webpack/babel to have a successful launch in two weeks. My experience shows I have the capability to survive and thrive in any work environment regardless of language experience and contribute to any team.

Problem Solving, Fast Learner

Unknowingly, I've spent much of my life trying to automate and improve systems around me. This transfers to project work where I aim to learn and understand as much as possible to gain perspective and avoid future bugs. An example of this was when learning Ruby on Rails on our Acebook project, much of the project is auto generated. When presented with the option of more auto generation for the user authentication; I put forward to my team that we should build from scratch for fear of not understanding what was happening under the hood with more new technology. Despite a day and a half of frustration the decision paid off as we gained more flexibility with our custom model.

Motivated

The idea of Silicon Valley, tech billionaires, fast cars and faster women are not the reasons I got into software development. Although there is financial incentive in this industry. I believe it chose me because problem solving to this capacity, with all the intricacies and possibilities when planning out a project, the pros and cons of different approaches, thinking multiple steps ahead as well as the ability to clearly communicate abstract ideas are qualities I possess and enjoy exercising. My motivation is internal, and I want to get the most out of this journey.

Education

Makers Academy (December 2019 - March 2020)

12 week intensive coding bootcamp in which covered many industry best practices:

- Practices: OOP, TDD, Agile, MVC, Agile/XP
- Languages: Ruby, JavaScript, Python, HTML, CSS
- Test suites: RSpec, Capybara, Jasmine, Jest
- Frameworks: Ruby on Rails, Sinatra, Django, React.js
- Other: Heroku, TravisCI

Aberystwyth University (September 2012 to June 2016)

- Economics BSc
- 3rd Class
- For my dissertation I analyzed the 2008 recession from a different perspective to what are widely attributed as the main causes. The economic mindset of opportunity cost and evaluating options has been key to my approach as a developer.

Experience

Brooks Holdings Ltd (June 2016 to March 2019)

Operations Manager

- While at this private family office, was responsible for 5 businesses in 3 industries.
- Small staff meant I had to coordinate well with others, and logistically plan out how to maintain operations.
- High level of responsibility. Had to learn how to manage and train others, negotiate, find new business, write a business plan, budget, forecast, operations (accounting, legal, compliance, public relations) and schedule in a short period of time. It has contributed to my resilience and ability to work under pressure, juggle multiple balls.

Interests

Exercise, guitar, tennis, ping pong, bouldering, yoga, boxing