

Ben Christel, Software Engineer

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github.com/benchristel

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Summary:

Full-stack software engineer with over a decade of experience. I pragmatically apply TDD, type-driven design, FP, OOP, upfront design, and refactoring. My peers know me as a kind pair-programming partner, teacher, and incisive bug-finder.

Experience:

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| 2020 - Present | Senior Software Engineer, Khan Academy , Mountain View, CA (Remote)
Introduced type generation for GraphQL API calls to frontend JavaScript, and spearheaded efforts to improve type coverage, fixing many longstanding bugs in the process. Participated in a successful rewrite of the entire backend, converting it from a Python 2 monolith to Go services. Led projects and introduced XP practices (user stories, ordered backlog, pairing). |
| 2016 - 2020 | Staff Software Engineer, Pivotal R&D , Palo Alto, CA
Helped grow engineering teams by evaluating candidates, pair-programming with them during intensive, full-day interviews. Anchored development and release engineering teams for Greenplum Database and PKS. Developed and facilitated an interactive workshop to teach refactoring (github.com/benchristel/refactoring-workshop). |
| 2014 - 2016 | Software Engineer, Pivotal Labs , Palo Alto, CA
Taught XP practices to client teams, while working with them full-stack to rapidly deliver web and mobile applications. |
| 2012 - 2014 | Software Engineer, Groupon , San Francisco, CA
Architected maintainable, scalable Rails services for the Breadcrumb point-of-sale app. Eliminated customer-impacting disbursement delays in Q1 2014. Mentored new hires in TDD, Rails, and object-oriented design. Helped document best practices for development and operations. |

Education:

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| 2008 - 2012 | Stanford University , Stanford, CA
B.S., Computer Science, Civil Engineering Minor |
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