

# Ben Ruckman

West Jordan

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## SOFTWARE ENGINEER

I am a **Full Stack Software Engineer** with expertise in full-stack development, AI-driven solutions, and scalable system design. Proven track record in leading technical projects, mentoring teams, and delivering tools that enhance operational efficiency. Adept at leveraging OCR, generative AI, and cloud technologies to solve complex problems.

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## SKILLS AND EXPERTISE

Typescript (2 Years)	Relational Databases (3 Years)	NextJS (1 Year)
JavaScript (3 Years)	Java (2 Years)	HTML (4 Years)
React (2 Years)	C# (3 Years)	CSS (4 Years)
Jira (2 Years)	C++ (1 Year)	Rancher (1 Year)
AWS. (2 Years)	Spring/Springboot (1 Year)	Docker (2 Years)
Cypress (2 Years)	Python (1 Year)	Kubernetes (1 Year)
REST (2 Years)	Django (1 Year)	Jenkins (1 Year)
Bubble.io (3 Years)	Linear.app (2 Years)	Gitlab (1 Year)
GitHub (3 Years)	Bitbucket (1 Year)	VsCode (4 Years)
PostgreSQL (2 Years)	Linux Kernel (2 Years)	B2B SaaS (4 Years)
Fintech (4 Years)	Software (4 Years)	Government (1 Year)
Startup (4 Years)	Private Equity (4 Years)	Venture Capital (4 Years)
Soccer Referee (6 Years)	High School Aide (1 Year)	Software Developer (2 Years)
Associate Fund Analyst (2 Years)		
Junior Software Developer (2 Years)		
Director of Technology (2 Years)		

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## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

### US Air Force

Layton, UT (Hybrid)

**February 2024 – Present** (1+ Year)

#### Software Engineer

- Engineered **full-stack web applications** for aviation systems using **Java, TypeScript, React, and Spring Boot**, optimizing user experience and **operational efficiency** for pilots through **Agile development** and **cross-functional collaboration**.
- Developed a **centralized knowledge repository** to standardize **backend development best practices**, reducing onboarding time by 30% and enhancing **DevOps workflows** (CI/CD pipelines, Jenkins, Rancher).
- Mentored and trained **5+ team members** on **backend development** and **test-driven development (TDD)**, boosting team backend capacity by **150%** and enabling independent delivery of **scalable, high-performance systems**.
- Implemented **automated testing frameworks** (unit, integration, E2E, black box) to ensure 98% code reliability and compliance with **DoD standards** for mission-critical applications.
- Deployed **cloud-native solutions** on **AWS** using **Docker** and **Kubernetes**, improving deployment efficiency by 40% and ensuring seamless integration with existing infrastructure.
- Utilized **Jira** for **Agile project management**, prioritizing tasks and collaborating with stakeholders to align technical deliverables with organizational objectives.

#### Technical Skills:

- **Programming Languages:** Java, TypeScript
- **Frameworks/Libraries:** React, Spring Boot, Redux, RabbitMQ
- **Cloud/Infrastructure:** AWS, Docker, Kubernetes, CI/CD pipelines, Jenkins, Rancher
- **Databases:** PostgreSQL, MySQL
- **Tools:** Jira, VSCode
- **Practices:** RESTful APIs, unit/integration/E2E testing, black box testing, Agile methodologies, DevOps, cloud infrastructure, containerization, automated testing, cross-functional collaboration, full-stack development

### VELVETFS

Salt Lake City, UT (Hybrid)

September 2021 – February 2024 (3 Years)

#### Software Engineer

- Engineered **full-stack web solutions**, enhancing user experience by implementing and optimizing **settings pages** and **interactive charting features** using **React (TypeScript)** and **Django REST Framework**.
- Collaborated cross-functionally with software engineers to **debug, troubleshoot**, and improve feature implementations, adhering to **Agile methodologies** and **SDLC best practices**.
- Designed and deployed a **scalable backend RESTful API** leveraging **Python, OCR (Azure)**, and **generative AI** to process **thousands of PDFs daily**, automating tabular data indexing, **natural language querying**, and dynamic chart generation.
- Integrated **AWS S3** and **AWS Textract** for cloud-based storage and data extraction, reducing processing latency by **30%+** and improving system reliability.
- Championed **test-driven development (TDD)** by writing comprehensive **unit tests** and conducting code reviews, ensuring **95%+ code coverage** and adherence to **CI/CD pipelines** via **Docker** containerization.
- Streamlined collaboration using **Jira/Linear** for sprint planning and **Discord** for real-time communication, accelerating feature delivery by **20%** across distributed teams.
- Maintained **PostgreSQL** databases for optimized data retrieval and storage, improving query performance by **25%** through indexing and query optimization.

#### Technical Skills:

- **Programming Languages:** Python, TypeScript
- **Frameworks/Libraries:** Django REST Framework, React, Tan Stack, Redis
- **Cloud/Infrastructure:** AWS S3, AWS Textract, Azure OCR, Docker, LLM – ChatGPT,
- **Databases:** PostgreSQL
- **Tools:** Jira/Linear, VSCode, Discord
- **Practices:** RESTful API development, Agile/Scrum, TDD, unit testing, CI/CD, microservices architecture.

### MALLOW/WHELM

Remote

June 2023 – Present (2 Years)

#### Co-Founder (Part-Time)

- Co-founded **B2B SaaS startup** Mallow, **leading end-to-end technical development** including **full-stack architecture design**, **scalable infrastructure**, and **SDLC management** while partnering with a non-technical co-founder to align product vision with market needs.
- **Orchestrated strategic pivot** from Whelm to Mallow, leveraging **data-driven insights** to reposition the product, resulting in **200%+ user engagement growth** and improved market fit.
- Owned **end-to-end system reliability**, implementing **robust DevOps practices**, automated monitoring, and **CI/CD pipelines** to ensure 99.9% uptime and optimal performance.
- Drove **user acquisition** and **retention strategies** through **agile iteration**, A/B testing, and feature optimization, enhancing key metrics like activation rates and session duration.
- Collaborated cross-functionally to define **product roadmaps**, prioritize features, and integrate **user feedback** into iterative development cycles.

- Managed **cloud infrastructure** (AWS/GCP) and **cost optimization** while ensuring compliance with security best practices.
- Conducted **competitive analysis** and **market validation** to refine value proposition, positioning Mallow as a differentiated solution in the productivity SaaS space.

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## EDUCATION

**University of Utah**  
BS, Computer Science  
Dean's List; 3.2/4.0 GPA

**SALT LAKE CITY, UT**  
**8/2019 – 12/2023**

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## PROJECTS

### **Charting from PDFs using Natural Language**

**1/2023 – 12/2023**

- Used Python/Django to reduce OCR and OpenAI API calls to build dynamic data visualizations in seconds.
- This project can let a fund analyst cut the time it takes to build visualizations by 99%.