

CHRIS NYAGA

SOFTWARE ENGINEER 📍 NAIROBI, KENYA ☎ +254746407454

◦ DETAILS ◦

Nairobi
Kenya
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chris@bigzoo.me

◦ SKILLS ◦

Go (Golang)
Ruby & Ruby on Rails
Python & Django
Java
Git & GitHub
Docker & Containerisation
Microservices & gRPC
Testing

◦ LINKS ◦

[LinkedIn](#)

◦ HOBBIES ◦

Running & Muay Thai
DJ-ing



PROFILE

I am a Software Engineer with 7+ years in back-end development. Highly Proficient in Golang, Ruby/Rails, and experienced in Python. Proven track record in building maintainable and at-scale solutions, fostering team collaboration and working in distributed teams.



EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

Senior Go Developer at Pvtal Technologies, Remote

December 2023 — Present

- Deliver customer value by contributing to various internal projects by adding new and improving existing backend services; (we run lots of microservices)
- Improve internal developer experience by shipping new feature and improvements to internal code generation tools which are used across teams

Notable tools: Go, Postgres, gRPC, Google Cloud

Founding Software Engineer at Kappa Pay Inc, Remote

January 2022 — August 2023

- Founding Engineer (first hire) responsible for building Kappa's core infrastructure.
- Enabled the team to maintain service boundaries and consistent design by writing and reviewing design docs for multiple microservices.
- Shipped a double-entry ledger service meeting requirements for immutability, idempotent transactions and a mutable graph chart of accounts design.
- Improved development experience by creating templates for new services, scripts for code generation and set up automated dependency upgrades.

Notable tools: Go, gRPC, Docker/Kubernetes, AWS, Apache Kafka, Postgres

Software Engineer III at GitHub Inc, Remote

May 2020 — December 2021

- Contributed directly to the launch of Enterprise Managed Users by investigating and resolving issues discovered using GitHub's scientist for testing critical code-paths reducing issues discovered during go-live.
- Reduced runtime error rates by writing Go unit & integration tests for an external authorization service as part of tech-debt payoff cycles.
- Researched on and shipped translation of GitHub discussions which directly led to increased user engagement with GH Discussions in target markets; also evidenced by user feedback.
- Increased new user signup conversion by shipping a localized homepage & signup page for targeted expansion markets by conducting A/B testing.

Notable tools: Ruby/Rails 6, Minitest, Go, Jenkins, DataDog, Splunk, Varnish Cache, Mysql, Memcache

Senior Software Engineer at STORD Inc, Remote

February 2020 — May 2020

- Worked as pod engineering lead for a distributed team with 5 engineers.
- Improved new developer on-boarding experience by designing and shipping an Elixir/ Phoenix learning and on-boarding project in the first month with my pod.
- Rapidly reduced time to go-live during a ground-up infrastructure rebuild phase by leading my pod to shipping 4 service modules (double the anticipated pace) in 4 months, all while maintaining good code quality and test coverage.

Notable tools: Phoenix/Elixir, JSON:API, Dell Boomi, Apache Kafka, Postgres, Docker, Google Cloud, LaunchDarkly

Senior Software Engineer at Kwara GmbH, Nairobi

March 2019 — February 2020

- Worked as a senior engineer and pod lead for the "Kwara Core" team
- Directly contributed to increase in sales by shipping scheduled user transaction statements to production for all tenants.
- Improved developer experience by championing for and leading technical documentation all-round.
- Reduced infrastructure costs by leading project migration from Heroku to AWS.
- Increased internal and external security confidence by managing an external pen-testing exercise and ISO 27001 documentation and certification.

Key Technologies: Ruby/Rails 6, JSON:API, Redis, RabbitMQ, Postgres, Docker, AWS, Heroku, Cloud66, CodeClimate, GitHub Actions

Senior Software Engineer at Andela, Nairobi

July 2017 — February 2019

- Worked as a technical team lead in support of talent development:
 - Guided and mentored junior/ mid-level engineers by introducing them to Ruby on Rails and supporting their learning through apprenticeship.
 - Improved talent sourcing operational efficiency by delivering product features required during candidate assessment as the team lead responsible for coordinating all project stakeholders and contributors.
- Worked as a senior back-end engineer building internal tooling:
 - Pioneered a new way to discover engineer skill gaps by performing static analysis on ASTs generated from engineer's code and comparing it to pre-defined rules which introduced a new quantifier of competency.
 - Collaborated with team members to design a graph database for mapping engineering and engineer skills to enable skill-based job matching

Notable tools: Ruby on Rails, Google Cloud, Redis, NestJs/NodeJs, Angular, Postgres, GraphQL

Software Engineer at Ralphwino Consulting, Nairobi

July 2016 — June 2017

Contributed as junior/ learning engineer on various projects:

- A booking system re-design and implementation for an online fitness platform
- Enabled online bookings for an online fitness platform by shipping a dynamic calendar for trainers and booking grid component for users.

Notable tools: Laravel/PHP, Vue.js, Electron.js, Node.js, Docker, Kubernetes, Linux, Redis

EDUCATION

Software Engineer Bootcamp, Moringa School, Nairobi

2016 — 2016

Course focus areas:

- Data structures and algorithms fundamentals
- RESTful API design and implementation using Ruby on Rails

Applied Computer Technology, United States International University - Africa, Nairobi

2015 — 2016

REFERENCES

- References available upon request