CHRIS NYAGA

SENIOR SOFTWARE ENGINEER ⚲ NAIROBI, KENYA ☎ +254746407454

⚬ DETAILS ⚬

Nairobi
Kenya
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⚬ SKILLS ⚬

Go (Golang)

Ruby & Ruby on Rails

Python & Django

Java

Git & GitHub

Docker & Containerisation

Microservices & gRPC

Testing

⚬ LINKS ⚬

LinkedIn

⚬ HOBBIES ⚬

Running & Muay Thai

👤 PROFILE

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

💼 EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

Senior Software Engineer at Kappa Pay Inc, Remote
January 2022 — August 2023

- Founding Engineer (first hire) responsible for building the 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

- Worked in the Authorization org building platform features:
  - Contributed directly to the launch of Enteprise 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.
- Worked in the office of the COO to support international expansion:
  - 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 target expansion markets and 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 designed 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 Ralphowino 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