

# Brian Colfer

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## Summary

Release Engineering / DevOps professional with deep experience building and scaling CI/CD pipelines across cloud and on-prem environments.

Expert in Jenkins, GitLab CI, GitHub Actions, and CircleCI, makefiles and some bazel. Known for automating complex release workflows, improving build reliability, and accelerating deployment cycles.

Comfortable across Kubernetes, Terraform, Ansible, and modern DevOps toolchains.

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## Core Competencies

**CI/CD & Automation:** Jenkins, GitLab CI, GitHub Actions, CircleCI, Travis CI

**Infrastructure as Code:** Terraform, Ansible

**Languages & Scripting:** Python, Ruby, Groovy, Bash

**Containerization & Orchestration:** Docker, Kubernetes, Helm

**Quality & Security:** SonarQube, JaCoCo, JFrog Xray, Artifactory

**Monitoring & Metrics:** Prometheus, Grafana, ELK Stack

**Version Control:** Git, GitLab, GitHub

**Software Development:** Ruby on Rails, Python API automation, Prompt Engineering

## Professional Experience

ServiceNow — Santa Clara, CA

**Build & Release Engineer | Mar 2023 – Oct 2025**

- Broke up a monolithic repo (80+ projects) into modular GitLab repos with automated CI/CD pipelines, improving release reliability and consistency.

- Standardized GitLab project settings and Jenkins pipelines, cutting manual configuration effort from weeks to days.
- Built prompt-engineered GitLab automation and MCP server integrations to analyze merge requests and standardize project pipelines.
- Applied JFrog artifact scanning for security and compliance across all builds.
- Partnered with development teams to embed automated testing and SonarQube quality gates in release workflows.

## Upstart, Inc. — San Mateo, CA

### DevOps Engineer I Nov 2020 – Feb 2023

- Cleaned >2000 stale branches across 50+ repos, improving Jenkins startup from 14 hours to 10 minutes.
- Created shared pipeline libraries and branch pruning automation, reducing manual maintenance from months to minutes.
- Led CI/CD migration to a central Docker registry and Kubernetes deployments, boosting release speed and stability by >50%.
- Collaborated with QA teams to integrate continuous testing and SonarQube quality checks into pipelines.

## Earlier Experience (Summary)

**DevOps & SRE roles** at Zendesk, Apple, eBay, and various startups — delivered build/release automation, Ruby on Rails tooling, and developer productivity platforms supporting both large-scale and startup engineering teams.

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## Education

**B.A. Psychology / English** – California Lutheran University, Thousand Oaks, CA