

Brett Dorrans

Glasgow, Scotland · Remote | hello@lapidist.net | github.com/bylapidist | linkedin.com/in/brettdorrans

Professional Summary

Staff-level Frontend Engineer in Glasgow with 10+ years leading large-scale React and TypeScript platforms across fintech and SaaS. Combines architectural leadership with hands-on delivery, owning design systems, automation, accessibility, and developer experience. Partners across product, design, and risk to standardise journeys, mentor engineers, and ship fast, compliant, observable systems.

Key Achievements

- Rebuilt Encompass's low-code platform as a composable React system, boosting release cadence ~40% with WCAG AA+ compliance.
- Led design-system modernisation and TypeScript migration at LendInvest, boosting engineering throughput ~40% and cutting borrower drop-off 20–25%.
- Led frontend for Markup's commerce platform, driving checkout conversion beyond 35% through experimentation and performance tuning.

Experience

Senior Software Engineer · Encompass Corporation · Glasgow, UK (hybrid) 05/2024 – 08/2025
Global regtech platform automating KYC and AML onboarding for financial institutions (circa 450 employees).

- Stabilised the acquired low-code onboarding estate by defining reusable React and TypeScript flow templates, accelerating delivery by about 40%.
- Governed the organisation-wide design system in Storybook, aligning squads on accessible components and sustaining WCAG AA+ compliance.
- Embedded telemetry, accessibility, and automated health gates into pipelines to prevent regressions and reduce production fixes.
- Partnered with product and design leadership to translate KYC roadmap priorities into measurable iteration plans and predictable stakeholder updates.
- Mentored engineers and co-led hiring, shaping a quality-focused culture across frontend, UX, and product teams.

Senior Software Engineer · LendInvest · London, UK (remote) 04/2021 – 11/2023
Property-finance fintech delivering digital mortgage and investment products for retail and institutional clients (around 350 employees).

- Directed design-system modernisation across underwriting, legal, and finance journeys, aligning squads on a single React component baseline.
- Led the migration to modular TypeScript libraries with shared contracts, boosting engineering throughput by roughly 40% and improving release quality.
- Set performance budgets, lazy loading, and asset optimisation that reduced borrower drop-off by 20–25%.
- Authored accessibility, contract-testing, and release-governance standards adopted across engineering.
- Coached squads through discovery and prioritisation workshops to sustain incremental delivery in regulated environments.

Software Consultant (contract) · Golden Charter · Glasgow, UK (remote) 02/2020 – 04/2021
UK funeral-planning provider supporting independent funeral directors nationwide (circa 500 employees).

- Rebuilt customer planning tools around an accessible component architecture, securing stakeholder confidence for regulated releases.
- Established a reusable component library and design rituals so multiple product teams shipped consistent interfaces faster.
- Standardised CI pipelines and end-to-end automation to stabilise release reliability and cadence.
- Refactored core C# APIs to improve response times by around 100x and strengthen downstream integrations.
- Mentored engineers on accessibility and testing craft, raising overall frontend capability across teams.

Team Lead (Front End) · Markup · Glasgow, UK (hybrid) 01/2018 – 12/2019
Retail technology startup delivering multi-brand commerce experiences for international fashion clients (around 40 employees).

- Led the frontend team launching a multi-brand commerce platform, improving checkout conversion by over 35% through optimised payment flows.
- Defined a reusable design system with product and design leaders, enabling rapid storefront iteration without sacrificing consistency.
- Introduced agile rituals, performance budgets, and observability to keep releases fast and predictable.
- Represented engineering in client meetings, aligning technical strategy with commercial outcomes.

Developer · Everyone · Glasgow, UK 11/2016 – 12/2017
Product-focused digital agency delivering cross-platform applications and bespoke platforms for commercial clients.

- Owned project delivery end-to-end, managing scope, timelines, and technical direction to ensure cost-effective and reliable outcomes.
- Built a cross-platform mobile application ensuring consistent behaviour and performance across devices.
- Engineered a multi-feature social platform combining job boards, user profiles, e-commerce storefronts, and custom CMS tooling.

Senior Digital Designer · Ibiza Digital Media · Glasgow, UK 10/2014 – 09/2016
Creative digital studio producing commercial websites, applications, and editorial platforms for print and online media.

- Led multidisciplinary teams delivering websites, applications, and visual assets across web, print, and social channels.
- Designed and developed mobile-first e-commerce platforms that materially improved client sales and online presence.
- Created and scaled an online magazine from concept to operation, reaching over 85K monthly readers.
- Worked directly with stakeholders to scope requirements, manage budgets and timelines, and translate commercial goals into shipped products.

Skills

Architecture & Systems
React, TypeScript, Node.js; Design-system architecture and token pipelines; Modular platform patterns for multi-product SaaS.

Leadership & Delivery
Mentorship, hiring, and capability building; Roadmap ownership and technical strategy; Cross-functional alignment with product and design.

Quality & Reliability
Jest, Vitest, Playwright automation; Accessibility, contract, and performance governance; Observability and release readiness standards.

Platform Tooling
GitHub Actions, Docker, CI/CD orchestration; Telemetry with OpenTelemetry and Grafana; Storybook, design tokens, and documentation workflows.

Education

Edinburgh College of Art
BA (Hons) Illustration
2007 – 2011