Brett Dorrans

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Summary

- Principal-level Frontend and Product Engineer with 15 years designing, scaling, and modernising SaaS, fintech, and commerce platforms from concept to scale.
- Deep React, TypeScript, and design-system expertise; architecting multi-package libraries, enforcing token governance, and integrating accessibility, testing, and CI pipelines across global teams.
- Led engineering at Encompass, LendInvest, and multiple startups, delivering compliant, multi-tenant financial and onboarding products within complex regulatory environments.
- Lifted engineering throughput by around 40% at LendInvest through architectural refactors and process automation; improved checkout conversion by over 35% at Markup through data-led experimentation and iteration.
- Mentors engineers in sustainable, people-first practices combining empathy with strong technical leadership while embedding quality, accessibility, and observability into every release.

Key Achievements

- Scaled Encompass's React and TypeScript platform across its KYC and AML suite, increasing delivery cadence by around 40% while holding WCAG AA+ compliance.
- Published and stewarded the Design Token Interchange Format (DTIF), enabling typed, validated token exchange between design and engineering systems.
- Built the DTIFx agent toolkit (CLI, audit, diff, and SDK packages) to automate design-system policy enforcement and governance checks in CI pipelines.
- Introduced shared TypeScript libraries, AI-assisted refactoring, and telemetry at LendInvest, shortening feedback cycles and improving regulated release confidence.
- Led Markup's multi-product commerce platform, lifting checkout conversion above 35% through structured experimentation and performance tuning.

Experience

Senior Software Engineer
Encompass Corporation   05/2024 – 08/2025
Glasgow, UK (hybrid)

Global regtech platform automating KYC and AML onboarding for financial institutions (circa 450 employees).

- Owned React and TypeScript architecture strategy across the SaaS suite, codifying modular flow patterns for consistent onboarding journeys.
- Defined and governed the organisation-wide design-system architecture with Storybook, enforcing WCAG AA+ compliance and consistent component reuse.
- Integrated AI linting, telemetry, and CI guardrails to detect policy breaches pre-release, improving reliability and accountability.
- Partnered with product and design leadership to translate roadmap priorities into measurable iteration plans and delivery outcomes.
- Co-led hiring and mentoring across frontend, UX, and UI, building a transparent and quality-focused engineering culture.

Senior Software Engineer
LendInvest   04/2021 – 11/2023
London, UK (remote)

Property-finance fintech delivering digital mortgage and investment products for retail and institutional clients (around 350 employees).

- Directed the design-system modernisation programme, unifying underwriting, legal, and finance journeys around a single React component baseline.
- Migrated the core product suite to TypeScript with modular shared libraries, improving release quality and boosting engineering throughput by roughly 40%.
- Established performance budgets, lazy loading, and asset optimisation that reduced borrower drop-off rates by 20–25%.
- Authored accessibility, contract-testing, and release-governance standards adopted across engineering.
- Mentored engineers in product discovery, prioritisation, and incremental delivery to strengthen cross-team maturity.

Software Consultant (contract)
Golden Charter   02/2020 – 04/2021
Glasgow, UK (remote)

UK funeral-planning provider supporting independent funeral directors nationwide (circa 500 employees).

- Led the rebuild of customer-facing planning tools to elevate accessibility and trust in a highly regulated environment.
- Established a reusable component library and design-system workflows ensuring consistency across multiple digital products.
- Standardised CI pipelines and E2E automation to improve cadence and release reliability.
- Refactored core C# APIs, improving response times by roughly 100x and enhancing long-term maintainability.
- Mentored engineers on accessibility and testing craft, embedding modern frontend standards across teams.

Team Lead (Front End)
Markup   01/2018 – 12/2019
Glasgow, UK (hybrid)

Retail technology startup delivering multi-brand commerce experiences for international fashion clients (around 40 employees).

- Launched a full-stack multi-product platform that improved checkout conversion by over 35% through optimised payment flows.
- Defined and scaled the company's design-system architecture, balancing rapid iteration with consistent UX.
- Led and mentored the frontend team while orchestrating agile delivery and capability growth within a fast-paced environment.
- Implemented performance budgets and observability to maintain fast, stable releases.
- Represented engineering in client meetings, aligning technical strategy with commercial goals.

Earlier Career Roles
Everyone; Ibiza Digital Media   10/2014 – 12/2017
Glasgow, UK

Independent agency and creative ventures spanning digital media and platform delivery.

- Directed design and platform strategy for a digital publication serving 85K+ monthly readers with a focus on accessibility and performance.
- Built a cross-platform social and commerce product integrating profiles, payments, and back-office tooling under one design system.

Skills

Frontend Engineering
- React, Next.js, Vue, TypeScript, Node.js
- Design systems, tokens, Storybook
- State management, modular UIs, monorepos
- Vite, Webpack, pnpm, strict type safety
- UI architecture for scale and maintainability

Leadership
- Team building, hiring, mentorship
- Cross-functional alignment with product/design
- Technical strategy and roadmap ownership
- Design-system adoption and governance

DevOps & Performance
- GitHub Actions, Docker, Traefik
- Temporal, Postgres, Redis, S3
- Minikube, Helm, infrastructure automation
- OpenTelemetry, Prometheus, Grafana
- Core Web Vitals, bundling, caching, profiling

Architecture
- Platform design for multi-tenant SaaS
- API, worker, and portal boundaries
- Security, compliance, and governance
- Telemetry, observability, fault tolerance
- Containerised, versioned release pipelines

Testing & Quality
- Jest, Vitest, Playwright, MSW
- Unit, integration, and E2E pipelines
- Contract, schema, and visual regression
- Accessibility testing and linting
- CI-enforced quality and coverage gates

Collaboration
- Bridging design, product, and engineering
- RFCs, specs, and architectural documentation
- Mentorship and technical coaching
- Clear, direct, low-friction communication
- Driving alignment and shared ownership

Education

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