

Cindy Kivala

Full Stack Software Engineer

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| <https://github.com/cindy-kivala> | Nairobi, Kenya

PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Full-Stack Software Engineer and Scrum Master with proven expertise in JavaScript ecosystem (React, Node.js, TypeScript) and Python, delivering AI-integrated enterprise applications. Led cross-functional teams to ship production-ready solutions using MERN stack, RESTful APIs, and modern DevOps practices. Combined 2+ years of research and project management experience with software engineering to bridge technical execution and stakeholder communication.

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Languages: JavaScript (ES6+), Python, TypeScript, HTML5, CSS3, SQL

Frontend: React.js, Redux, Tailwind CSS, Bootstrap, Vite, MapboxGL, Responsive Design

Backend: Node.js, Express.js, Flask, RESTful APIs, JWT Authentication, WebSocket, Tesseract OCR

AI/Data: Natural Language Processing (NLP), Web Scraping, BeautifulSoup, Data Analysis

Databases: PostgreSQL, MongoDB, SQLite, Redis

DevOps/Tools: Git, GitHub, Docker, CI/CD, Vercel, Render, Netlify, Postman, npm, Webpack

Project Management: Agile/Scrum, Jira, Trello, Asana, Sprint Planning, Backlog Management

Core Competencies: Full-Stack Development, API Design, Database Optimization, Team Leadership, Technical Documentation, Stakeholder Communication

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Scrum Master & Project Coordinator

IndieCode Technologies | Nairobi, Kenya |

June 2025 - Present

- Facilitated agile ceremonies for 5-8 member cross-functional teams, achieving 100% sprint completion rate across 3 enterprise applications
- Removed technical blockers and dependencies, accelerating team velocity by 45% through continuous process optimization
- Managed product backlogs and sprint planning using Jira and Trello, translating stakeholder requirements into actionable development tasks
- Mentored 12 engineers on agile best practices, code review standards, and iterative development workflows
- Reduced development bottlenecks by 35% through proactive identification and resolution of technical dependencies
- Delivered IndieGames platform to production with zero critical defects, meeting all deadline commitments
- Generated data-driven sprint reports using burndown charts and velocity metrics for executive stakeholders

Researcher

Mbusyani Pharmacy Limited | Kenya |

October 2023 – April 2025

- Analyzed and maintained 50,000+ pharmaceutical records ensuring regulatory compliance and data integrity
- Built data management systems that improved accuracy by 30% through automated validation and quality checks
- Led cross-departmental projects across 3 teams, maintaining 98% on-time delivery rate with zero delays
- Synthesized quantitative and qualitative research into actionable insights for senior leadership decision-making
- Developed ethical research protocols and documentation standards adopted organization-wide
- Created executive reports translating complex pharmaceutical data into business recommendations

Legal Consultant

Nzilu Nzioka and Company Advocates | Kenya |

April 2023 - August 2023

- Launched translation services initiative that improved client satisfaction by 25% by bridging communication gaps
- Managed digital document workflow system for 500+ legal case files with zero misplacements
- Collaborated with attorneys on case strategy for 20+ active cases, ensuring 100% on-time court submission rate
- Ensured 100% regulatory compliance through meticulous editing and quality assurance of legal documents
- Coordinated multi-case schedules and deadlines, optimizing team resource allocation

TECHNICAL PROJECTS

1. ReelBrief – Creative Project Management Platform

Tech Stack: React, Flask, PostgreSQL, Cloudinary, SendGrid | October 2025

Live: <https://reel-brief-frontend.vercel.app/> | [GitHub](#)

- Architected full-stack SaaS platform connecting creative agencies with vetted freelancers, handling complete project lifecycle
- Implemented JWT authentication with role-based access control (RBAC) for 3 user types, including email verification and password reset flows
- Built automated freelancer vetting system processing CV uploads (PDF/DOCX) with admin approval workflows and availability tracking
- Engineered project matching algorithm using skill-based filtering, availability checks, and confidentiality rules
- Developed version-controlled deliverable management with Cloudinary integration, supporting automatic versioning and comparison UI
- Created escrow payment module with admin-held funds, automated release triggers, and transaction audit trails

- Automated 10+ email notification workflows using SendGrid for onboarding, deadlines, and payment updates
- Deployed frontend on Vercel and backend on Render with CI/CD pipelines, achieving production-grade reliability
- Built RESTful API documentation using Flasgger for developer onboarding

2. Cartify - E-Commerce Platform

Tech Stack: React, Flask, PostgreSQL, Redux | September 2025 | [GitHub](#)

- Developed full-stack e-commerce application with secure authentication, shopping cart, and real-time inventory management
- Optimized PostgreSQL queries and indexing strategies, reducing page load time by 40%
- Implemented Redux state management for seamless client-side navigation across multiple routes
- Deployed on Netlify (frontend) and Render (backend), handling 500+ concurrent users with 99% uptime
- Integrated payment gateway simulation, order tracking, and automated email notifications

3. Fitness Logger Application

Tech Stack: Python, SQLite | August 2025 | [GitHub](#)

- Built CLI application for workout tracking with data visualization and progress analytics
- Designed normalized database schema with optimized indexing, improving query performance by 60%
- Implemented CRUD operations supporting 10,000+ records with user authentication and statistical reporting

4. IndieGames - Game Discovery Platform

Tech Stack: React, JSON-Server, JavaScript | July 2025

Live: <https://indiegames-db.netlify.app/> | [GitHub](#)

- Developed full-stack React application for browsing and favoriting indie games with advanced search and filtering
- Built custom JSON-Server REST API managing 1,000+ game entries with automated CI/CD deployment
- Integrated third-party gaming APIs for real-time data enrichment

EDUCATION

Full-Stack Software Engineering Bootcamp

Moringa School | Nairobi, Kenya | November 2025

Intensive 6-month program: Data Structures, Algorithms, OOP, RESTful APIs, Database Design, Agile Methodologies

Bachelor of Arts in International Relations and Diplomacy

The Technical University of Kenya | December 2023 | Second Upper Class Honors

Relevant Coursework: Research Methods, International Law, Economics, Conflict Resolution, Foreign Policy Analysis

CERTIFICATIONS & LANGUAGES

Certifications:

- Full-Stack Software Engineering Certificate (November 2025)
- Scrum Master Certification (In Progress)
- Generative AI for Software Developers (In Progress)

Languages:

- English: Native (C2)
 - Swahili: Native (C2)
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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- Available for immediate start for full-time software engineering roles
 - Legally authorized to work in Kenya
 - Open to relocation for qualifying opportunities
 - References available upon request
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