

CHRIS HARPER

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PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Principal Software Engineering Manager with 25+ years in software development and leadership. Proven track record building and leading engineering teams, architecting cloud solutions, and delivering enterprise-scale applications. Expert in full-stack development (Python, TypeScript, React, Node.js), AWS/Azure/GCP, and modern software engineering practices (AI/ML, DevOps/CI/CD, microservices). Strong in Agile, client engagement, and cross-functional collaboration. Leads teams (8-15 engineers) while maintaining hands-on technical contributions.

TECHNICAL EXPERTISE

- **Programming:** Python, TypeScript, JavaScript, Node.js, React, Angular, Vue.js, Express, Flask, Django, RESTful APIs, GraphQL, HTML5, CSS3/SCSS
- **Cloud & DevOps:** AWS (EC2, Lambda, ECS, S3, RDS, DynamoDB, CloudFormation), Azure, Google Cloud Platform, Docker, Kubernetes, CI/CD Pipelines, CDK, Terraform, Infrastructure as Code, GitOps
- **Databases:** PostgreSQL, MySQL, MongoDB, DynamoDB, Redis, Elasticsearch, Database Design, Performance Optimization, Data Migration, ETL
- **Architecture:** Microservices, Distributed Systems, Event-Driven Architecture, API Design, System Design, Performance Optimization, Security Best Practices, Scalable Architecture
- **AI/ML:** LangChain, OpenAI API Integration, AWS Bedrock, ML Pipelines, Vector Databases, Prompt Engineering, AI-Powered Automation, LLMs
- **Leadership:** Engineering Team Leadership, Agile/Scrum, Project Management, Technical Mentoring, Cross-functional Collaboration, Stakeholder Management, Technical Strategy, Hiring & Onboarding

LEADERSHIP & TECHNICAL ACHIEVEMENTS

- Built and led engineering teams (8-15 developers), delivering projects 20% ahead of schedule (healthcare, fintech, enterprise).
- Designed and deployed cloud solutions processing 10M+ daily transactions with 99.9% uptime (AWS/Azure/GCP).
- Established engineering best practices and DevOps culture, reducing deployment time from hours to minutes, improving code quality by 40%.
- Led full-stack development (React, Python, cloud services), delivering applications for 50,000+

concurrent users.

- Implemented monitoring and automation, reducing operational overhead by 70% (alerting, self-healing systems).
- Drove digital transformation for Fortune 500 clients, resulting in 40% cost reduction and improved scalability.
- Mentored engineers (80% promotion rate), establishing technical standards and career development.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Cloud Solutions Architect (Contract) | ALSAC/St. Jude Children's Research Hospital

May 2023 - August 2025

- Consulted development team for enterprise healthcare applications (10M+ daily messages, HIPAA compliant).
- Architected cloud-native microservices (Python, AWS Lambda, ECS, RDS, DynamoDB, API Gateway) for real-time processing.
- Implemented Infrastructure as Code (Terraform, CloudFormation) for 15+ teams, reducing provisioning by 85%.
- Established DevOps (automated testing, CI/CD, security scanning, monitoring), improving deployment reliability by 60%.
- Built scalable APIs and data processing (FastAPI, Docker), accelerating feature development.
- Led Agile development (sprint planning, retrospectives), consistently delivering features on time.
- Optimized system performance (<100ms response) and reduced AWS costs by 30%.

Engineering Manager & Technical Lead | Blue Sky Cloud Consulting

Aug 2020 - Apr 2023 | Remote

- Managed engineering consulting for Fortune 500 clients (GitKraken, Rivian), leading cross-functional teams.
- Built full-stack applications (React, Node.js, Python, AWS, CDK) for 10,000+ users with real-time features.
- Built enterprise SaaS platforms with real-time messaging, workflows, and analytics, generating revenue.
- Designed production data processing for IoT devices, processing real-time manufacturing data.
- Led technical hiring and team development, improving retention by 30%.
- Implemented modern development workflows (containerization, microservices, cloud-native) for 90% faster deployments.
- Managed client relationships and technical strategy for complex projects.

Senior Software Engineer & Team Lead | Certy

Aug 2018 - Aug 2020 | Austin, TX

- Guided full-stack team building insurance platform (Angular, React, Python, AWS).
- Architected serverless applications (AWS Lambda, API Gateway, DynamoDB) for 50,000+ concurrent users.
- Implemented modern practices (automated testing, code reviews, CI) improving code quality and productivity.
- Built responsive web applications (React, TypeScript) for exceptional UX.
- Facilitated Agile ceremonies, maintaining team velocity and continuous improvement.
- Optimized application performance (caching, DB optimization, CDN), increasing user engagement by 200%.

Lead Software Engineer | ThunderDork LLC | May 2015 - Aug 2018 | Austin, TX

- Led software development for enterprise clients (Capital One), managing onsite and remote teams.
- Developed full-stack applications (JavaScript, Python, React, Node.js) for multiple industry verticals.
- Architected microservices (Docker, AWS) improving modularity and deployment flexibility.
- Established testing frameworks and quality processes, reducing production defects by 40%.
- Collaborated with clients and stakeholders, translating requirements into solutions.

Senior Full-Stack Engineer | Netspend | Dec 2013 - May 2015 | Austin, TX

- Developed customer-facing applications for fintech platforms (millions of users, high-performance/security).
- Built responsive web interfaces (Angular, JavaScript), improving UX and conversion rates.
- Implemented automated testing and deployment pipelines for financial services.
- Collaborated with product and design to increase customer engagement.

Senior Full-Stack Engineer | Cinsay | Dec 2011 - Dec 2013 | Austin, TX

- Created cross-platform eCommerce applications (HTML5, JavaScript, Python, cloud services).
- Developed video-based shopping experiences with integrated payments and real-time features.
- Led technical decision-making in a fast-paced startup, balancing innovation and delivery.

Senior Full-Stack Engineer | Schematic | Aug 2008 - Dec 2011 | Austin, TX

- Designed and developed interactive web applications for Fortune 500 clients (Dell).
- Built cross-platform solutions (desktop, mobile, tablet) with consistent UIs.
- Collaborated with creative and marketing teams to drive engagement.

Full-Stack Engineer | Imc2 | Jan 2006 - Aug 2008 | Dallas, TX

- Developed web applications for pharmaceutical, consumer products, and energy clients.
- Created interactive UIs with animations and multimedia for marketing campaigns.
- Managed technical project delivery, coordinating resources and client communication.

Frontend Engineer | True.com | Feb 2004 - Jan 2006 | Dallas, TX

- Built dating platform UIs for thousands of users (responsive web, real-time features).
- Developed interactive matching systems with data visualization and engagement features.
- Implemented real-time communication systems for scalability.

Frontend Developer | Idea Integration (MPS Group) | Jan 2001 - Feb 2004 | Dallas, TX

- Delivered web solutions for Fortune 1000 and government clients.
- Created interactive web applications with modern web standards and accessibility.
- Collaborated with design and backend teams for seamless integration.

EDUCATION & CERTIFICATIONS

- **Associate of Applied Arts, Computer Animation** | The Art Institute of Dallas
- **AWS Certified Developer - Associate**
- **Additional Cloud Certifications** (Multi-platform competencies)

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

- 25+ years in software engineering (healthcare, fintech, automotive, enterprise).
- Built and managed high-performing engineering teams (80% internal promotion).
- Webby People's Choice Award Winner (2007) for digital innovation.
- Architected enterprise systems (50,000+ concurrent users, 99.9% uptime, <100ms response).
- Drove digital transformation, resulting in 40%+ cost savings for Fortune 500 clients.
- Established engineering culture and best practices, improving quality and productivity.