DAVID LOWENFELS

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PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Product-minded software polyglot with 20 years experience across web, mobile, and embedded systems. Deep expertise in Ruby on Rails from Silicon Valley's Web 2.0 boom through to modern SaaS products. Skilled in full-stack development, system architecture, and mentoring engineers. Known for empathetic leadership, creative problem-solving, and driving technical excellence in collaborative teams. American with full right-to-work in the UK.

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Languages: Ruby, JavaScript, Python, C/C++, Swift, Java, Lisp, x86 Assembly, shell scripting.
Frameworks & Libraries: Rails, Hotwire/Stimulus, Node.js, React (learning), jQuery, TailwindCSS.
Development Tools: Git, GitHub Actions, CI/CD, RSpec/Minitest/Cucumber, Docker.
Infrastructure & Databases: AWS, Heroku, PostgreSQL, Redis, Sidekiq/GoodJob, Elasticsearch.
Methodologies: Agile/XP, Scrum, TDD, Pair Programming, OOP Design Patterns, SOLID.
APIs & Integration: RESTful APIs, Payment Gateways, OAuth, OpenSocial, 3rd Party APIs.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Senior Rails Developer — *Homey.co.uk (Remote Contract)* | Feb-May 2025
- Delivered critical product features and resolved high-priority bugs within a cross-functional team of senior developers, designers, and QA specialists.
- Developed custom document template editor with Trix, implemented IP geofencing with security logging, and built JSON validation for webhook control panels.
- Improved **Scrum process and dev infrastructure**, enhancing team culture and collaboration.
    Rails, Stimulus, JavaScript, Rspec, Tailwind, 3rd party APIs, Sidekiq, Scrum, Heroku

Senior Rails Developer — *No Logo Media, Edinburgh, UK* | 2023 – 2025
- Led grant-funded AI initiative to build a custom data pipeline, scraping and auto-tagging data for use in customer-facing chatbots. Delivered complete features from proof-of-concept spike to production over a 3-month development cycle.
- Spearheaded legacy codebase refactoring, improving modularity and maintainability, and increasing test coverage by 300%.
- Established **CI/CD pipeline & staging server**, reducing deployment risk and production downtime.
- Mentored product team on agile practices, user stories, and automated testing.
    Rails, Hotwire, TailwindCSS, LLM Prompt Engineering, Web Scraping, Heroku, Agile

Lead Architect (HW/SW) — *MindSpa, San Rafael, CA* | 2022 – 2023
- Designed & prototyped a consumer **brainwave entrainment device** with Shenzhen team.
- Created a custom interpreter & multi-channel sequencer for 12 user programs stored on EEPROM.
    Arduino hardware, C++, Audio DSP, RGB LEDs

Solo Founder / CTO   *— Pranawave, San Francisco, CA* | 2017 – 2019
- Created healthtech products for **HRV biofeedback** (desktop USB sensor & **iOS** app).
- Developed custom algorithms for real-time biosignal acquisition (camera-based PPG).
  Ruby, Swift, Java, C++, DSP, HRV

Co-Founder / CTO   *— ScrumNinja, San Francisco, CA* | 2008 – 2013
- Ideated and bootstrapped Internaut's internal tool into a profitable **SaaS product**.
- Built complex drag-and-drop UI (jQuery) with **Scrum/Kanban card wall** features.
- Led customer support, UX testing, and product development.
- Deployed a **REST API** for webhook integrations.
- Implemented **production caching** and performance tuning with Redis and Heroku.
  Rails, Javascript, Product Development, CI/CD, Credit Card Payments

                         — Internaut Design, San Francisco, CA | 2006 - 2016

Co-Founder, Team Lead/Manager, Principal Developer/Mentor
- Built MVPs for startups during Silicon Valley's Web 2.0 era.
- Served as Scrum Master / Project Manager for our team of 4 developers and design partners.
- Mentored engineers and product owners, hosted **SF Ruby Meetup**, a tech blog, evangelized **Rails and TDD** across the community.

  Selected Clients:
- **Navera** (2013–2014): Architected an extensible DSL, integrating multiple insurtech and employee benefit APIs, contributing to acquisition success.
- **LinkedIn** (2008): Collaborated with an in-house team to launch a social events platform feature used by millions.
- **Pioneer Electronics** (2006): MVP for SyncTV, a browser-based TV app with DRM.
- **Monster.com**, SumZero, StartupAgents, PhotoVoo, Trekaroo, Three Stone Hearth.

Independent Software Developer *— San Francisco Bay Area, CA* | 2003 – 2006

Projects included: an e-commerce website for handbags (PayPal integration with PHP), audio DSP for the **TimewARP 2600** VST plugin (C++), USB driver for greentech hardware, contract development on [MP34u.com](MP34u.com) (Linux/Apache/MySQL/PHP).

EDUCATION

- **Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)**
  - B.Sc.   Electrical Engineering & Computer Science, Music.
  - M.Eng. Electrical Engineering & Computer Science
- **Stanford University** - M.A.   Music, Science & Technology

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MENTORSHIP & TEACHING
- **Engineering Mentor**   *Internaut Design* | 2007–2014
  Guided junior developers in best practices, code quality, and career development
- **TA & Mentor**   *Dev BootCamp SF* | 2013–2014
  Supported career transition students in intensive coding program
- **Guest Lecturer**   *Stanford University* | 2005–2007