Dylan Guthrie-Wickens

Full-Stack Software Developer

I am a versatile full-stack software developer who has recently transitioned from a successful career in high-end retail and management to the field of software development. With a strong passion for leveraging technology to create innovative solutions, I thrive on the challenge of creative problem-solving. My insatiable curiosity for technology has led me to complete a coding Bootcamp at Dev Academy Aotearoa, where I refined my development skills. Previously, I spent almost a decade at Lifestyle, where I honed my problem-solving, customer service, and project management skills. I am looking forward to applying my diverse skill set in the technology industry.

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Projects

Escape from Boris   *Agile / Scrum lead*

A hangman style game, with and added timer and a mean looking cat called Boris that gets larger if you fail guesses.

- As scrum master I played a pivotal role in the project's success by taking charge during an extensive initial planning meeting, subsequent stand ups, and sprint planning.
- I wireframed the website and planned the layout of the website, and split the workload between team members on our kanban board after discussing strengths, weaknesses, and learning objectives of everyone involved.
- I implemented novel game logic and back end structure, using **Typescript, Express, and Knex.**

Purrfect Paws Life   *Agile / Scrum lead*

A Hasbro "Game of Life" clone with a cat theme, this was our final project for Dev Academy and the most challenging project I have ever worked on. Our goal was to create a turn based board game with a React based SERN stack, where you could earn "treats", buy property, and make life decisions.

- I was the scrum master again for this project, and organised our team quickly through a full day planning session, and several sprints, first for MVP, then to attempt further functionality.
- I worked extensively on the game logic and overall structure of the app, using **React, Knex, Express, Vite, Zustand, React Query, Typescript, and CSS.**
- The project quickly grew in scope as we worked on it, as it was the first large scale game we had worked on, the complexity added challenges as we went, necessitating changes to our plan on the fly, and learning new tech like **Zustand** to solve novel problems.
- We presented this to a group of our family, friends, and peers, and I facilitated and oversaw our presentation preparation, and helped create the assets for us to use.

Experience

Software Developer Student
Dev Academy Aotearoa

May 2023 – July 2023

I participated in a 17-week intensive full immersion coding Bootcamp designed to provide comprehensive training in full-stack development. The course increased my technical knowledge and confidence in learning new skills and technologies under pressure. I have developed proficiency in full-stack development, web development, software deployment, and honed my capabilities for future roles in Agile environments, Scrum facilitation, and more.

Gap Year for Personal and Professional Development

May 2022 – April 2023

After a fulfilling almost decade at my challenging role at Lifestyle, I decided to take a sabbatical to re-evaluate my life goals, and to pursue personal creative projects. In that time I had six music releases through various labels on a few projects, played a lot of shows, and discovered my love of coding and software development in general.

General / Sales Manager
P C Squared trading as Lifestyle

October 2012 – April 2022

In my hybrid management role, I gained a diverse range of skills, including sales management, stock control, and website management. I also developed advertising and marketing strategies, and maintained a WordPress website, demonstrating my HTML knowledge and technical capabilities, and this is where I started to develop an interest in coding.

Tech Stack

- JavaScript
- TypeScript
- HTML
- CSS
- React.js
- SQLite
- Git / Github
- Express
- Vite
- SuperAgent
- SuperTest
- Tailwind
- Node.js
- Rest APIs
- Knex
- Jest
- CLI
- Dokku
- Wordpress
- Xero
- Python
- C
- React Query
- Zustand
- Photoshop
- Illustrator

Human Skills

- Organisation and planning, my experience in logistics, systems management, and complex project planning, allows me to effectively contribute.
- Agile methodologies, I have had extensive experience during Dev Academy in all Agile roles, especially Agile Lead.
- Teamwork and Leadership, both as a team member and leader, communication and integration are key to effective team dynamics.
- Empathy and inclusivity are extremely important to me

Interests and Hobbies

- I produce and DJ electronic music, big, bass driven beats designed for large sound-systems.
- I have my own home built server that I use for media, tech and AI experiments and learning.
- I am also a voracious reader and gamer, in both preferring complex character driven stories.

References Available on Request