

Robert Steffler

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Experienced software developer with primary focus on:

- Java
- Modern JavaScript (ES6)
- React
- MySQL
- Python
- C#

Also familiar with Ruby, Lua, PHP, AngularJS, and more.

My core belief is that learning is a *choice* and a *privilege*. Success in the extremely complicated and fast-paced software engineering industry is a function of embracing that chaos and treating the opportunity to expand one's horizons as a challenge to rise above, not as a chore.

Skills

- Java (since 2013)
- C# (since 2018)
- HTML5/CSS3 (since 2014)
- JavaScript (since 2014)
- React & AngularJS
- Python
- Lua
- jQuery (since 2014)
- PHP
- SQL-based RDB
 - Primarily MySQL
- Ruby
- Management

Personal Strengths

- Outgoing Personality
- Fits well into any group
- Comfortable working alone
- Self-Starter
- Strong Writing and Interpersonal Skills
- Diligent; Unflinching work ethic
- Meticulous; Quality producer
- Punctual

See next page for employment history

Employment History

Denny Menholt Ford, Butte, MT

IT Manager

March 2020 - Present

Primarily a systems administrator role, where I was the top authority for all computers and network devices for the largest dealership in the entirety of Butte-Silverbow county.

Managed the entire tech department and acted as the webmaster, network and server administrator, hardware acquisition and installation manager, and primary tech support employee.

Hardware setup included a full domain-administrated network layout with multiple distinct LANs, more than 100 computers, 25+ printers, and several routers and intermediate switches.

Performed various inventory management, pricing maintenance, and administration roles when time was available.

Also included a social media management component, including marketing and design presence on Facebook, Google, Indeed, and more. Acted additionally as the company administrator for the Microsoft 365 domain.

Systech, Butte, MT

Manager / Tech Lead

2019 - April 2020

In essence, the assistant manager and CFO for a small computer repair shop business.

Ran a tech repair shop with a significant media presence and inventory/parts component. Job responsibilities on a daily basis included running a tech team of 3-4 technicians repairing approximately 6-10 machines at a time, providing excellent customer service, performing financial transactions and bookkeeping, managing inventory and ordering parts, interacting with vendors, and occasional business-to-business interaction.

Occasionally involved programming knowledge as the situation needed. Built numerous internal-use scripts, primarily in Python, Ruby, and JavaScript.

I also built the entirety of Systech's website and internal inventory management program from the ground up, including an ES6 JavaScript + React frontend and a PHP+MySQL backend. The inventory management system was built to be extensible, responsive, modular, and straightforward.

Staples, Butte, MT

Certified Technician (later Tech Sales)

2017– March 2020

In brief, an entry-level sales associate position with a mix of sales and technical expertise components.

Hired on as a Certified Technician after passing Staples' internal certification exam (twice), and then performed tech repair and sales work for the tech department in the Butte Store. Tasks included repair work of all kinds on current and legacy Windows machines, and expertise (though not in the job description) was required in networking, mobile devices including phones and tablets, GPS systems, printers, and home security systems. Also involved a heavy sales component in which I was number 2 in the store, as well as #1 in the entire chain for employees in my position, based on sales performance.

The position later stopped requiring recertification and became a Tech Sales Associate position.

I became cross-trained (voluntarily) in the print & marketing center which included print shop work as well as graphic design. I also was cross-trained in inventory management and received approximately one year of management training, and essentially acted as a manager in every capacity aside from the job title.

Educational Background on next page

Education

Green River College, Auburn, WA

Computer Science Major

GPA 4.0

Studied toward an Associates Degree in Computer Science and Information Technology. Had to leave for personal reasons while only two credits away from the full degree. The two credits were electives, not core class credits.

The program emphasized technical writing on top of standard software development and mathematics.

Tahoma Senior High School, Covington, WA

Graduated with Distinguished Honors

GPA 3.833

Took part in several AP classes, the most notable of which was one year of education with Java programming, and one additional year of extended Java development through a program with the University of Washington.

Participated in multiple extra-curricular activities including leading the Programming Club in senior year as well as other social activity clubs throughout earlier years.

Graduated with Distinguished (highest) Honors for exemplary academic performance.

School later became a middle school.

References available on the following page

Professional References

Chris Bodenberger, Systech

General Manager

Phone: (406)-498-8559

Chris was my direct manager at Systech, and ran the company as a whole. I performed any tasks he gave me and managed a team of employees to complete any projects required. I provided him with daily, weekly, and monthly reports on my progress and the progress of the team. Given the nature of my work, he was also directly aware of any issues that may have arisen, and my performance was directly subject to his review.

I acted as General Manager in his stead on the occasion that he was not present.

CaLinda Roth, Systech

Office Manager

Phone: (206)-778-4981

CaLinda was our Office Manager, who was my direct subordinate and largely responsible for our bookkeeping work and social media. I was responsible for ensuring that her work reached the General Manager and for assigning her tasks that helped us meet company goals for growth and service excellence. I synthesized the information she provided in order to prepare the reports the General Manager received.

Todd Gasser, Staples

General Manager

Personal Phone: (406)-490-9274

Business Phone: (406)-494-1000

Todd is the store manager at Staples in Butte. He supervises the entire store and is directly accountable to the District Manager. Todd was responsible for hiring me, assigning training, as well as directing all my direct supervisors.

Travis Immonen, Staples

Print and Marketing Supervisor

Phone: (406)-498-7112

Travis managed the Copy and Print Center at Staples in Butte. He was responsible for training me in the operations and general procedures of the print center, and while he left Staples before I did, he was one of my close mentors and is very appraised of my working abilities and credentials.

Projects

(in no particular order)

Systech Website

Responsive website built with React. Accessed minor database information with PHP and MySQL.

The construction and maintenance of the Systech website was entirely my responsibility. While it was relatively simple, the process required me to leverage skills I had already developed in order to produce a finished product that would represent the primary online presence of the company. Since I didn't have other team members to rely upon, I had to act essentially as a full-stack developer for the website. While I could have opted for a templating system or a framework like Wordpress, I insisted on the freedom of developing it myself by hand.

The primary front-end interface for the website was built using React, Babel, and Webpack, and represented my first real project with the framework. My primary focuses were on ease of use, accessibility, a modern and responsive feel, and an adherence to the design stylings of the company itself. Everything from the colors to how the website felt on mobile devices had to be considered, and my highest priority was to make the website feel like something that was designed professionally by a highly-skilled team, rather than something thrown together in a weekend by a mom-and-pop shop that had watched a single tutorial on YouTube.

The majority of the backend was through PHP requests to our live inventory database, used almost exclusively to provide an up-to-date inventory listing for what physical product we had in the shop, as well as pricing. While I had considered implementing online shopping and a digital payment system, both of those were far less cost-effective than was necessary for a town like Butte. More often than not, what was important was to provide customers with a quick and simple way to see what items we had in-store before they made a trip in the first place. The main reason for this was that we were competing with larger companies like Staples, Walmart, and Amazon, and anything that they could have ordered through us digitally would be easier and more reliable through our competitors. Additionally, there is a large portion of Butte that either doesn't understand technology well enough to be confident in ordering products online, mixed with a significant number of people who don't have the time to wait for something to be delivered.

The main function of the site was to allow for customers to see our operating hours, prices, and to schedule appointments for more complicated services. We sometimes performed on-site technical support work, and many companies preferred simply getting a quote and waiting for a response rather than trying to figure out details over the phone.

Systech Internal Inventory App

Function—first Java application for interacting with a MySQL database for internal parts and services tracking.

I wrote this entire program in Java since it was my strongest language at the time, and the one I was most comfortable with. The purpose of the program was to be as efficient as possible in performing standard SQL CRUD functionality, so the interface was not particularly aesthetically pleasing, nor was it particularly modern-looking. Since I would be responsible for training every user, there was no help documentation, though I did end up having to write 'cheat sheets' for the techs to have on-hand, which taught me a valuable lesson in how important documenting work was.

The program operated in two modes, Inventory and Work Orders. Inventory was exactly what it sounds like, giving us an accurate listing for every part, computer, software license, and hardware component in the workshop. For those items that were to be listed on the website for sale, the For Sale field of the table had a boolean value to indicate as such. The Work Orders portion had all relevant information for the customer and tech items they brought to us, as well as what services we had performed. This information was all collected at the start of the process with the customer, and then entered into the system after the customer had left our workshop and work had begun.

The only other noteworthy function was a mode that would dynamically display Work Orders by priority. It used a more complicated algorithm than I think (in hindsight) was necessary, as it tried to heuristically determine what was top priority rather than simply allowing the user to sort by various data sets. This brilliant example of the KISS principle was also a valuable lesson to learn.

Digital Resume & Portfolio

Full JavaScript + React app hosted via GitHub Pages.

The resume was actually my second attempt at such a concept, having made one in the past with jQuery and jQuery UI that nobody was willing to download or view and instead they pestered me for a PDF version of my resume. This was years ago, and with how much has changed about web development in just the past five years, React with Babel and Webpack was the way to go for this version.

My main priority with this project was to be as true to proper form as possible. This meant having a component for everything, solidly implementing composition rather than polymorphic inheritance, and even using a couple neat things like *this.props.children* and such. My main priority with this project was to demonstrate, at a glance, that I do in fact know what I'm doing when it comes to the development stack.

I'd like to emphasize a couple things about this project that I see a lot of employers looking for, and describing as being a big difference between a novice and an intermediate/expert developer:

Firstly, I developed this project through GitHub for source control, and I'm actually quite familiar with how the general process of using Git and its related apps works. While obviously I

haven't had to create issues or workflows for this project, I'm also familiar with those, and I'm fully aware of how instrumental they can be in the efficient operations of a dev team.

Secondly, I'd like to mention that I developed specifically with readability and maintainability in mind, even though I'm the only one who's going to work on this project. The purpose for this is to show that I understand how helpful it can be to have a project that is easy to follow in the long-term and easy to update in the medium-term. I name my variables either according to convention (loop iterator variables) or usage (*columns* instead of *a*, and so on). My components all have descriptive names that operate based on standard MVC coding practices. I'm also a big believer in Unix philosophy, in the sense that if you're going to work on a project, you should focus on doing one thing and doing it well, rather than overcomplicating everything by adding features not within the scope of the original implementation.

Thirdly, I'd like to mention that I do in fact understand the importance of comments and documentation, largely from having to deal with the alternative in the past and realizing just how difficult it is to get back up to speed on code I'd written months ago if I had to do so without the benefit of comments.

I'd also like to point out that I'd gotten most of the way through developing this project before I'd realized I could make it look far more modern than I had initially achieved. Such is life.

GitHub Repository:

<https://github.com/dylithian/resume>

Live Online Demo:

<https://dylithian.github.io/resume>

Perl Portfolio

A portfolio of my path to learning Perl.

In a very basic sense, there isn't a whole lot to say about this project. I decided while learning Perl that I ought to create a GitHub repository for my code, partly so I didn't have to worry about losing it to some sort of data failure, and partly so other people could view the kind of stuff I'd done with it. As it stands, I don't find anything about the portfolio to be particularly impressive or worthy of note, but I will acknowledge that I went a little overboard with comments on this project.

GitHub Repository

<https://github.com/dylithian/perl-portfolio>