

Frank Mckenna



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BIO

A full-stack junior developer specialising in the front-end. My background combines creativity with a high level of logical reasoning and I love bringing these traits into my coding.

After ten years of playing poker professionally, I wanted a new, more fulfilling challenge, and as a keen problem solver, becoming a software developer really appealed to me.

I enjoy working on my creative side to develop dynamic, user-centric web applications while writing clean, tested and reusable code.

As a Makers Graduate, I am keen to find my first professional role where I can use my problem-solving skills and passion for tech to continue to build products that have a positive impact on the world.

Projects

Project	Description	Technologies
Codify	A website that lets users organize their Tasks. A user can sign up, log in and log Out. This is a solo project built to Consolidate what i had learnt at Makers Academy, learn new technologies and to keep My skills fresh while job hunting.	TypeScript, JavaScript, React, Node.js Express, MongoDB, JSON web token.
Pin My Hike	A hiking app that allows users to pin and View popular global hiking locations. As a group, we decided to teach ourselves a new tech stack for our final project at Makers, the MERN stack using the Google Maps API.	JavaScript, React, Node, MongoDB, Express Google Maps API
Bowling Challenge	A Solo weekend challenge - A dynamic bowling scorecard that updates with every role, using the DOM and OOP principles.	JavaScript, HTML, SASS
AceBook	Group project - Facebook clone that allows users to securely sign up and create a post with a photo and view their profile. Users can like and comment on posts and delete them.	Ruby On Rails, AJAX, CSS

EXPERIENCE

Makers Academy, Remote – May 2021 – Sep 2021, Remote

A 16-week intensive development Bootcamp, focusing on:

- Agile methodologies
- OOP, TDD, MVC and SOLID principles such as dependency injection and single responsibility principle.
- Test-driven development and behaviour driven development
- Pair programming

Self-employed – Professional poker player (Live and Online) Jan 2011 – Apr 2021

Poker was a huge passion of mine which taught me many skills that I can apply to my new career as a software developer.

- Exercised discipline and excellent risk management by successfully navigating tournament poker.
- Demonstrated an ability to adapt to an ever-changing environment.
- Analytical skills and logical reasoning.
- I have assessed complex situations objectively and constantly made time-sensitive, high-pressure, strategic decisions without allowing emotions to affect these decisions.
- Data analysis – I would track every poker hand I played and then viewed this data to make improvements where needed.
- Used mathematical probability and pattern recognition.
- Acquired excellent communication skills through speaking with fellow professionals about complex poker hands.

I won many online and live tournaments in my career, most notably my first major online poker tournament win in 2014, in a MINIFTOPS Poker Series event.

The Care & Wellbeing Company, Loughton – *Carer* – Jul 2019 – Mar 2020

I worked as part of a team to care for adults with learning disabilities with a range of needs. I built trust and rapport with customers helping them to develop their independence by providing them with life skills in line with their progression plans.

Halfords, Braintree — *Customer Advisor* - Apr 2017 - Dec 2018

Customer advisor and bicycle mechanic in a high traffic Halfords branch. Advising customers on bicycle products that suit their needs. Building and repairing bicycles.

EDUCATION

Beech Hill College, Monaghan Ireland

Junior Certificate including Maths and English

INTERESTS

Hiking: I completed The West Highland way hike and climbed Ben Nevis in 2017.

Meditation: I regularly practise Vipassana meditation.

Cycling: I cycled the Coast 2 Coast route with friends.