# Blanca Mendizabal Perello

Full-stack software developer recently graduated from [Makers Academy](http://www.makersacademy.com), Europe's leading web development bootcamp. I'm looking for a junior developer position in a company where I can make an impact and also grow professionally.

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## Personal projects

[**Safe Water**](https://github.com/groundberry/water-client) -- *React, Jest, Enzyme, Node.js, Express, PostgreSQL* -- Ongoing

Single-page app that helps users know the quality of drinking water in their area. The responsive user interface in the [front-end](https://github.com/groundberry/water-client) communicates with a [back-end](https://github.com/groundberry/water-server) that retrieves data from a database, and highlights dangerous levels for each contaminant.

[**Flickr Gallery**](https://groundberry.github.io/flickr-client) -- *React, Jest, Enzyme, Sinatra* -- 5 days

Single-page app with a [front-end](https://github.com/groundberry/flickr-client) that queries the Flickr API for cute photos through a [proxy](https://github.com/groundberry/flickr-proxy) that deals with authentication and CORS.

[**Flashcards**](https://groundberry.github.io/flashcards-client/) -- *React, Jest, Enzyme, Ruby on Rails, RSpec, GitHub OAuth, PostgreSQL* -- 45 days

Self-service tool for users to learn through spaced repetition. It allows them to create, edit, and delete flashcards. The [front-end](https://github.com/groundberry/flashcards-client) makes requests to an API in the [back-end](https://github.com/groundberry/flashcards-server), fetching tags and flashcards for the logged in user.

[**CSS playground**](https://css-play.herokuapp.com) -- *React, Jest, HTML5, CSS3* -- 10 days

Final project at Makers Academy. A [live-editing HTML and CSS tool](https://github.com/groundberry/CSS-playground) that allows users with no coding experience to create basic website drafts, and download the code.

## Skills

**Project Management** -- I've shown strong ability breaking projects into smaller tasks while working at [Little Bee Community](#experience). I managed a project in Africa, creating a three-year timeline that included monthly and weekly tasks, cost tracking, and list of suppliers. This structured workflow made it easier to deliver the project on time and on budget.

**Adaptability** -- For the last five years I have been experiencing big changes in my life, and I managed to successfully overcome them by focusing on my strengths and abilities. My last challenge, a career change, started one year ago when I began learning HTML, CSS and JavaScript by myself. I then decided to join Makers Academy, a 12-week bootcamp where I learnt Ruby, Rails, Node, and React, to name a few technologies.

**Communication and Collaboration** -- My colleagues at Makers highlight my empathy, patience, and ability to explain concepts clearly as my main skills. For example, on one specially challenging week I noticed that my colleague was struggling with understanding how a Node app works. I helped her analyze the project's structure and data flow. By the end of the day we managed to have a server up and running!

**Design and User Experience** -- I'm passionate about crafting attractive and user-friendly interfaces for every project I work on. I have taught myself CSS, Bootstrap, Photoshop, InDesign, and Illustrator. I have used these skills to create appealing and usable apps in personal projects, and marketing materials for [Little Bee Community](#experience) and [Battle McCarthy](#experience).

## Experience

**Sustainability Consultant** at [*Little Bee Community*](http://littlebeecommunity.com) *(London, UK)* Oct 2013 -- Aug 2016

Led a wide range of projects locally and abroad, ensuring goals were met on time and on budget. I co-designed and launched an urban vertical farming project, gaining buy-in from a range of local stakeholders, managed and mentored a team of interns, and played a lead role in developing impact frameworks and reports.

**Agricultural Engineer** at [*Battle McCarthy*](http://www.battlemccarthy.com/) *(London, UK)* Jan 2013 -- Oct 2013

Responsible for urban agriculture R&D. I worked with five other people, developing agricultural strategies to maximize food production inside buildings using hydroponic systems.

**Environmental Engineer** at [*Aqualogy (AGBAR group)*](http://www.aqualogyuk.co.uk/) *(Madrid, Spain)* Sep 2011 -- Sep 2012

Responsible for conducting compliance checks to enforce European laws regarding water treatment. I also designed a working methodology for the analysis of biological quality parameters of Spanish rivers.

## Education

**Software Development Self-Training** Jan 2016 -- Ongoing

I'm improving my software development skills using online sources and books. Currently I'm working on side projects focusing on:

* Single-page apps using React
* APIs using Express, Sinatra, or Ruby on Rails
* Algorithms and data structures

**Onsite Software Development Bootcamp** at [Makers Academy](http://www.makersacademy.com) *(London, UK)* Aug 2016 -- Dec 2016

Highly-selective 12-week full-time program (and 4-week pre-course), emphasizing:

* Front-end development (JavaScript, React)
* Back-end development (Ruby, Ruby on Rails, Node.js)
* Pair-programming
* Test-driven development
* Object-oriented design
* Agile methodologies

**M.Sc. Environmental Engineering and Management** at [EOI Business School](http://www.eoi.es/portal/en) *(Madrid, Spain)* 2010 -– 2011

Master thesis *"Development of an Environmental Management System under the European EMAS Regulation"*.

**M.Sc Agricultural Engineering** at [Technical University of Madrid](http://www.upm.es/internacional) *(Madrid, Spain)* 2000 -- 2008

My final year project, *"Iberian Pig Value Chain Analysis"*, received an outstanding qualification.

## Other information

* English (professional working proficiency), Spanish (native).
* I love making my own bread, and photography.