



James McDonald

Junior Software Developer

I am a junior full-stack developer with strong foundations in Java, SQL, and React. Skilled in test-driven development using JUnit and Git, and in building responsive UIs with React and TypeScript. Familiar with RESTful APIs and frontend testing tools. Actively developing full-stack applications to deepen expertise and pursue a backend or full-stack engineering role.

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📍 Kilkenny, Ireland

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Skills

Java
Spring Boot
Spring Security
SQL
JUnit
Test-Driven Development (TDD)
REST API
Typescript
React
Javascript
Git / Version Control
Tailwind CSS

Languages

English (native speaker)

Awards - 1st Place

Feis Ceoil Bach Guitar, 2018
Bridget Doolan Award, 2017
Feis Ceoil Classical Guitar, 2017

Interests

Passionate about classical guitar, piano, and composition.

Certificates

Introduction to Java - Hyperskill

Personal Project

Simple Banking System – Full-Stack Web Application

Developed a full-stack banking application with secure user authentication, account creation, income deposits, transfers, and account closure. Built the backend using Java, Spring Boot, Spring Security, and JWT, exposing RESTful APIs and integrating SQLite for persistent data storage. Applied TDD with JUnit, emphasising clean, maintainable code with comprehensive unit testing and edge-case coverage. The frontend, built with React, TypeScript, and Tailwind CSS, features real-time validation, dynamic UI feedback, and error handling. Handled async frontend-backend communication, implemented protected routes, and followed clean architecture and separation of concerns for scalability.

[GitHub Repository – Click here](#)

Education

Higher Diploma in Science (Software Development)

January 2023

January 2025

Atlantic Technological University, Galway, Ireland

Graduated with **First Class Honours (86.66%)**

Bachelor of Arts (Hons) in Music – NFQ Level 8

September 2013

May 2017

Waterford Institute of Technology, Waterford, Ireland

Graduated with **First Class Honours.**

Work history

Founder & Music Instructor

January 2018

Marble Music Academy, Kilkenny, Ireland

June 2025

Founded and ran a music academy, independently teaching 100 students weekly and managing all scheduling, curriculum, and operations.