



James McDonald

Junior Software Developer

Junior Backend / Full-Stack Developer with foundations in **Java** and **React**. Currently building projects with **Spring Boot** and **PostgreSQL**. Skilled in **JUnit**, **TDD**, and REST APIs, with experience in **TypeScript**, **Tailwind CSS**, and responsive UI development. Seeking a backend or full-stack role to apply skills and grow in a professional setting.

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📍 Kilkenny, Ireland

💻 jamesmcdonald.dev/

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Skills

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

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.

Certifications

Introduction to Java – Hyperskill

Personal Project

Full-Stack Simple Banking System

- Designed and built a **full-stack banking web application** with a Spring Boot REST API backend and a responsive React/TypeScript frontend.
- Implemented **account creation, authentication, deposits, transfers, and recipient search** with robust validation and error handling.
- Generated realistic card numbers using the **Luhn algorithm** with unique identifiers and auto-generated PINs.
- Built reusable UI components and integrated real-time **toast notifications** for user feedback.
- Applied **Test-Driven Development**: JUnit 5 + Mockito for backend services, and integration tests with MockMvc.
- Deployed production-style stack with **Render (backend)** and **Netlify (frontend)**, handling CORS, cold starts, and client routing.
- Focused on **clean architecture** (controller–service–repository pattern), centralised exception handling, and **structured error responses**.
- [GitHub Repository – Click here](#)
- [Live Demo – 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
June 2025

Marble Music Academy, Kilkenny, Ireland

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