

James Nixon

Software Engineer

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Date of Birth: 28th December 1997

Personal Profile

My name is James Nixon and I am a passionate software engineer with 6 years of experience in software development. Initially, it started as a hobby before developing into freelance work, which I did for 3 years, and followed by me starting professionally after leaving college. During my time working professionally as a software engineer, I've developed my experience in many different aspects of the computing field.

Personal Skills

- Outstanding communication, problem solving, team working and leadership skills
- Strong professional work ethic
- Effective time management skills
- Strong learning agility when picking up new technologies
- Good planning and organisational expertise when leading development projects
- Perfectionist with anything I'm working on
- Clean driving licence to drive long distances

Technological Skills

- Working with agile development techniques using GitHub and JIRA such as using Sprints & Kanban
- Using GitHub, JIRA and Trello to plan out projects and assign work
- Setting up and using CI and CD environments like Jenkins, GitHub Actions and GoCD
- API development and planning using OpenAPI schemas and specs
- Building and improving object-oriented design patterns in numerous languages
- Developing applications and scripts with Perl, Javascript, PHP, .NET, Bash and Shell
 - Using Perl modules like Dancer, Mouse, POSIX and more.
 - Using Javascript environments like TypeScript, NodeJS and jQuery
 - Using NodeJS libraries like Express, Electron and more.
 - Using JS testing libraries like Jest, Supertest and more.
 - Using JS front-end libraries like REACT.
- Working with cloud services like Google Cloud Platform and AWS
- Setting up and using containerised environments; Docker, Kubernetes and Vagrant
- Designing, building and tuning MySQL databases
- Developing complex queries to work with data sets
- Experience developing in Vim, Visual Studio Code and Atom
- Using on call technologies such as OpsGenie and handling out hours' incidents
- Using Apache, HAProxy and nginx to build and maintain websites.
- Use of Puppet for configuration management
- Using Gearman and crond for regular running jobs
- Reviewing code using GitHub pull requests and Phabricator differentials
- Using OpenBugBounty for security vulnerability & bug management
- Using Logz.io (ELK Stack) and Sentry for error tracking and debugging

Experience

Software Engineer and Tech Support

Flatshare LTD (SpareRoom)

October 2016 – Now

Northern Quarter, Manchester, Greater Manchester

Working at SpareRoom was my first professional software engineering role. I mostly wrote production application and test code using Perl and NodeJS; Perl, being what most of the backend is built in and NodeJS for the micro-services we have. When writing Perl, I also employed modules such as Mouse, to allow me to take an object-oriented approach to writing code as Perl is not an object-oriented language.

While at SpareRoom, my responsibilities have broadened from not only software engineering to also producing data statistics; managing emails across our customer base; leading the release of live code; core incident management while out of hours and training new junior developers around the technologies we use.

Lately, I have successfully led and managed a number of key projects, most recently I had the opportunity to lead a major initiative to migrate our main external payments system from WorldPay to Stripe, whilst also training key teams in the company on how to use the new payment service. In leading this project, I was also able to be a part of designing, developing and deploying a cleaner API & object architecture to take payments.

Web Developer

Freelance

March 2013 – Now

I developed my hobby of developing designs as a side-line business since early 2013. I did this by taking time to elicit the client's functional and non-functional requirements before modelling a minimal value product of their website. Once approved, I then further develop the website's design, using such tools as Adobe Photoshop & Illustrator whilst building up the front-end functionality using languages like HTML, CSS and jQuery and when a back-end database was required I would use PHP to produce an API to layer between the front-end and the database.

Doing this freelance work also taught me about how to optimise sites and how to control a site's SEO to display on Google.

Sales Assistant

WHSmith

December 2015 – May 2016

Manchester Airport, Manchester, Greater Manchester

Being a sales assistant at WHSmith whilst at college, was my first retail-based job and my first working with the general public. Whilst at WHSmith, I worked flexibly both on the check out and taking care of the shop floor stocks. I found this experience as a sales assistant challenging but beneficial, building the experience to work as part of a team in the larger stores with the colleagues of mine. I quickly built a positive reputation and the trust of my managers which lead to my working on occasion alone in some of the smaller stores, with responsibility for not only managing the stock, but also looking after the self-service tills and closing the store at the end of the day. Towards the end of my time I was often approached to teach some of the newer staff members.

Education

Cheadle Hulme High School

September 2009 – June 2014

Subject	Exam	Date Taken	Grade
English	GCSE	June 2014	C
Applied Science	GCSE	June 2014	B
Mathematics	GCSE	June 2014	C
Engineering	GCSE	June 2014	C
Geography	GCSE	June 2014	B
I.T	GCSE	June 2014	B

Aquinas College

June 2014 – June 2016

Subject	Exam	Date Taken	Grade
BTEC ITC	A Level	June 2016	Distinction*
Computer Science	A Level	June 2016	B

Hobbies

- I'm interested in fitness and (try to) go to the gym on a regular basis
 - I've always had a passion for aviation and am currently trying to get my PPL (Private Pilot License)
 - I'm mostly interested in computing and programming at home
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