

JOÃO GRILO

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PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Highly accomplished Full-Stack Developer with 4.5 years of experience architecting, developing, and optimizing high-performance, high-traffic web applications. Proven ability to elevate user experience and drive significant business growth, evidenced by achieving Google Lighthouse scores consistently above 90 and contributing to a ~15% increase in organic traffic through strategic SEO and performance engineering. Expertise spans PHP, JavaScript (React), and .NET Core, underpinned by a strong commitment to Agile methodologies, continuous skill enhancement, and delivering scalable, secure, and user-centric solutions. Fluent English (C2).

CORE COMPETENCIES

- Languages & Frameworks: PHP, JavaScript (ES6+), TypeScript, C# (.NET Core), Python, HTML5, CSS3 (SASS/SCSS)
- Backend Development: .NET Core, Node.js, REST API Design & Integration, MVC Architecture, Socket Programming, Microservices Concepts
- Frontend Development: React, Redux, Vanilla JS, jQuery, Responsive Design, State Management, Web Performance Optimization (WPO)
- Databases & Caching: MySQL, Redis, Elasticsearch, Database Optimization
- CMS Expertise: WordPress (Custom Theme/Plugin Dev, API Integration, Performance Tuning, Security Hardening)
- DevOps & Tools: Git (GitHub/GitLab, Gitflow), Docker, Agile (Scrum/Kanban), Linux (Ubuntu/CentOS), Windows, WSL
- Performance & Analytics: SEO (Technical & On-Page), Google Lighthouse, Web Accessibility (WCAG), Google Analytics, A/B Testing Principles
- Security: Web Security Fundamentals (OWASP Top 10), HTTPS Implementation, Practical vulnerability assessment (via TryHackMe)
- AI Tools: ChatGPT, Claude, Gemini, Stable Diffusion (for workflow automation & development enhancement)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Fedrax | Portimão, Portugal

Full-Stack Developer (Feb 2020 – Oct 2023)

- Architected, developed, and maintained mission-critical, high-traffic web platforms (e.g., Gameblog.fr, CineSeries) using PHP, JavaScript, MySQL, and

modern frontend techniques, ensuring 99.9%+ uptime and robust scalability under peak loads.

- Led frontend and backend optimization initiatives, consistently achieving Google Lighthouse scores >90 (Performance, Accessibility, SEO, Best Practices), directly contributing to an estimated 15% growth in organic traffic and measurably improved SERP rankings.
- Designed, implemented, and consumed secure, versioned RESTful APIs (PHP-based), facilitating seamless data exchange between internal systems, mobile applications, and third-party services, enhancing data integrity and system interoperability.
- Engineered dynamic, reusable, and performant frontend components with React, significantly improving user engagement metrics (e.g., reduced bounce rates by ~10%, increased average session duration by ~12%) and interface responsiveness across diverse devices.
- Championed Agile (Scrum/Kanban) practices, utilized Git (Gitflow) for collaborative version control, and leveraged Docker to establish consistent and reproducible development/deployment environments, accelerating delivery cycles and reducing deployment errors.

ZeroUm | Silves, Portugal

Full-Stack Developer (Mar 2019 – Feb 2020)

- Developed and customized high-performance, secure WordPress websites and complex e-commerce solutions (WooCommerce) for diverse clientele, utilizing PHP, MySQL, HTML, CSS, and JavaScript to deliver tailored digital experiences.
- Engineered bespoke WordPress themes from scratch and developed custom plugins, integrating third-party APIs (payment gateways, shipping providers, CRM systems) to meet specific client business requirements and enhance core functionality.
- Improved operational efficiency for key e-commerce clients by up to 30% through automation of order processing, inventory synchronization, and backend workflow streamlining via custom plugin development and dashboard enhancements.
- Implemented comprehensive website performance optimization (WPO) techniques (advanced caching, image optimization, code minification, CDN integration) and security best practices, resulting in average load time reductions of ~40% and hardened defenses against common web vulnerabilities.

PROJECTS & CONTINUOUS LEARNING

- Cross-Platform Server & Frontend Framework (Personal Initiative)
 - Developed a high-performance, multi-protocol server application using C#/.NET Core, featuring TCP Socket communication for real-time data synchronization and a RESTful API for standard HTTP interactions.
 - Built a complementary lightweight, dependency-free Vanilla JS frontend framework designed for optimal interaction with the backend via WebSockets and REST, demonstrating expertise in asynchronous JavaScript, network protocols, and efficient modern frontend architecture.
 - Objective: Deepen understanding of low-level networking, design patterns, and build a reusable, performant foundation for future projects, showcasing ability to innovate beyond existing frameworks.

- Ongoing Professional Development & Skill Enhancement
 - Cloud Platforms (AWS): Actively pursuing AWS certification; currently progressing through AWS Cloud Quest, gaining hands-on experience with EC2, S3, Lambda, API Gateway, DynamoDB, VPC, IAM.
 - Cybersecurity Acumen: Enhancing practical security skills via TryHackMe, applying knowledge to identify, assess, and mitigate web application vulnerabilities.
 - Advanced .NET Development: Continuously advancing expertise in .NET Core, including exploring advanced architectural patterns and performance tuning techniques. (In Progress)
 - Modern JS Ecosystem & Architecture: Expanding proficiency in modern JavaScript frameworks (e.g., exploring Next.js), advanced database optimization strategies, and microservices architecture principles through dedicated study and experimental projects.

EDUCATION

Programming and Management of Computer Systems – Level 4 Qualification (EQF)

Escola Manuel Teixeira Gomes, Portimão, Portugal (Sep 2010 – Jun 2012)

Curriculum Highlights: Web Development (HTML, CSS, PHP, JavaScript), Object-Oriented Programming (C#), Database Management (MySQL), Systems Analysis & Design.

LANGUAGES

- Portuguese: Native
- English: Fluent / C2 Proficient (Professional Working Proficiency)