

Josh Ziman

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1 Feb 2018

Dear Four Kitchens,

Because of your human-centric approach to UX, successful transition into a distributed team, and strong recommendation from Todd Ross Nienkerk's neighbor and my friend, Justin Koehler, I'm interested in joining your team as a:

UX/UI Designer

I'm a great fit for Four Kitchens in a future role, because:

I've succeeded in **remote** setups and prefer **distributed** teams

I design user experiences that are valuable, usable & delightful

I solve big & small problems through design thinking.

Let me explain...

A distributed team? Yes, please!

As the sole designer for an infant startup, I left "left the building" (4000 miles) to better empathize with our users. I moved out of the office and in with the customers.

And while I was away, I learned to deal with remote communication's subtleties and challenges. Now, I prefer asynchronous collaboration and to leverage its advantages while making myself and others more productive. *So, why did I leave my office?*



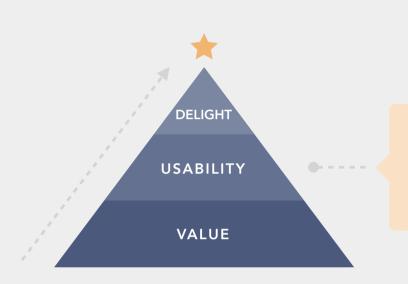
Before my journey, my employers attempted to build a complex tourism marketplace for 5 years. That became successful once I moved to South America and designed the Hostelhops Reception App.

We then became the **first bootstrapped startup** in the tourism space to create a liquid three-sided marketplace, by:



Valuable, Usable, Delightful UX

A successful, iterative design eventually achieves *UX transcendence*. I do this by adhering to my **10 Principles of Highly Effective Design**.



Usability, or *ease*, is achieved when the UX is findable, actionable, simple, forgiving, consistent, reliable, fast and human.

| | 10 Principles of Highly Effective Design |
|---------------|--|
| Be Delightful | Excite pleasure responses and impress value. |
| Be Findable | Draw attention to the core task: signal over noise. |
| Be Actionable | Guide users through the finish line. |
| Be Simple | Don't make users think. |
| Be Forgiving | Allow users to correct their errors and update as needed. |
| Be Consistent | Reuse familiar, standardized patterns to prevent relearning. |
| Be Reliable | Meet users' expectations; build confidence and trust. |
| Be Fast | Value users' time as they do for themselves. |
| Be Human | Communicate warmly as a helpful, mutual partner. |
| Be Valuable | Solve meaningful problems. |

Design Thinking

I love solving problems of all sizes — big and small. Creativity needs structure to be applied practically. So I follow this simple and effective methodology:

MY PROCESS Identify Problem Enter the problem space. What is the general problem? Divergent Problem Discovery What are all the possible causes to this problem? Convergent Problem Drilldown Which cause is the root cause? Or, which cause do we want to solve? **Experiment on users.** Analyze feedback. Iterate as needed. Enter the solution space. Divergent What are all of the possible Solution solutions? **Brainstorm** Convergent Which ideas are feasible? Solution Which of those is the best **Filtering** solution: our hypothesis? Design & Ship Hypothesis Apply internal feedback.

Now that you know that I **prefer** working in **distributed** teams, my designs are principled, my process is made simple and effective, and you may agree that:

I should be Four Kitchens' next **UX/UI** Designer





Please also check out my **featured work**. It details my accomplishments and decisions while designing a three-sided tourism marketplace.



Thank you for reading! | Josh Ziman, in Austin