Priya Nair

Founding Backend Engineer - Python APIs, AWS, and data platforms for startups

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SUMMARY

Backend engineer with 5+ years building and owning production systems in early-stage companies. Strong in Python services, AWS infrastructure, and SQL databases. Comfortable with ambiguity, fast iteration, and broad IC ownership. Shipped an LLM-backed RAG feature for workspace Q&A.;

EXPERIENCE

Founding Engineer (Backend/Platform) - Kiteframe (Seed-stage SaaS)

2022 - 2025 | Toronto, ON

- Owned backend architecture from day 1: Python (FastAPI), Postgres, Redis, background jobs, and a public REST API used by 200+ customer workspaces.
- Built scalable ingestion for customer documents (S3 + queue workers) with multi-tenant isolation, PII redaction, and audit logging.
- Deployed on AWS using Terraform; introduced blue/green deploys, structured observability, and cost dashboards.

Software Engineer, Backend - Shopify

2020 - 2022 | Ottawa, ON

- Implemented APIs and data models for merchant configuration; collaborated across teams to keep backward compatibility.
- Improved database performance via indexing and query rewrites; reduced slow queries by 60%.

Backend Engineer - Reputable Series B Startup

2019 - 2020 | Remote

- Built Python services and integrations; added automated tests and CI to increase deployment confidence.

SELECTED PROJECTS

Dataset-backed Agent for Customer Health

2024 - Python, SQL, AWS Athena, embeddings

- Created an agent that answers 'what is happening with this account?' by retrieving product usage metrics and notes; reduced time spent per account review.

SKILLS

Languages: Python, TypeScript (basic), SQL
Cloud: AWS (ECS, RDS, S3, SQS, CloudWatch), Terraform
Databases: PostgreSQL, MySQL, Redis
APIs: REST, FastAPI, OpenAPI, webhook design, background workers
AI: Embeddings, RAG, prompt evaluation, basic agent frameworks

EDUCATION

University of Toronto

BSc, Computer Science | 2015 - 2019 | Toronto, ON

Capstone: scalable search indexing for enterprise documents.