

Kaori Kawakami

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Professional Summary

Highly motivated, self-taught Frontend Developer with 2-3 years of intensive hands-on experience in modern web application development. Proficient in Next.js, TypeScript, and Tailwind CSS, I am currently establishing a freelance web development consultancy while eager to contribute creative problem-solving skills to a collaborative team.

Technical Skills

Javascript, TypeScript, React.js, Next.js, HTML, CSS, Tailwind CSS, ShadCN, MongoDB, Prisma, PostgreSQL, Mongoose, Git, GitHub, RESTful APIs, Vercel, Strapi (Headless CMS), NextAuth, Responsive Design, State Management, Performance Optimization, Debugging

Projects

Custom Website Redesign & CMS Integration | <https://triton-blog.vercel.app/> | Private Repo - Available Upon Request

- Spearheaded frontend redesign focusing on enhanced UX and lead generation for an existing business website.
- Implemented dynamic content management with headless CMS (Strapi). Integrated email automation via Resend API using Next.js and TypeScript.

Next.js E-commerce Store | <https://next-shopping-swart.vercel.app/> | <https://github.com/kkawakami08/next-shopping>

- Full-featured e-commerce platform with product Browse, OAuth user authentication, and robust cart system.
- Implemented CRUD for product management, secure PayPal/Stripe, and user reviews using Next.js, TypeScript, Tailwind CSS, Prisma, and Neon

Next.js Rental Property Site | <https://rental-property-pi.vercel.app/> | <https://github.com/kkawakami08/rental-property>

- Web application for browsing and managing rental properties with dynamic listings and user authentication/authorization.
- Gained full-stack integration experience with MongoDB via Mongoose, using Next.js and Tailwind CSS.

Experience

Freelance Web Developer, Self-Employed – Menifee, CA

June 2025 – Present

- Designing and implementing responsive, user-centric interfaces with a focus on performance optimization and scalable architecture.
- Continuously expanding technical proficiency in areas such as Node.js, GraphQL, and cloud platforms (AWS) to deliver robust solutions.

2D Animator, Rejuvica Health – Santa Margarita, CA

2018 – June 2025

- Collaborated cross-functionally with marketing to translate conceptual ideas into polished digital deliverables, applying strong creative direction and design principles.
- Developed engaging animated explainer videos for web, contributing to improved user engagement and retention.

Waitress | Shift Leader, Danny K's & Curry House - Anaheim, CA | Santa Ana, CA

2013 - 2018

- Managed high-volume demands, ensured accurate service delivery, and proactively resolved complex customer issues in fast-paced environments.
- Demonstrated strong problem-solving, communication, and leadership skills through shift supervision and process improvement initiatives.

Education

Cal Poly Pomona – BS in Animal Science - Pre-Vet

Codecademy – Front-End Engineer Career Path