

MARY ELLEN CHAFFIN

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SUMMARY

Frontend software engineer with senior-level experience building complex, production UI systems. Specializes in ambiguous problem spaces, early structure, and system-level clarity. Strong focus on React and TypeScript, front-end architecture, state and data flow design, and internal tools.

CAPABILITIES

- React, TypeScript, JavaScript
- State management and async data flows
- REST and GraphQL API integration
- Front-end architecture and component design
- Design systems: Amazon Cloudscape, Material UI
- UX writing and interface clarity
- Data visualization: HighCharts, D3
- Unit testing with Vitest
- Code reviews and technical feedback
- Cross-functional backend collaboration

EXPERIENCE

Senior Front-End Engineer

Amazon Web Services (via 24Seven contract) - Remote | *Aug 2024 – Feb 2026*

- Established early front-end structure for a new AWS service.
- Designed UI architecture using React and TypeScript.
- Used Cloudscape as the primary design system.
- Managed application state with React Context.
- Managed server data with TanStack Query.
- Shipped two production applications from zero.
- Delivered an AWS Console tool in under three months.
- Built data visualizations using Highcharts and D3.
- Wrote unit tests with Vitest.
- Participated in regular code reviews.
- Collaborated directly with backend engineers.
- Improved interface clarity through UX writing.

Senior Front-End Engineer

Intuit (via Cydio Group contract) - Remote | Feb 2023 – Jul 2023

- Built proof-of-concept UI features for Komposer.
- Implemented React features against REST APIs.
- Focused on state consistency in complex workflows.
- Worked within constrained backend contracts.
- Participated in code reviews.
- Provided front-end guidance to full-stack engineers.

Senior Front-End Engineer

SparkCognition (via MAANA acquisition) - Bellevue, WA & Remote | Feb 2019 – Jan 2023

- Built UI for a computational knowledge graph platform.
- Designed a Bayesian Network authoring interface.
- Integrated front-end features with GraphQL backends.
- Used MobX for application and data state.
- Refactored UI for consistency and maintainability.
- Introduced libraries for state, diagramming, and testing.
- Mentored interns on front-end engineering fundamentals.

SELECTED EARLIER EXPERIENCE

- **Microsoft:** UI and platform engineering for developer tools
- **eBay:** Front-end architecture for global shipping workflows
- **Southern Company:** Reusable component strategy and enablement
- **Alaska Airlines:** Customer-facing e-commerce UI
- **CommerceHub:** Backend service design and delivery
- **Magenic Technologies:** Performance, usability, and code quality consulting

EDUCATION

Bachelor of Science, Computer Science and Music (New College)

University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL

CERTIFICATIONS

- Foundations in Design Thinking - IDEO U
- AI Design Academy - UX Writing Hub
- Fundamentals of UX Writing - UX Content Collective