michael/smith

Professional Focus

Front-End Architect with 10+ years of experience building scalable, modern React applications. Dedicated to transforming complex codebases through best practices, upgrades, and architectural modernization. Passionate about collaboration and iterative processes—partnering with engineers, designers, and stakeholders to refine ideas and craft intuitive, high-performance user experiences that drive brand growth and user retention.

Experience

Principal Engineer

2022 — Current

Dscout — Chicago, IL

Architected and built key researcher platform features—including the Usability Testing Suite, Full Session Viewer, and Figma integrations—driving Dscout's competitive success. Led major codebase upgrades, improved platform performance, modernized the design system, and defined best practices for design & engineering collaboration.

Front-End Engineer

2021 — 2022

Agot.AI — Chicago, IL

Developed SvelteKit-based tools to visualize, validate, and enhance Agot AI's CV products, improving data accuracy and addressing evolving team needs. Rapidly prototyped and refined potential consumer products in a highly competitive market.

Front-End Architect 2021

MERGE — Chicago, IL

Led and evolved MERGE Chicago's front-end team, empowering the EEP department to deliver cutting-edge web apps and drive repeat client engagement. Architected and delivered high-quality front-end solutions with a focus on innovative user experiences.

Lead Interactive Developer

2017 - 2021

Isobar — Chicago, IL

Led development of React + Redux web applications for the US Air Force and Enterprise Car Rentals brands. Architected and managed multiple projects and feature releases, collaborating seamlessly with larger teams to coordinate major milestones.

Education

DePaul University

2014

Chicago, IL

Bachelor's Degree in Interactive Media — Concentration in Interaction Design