Mikkel Ridley

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Summary

Full Stack Engineer (or as I like to say, "Jack of all trades, master of some") with 5 years of experience building user-centered web applications. My superpowers include JavaScript, HTML, and (S)CSS-because someone has to make things look pretty and work reliably. I've also wrestled with C#/.NET, Angular, and TypeScript, mostly without losing my sanity.

Technical Skills

Core Skills: JavaScript, HTML5, (S)CSS, Shopify, Liquid templating, Jekyll (AKA "the stuff that pays the bills")
Hands-on experience with: .NET, C#, TypeScript, Angular, JQuery (work experience); React, Node.js, the MERN stack, PostgreSQL, Python, Ruby, C, Tailwind CSS (projects and occasional hair-pulling)
Tools & Platforms: Azure, AWS, IIS, Jira (the bug tracker that never sleeps), Git (where every merge is an adventure and every conflict a mystery), Gulp (the sound I make every time it spins up)
Other: Agile/Scrum, UI/UX improvements, accessibility (ADA/ARIA), cross-team collaboration, and surviving legacy codebases without crying (too often)

Professional Experience

Jr. Full Stack Software Engineer
San Francisco Museum of Modern Art (SFMOMA) | Sep 2023 – May 2025
- Navigated .NET legacy code (C#, Razor, MVC, HTML, CSS, JS) like a spelunker in a cave of spaghetti-minimal guidance, maximum caffeine.
- Collaborated in agile sprints, prioritized UX/UI, and made the site accessible-because art should be for everyone, even screen readers and keyboard ninjas.
- Rolled out a new payment system, ensuring the frontend was useable without needing a PhD in cryptography.
- Managed deployments with Azure, IIS, and FTP-because sometimes "modern" means "please don't break everything."
- Introduced Jest unit testing, because breaking things is fun, but breaking things in production is a nightmare.
- Laid off in a 7% workforce reduction. Apparently, "junior" means "first to go." Thanks, budget cuts!

Front End Software Engineer
Intrinsic (Alphabet/Google) via Nelson Connects (Contract) | Jan 2023 – May 2023
- Built modular UI components with Angular and TypeScript, collaborating with backend and design teams.
- Survived Google's monorepo (and lived to tell the tale).
- Participated in code reviews and technical discussions-sometimes even understood them.
- Promised a 9-month contract, cut at 5 months with all contractors. At least I got a cool Google badge.

Front End Software Engineer
Jefferson Health via TekSystems, Inc. (Contract) | Nov 2021 – Jan 2023
- Improved Shopify storefront performance by 25% and admin panel responsiveness by 100% (math checks out).
- Migrated theme to Shopify 2.0, introduced GitHub workflows, and cut developer time by 50%.
- Built a React ticket routing app that tripled support efficiency-because who doesn't love fewer support tickets?
- Contract extended, work completed, no drama-just how I like it.

Front End Software Engineer
DGP | Apr 2021 – Dec 2021
- Did good work for nice people. Pay was... let's say "character building."

Front End Software Engineer
Kul, Inc. | May 2020 – Mar 2021
- Not as cool as it sounds, but I learned a lot and nobody got hurt.

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Projects

Personal Portfolio Website
Built a responsive React site to showcase my skills, projects, and questionable sense of humor.

Market Analysis CLI (Python, In Progress)
Developing a Python CLI tool to analyze cryptocurrency data-because watching the market isn't stressful enough, might as well automate the panic.

Bike-and-BART Transit Planner (React, paused)
Tried to make Bay Area commutes less confusing by integrating Google Maps and BART. Paused, but the dream lives on.

Additional Highlights

- Lifelong autodidact: I've learned every stack on every job from scratch, fueled by stubbornness and copious amounts of coffee.
- Skilled in UI/UX, accessibility, and making sure users don't rage-quit (too often).
- Collaborative communicator who genuinely enjoys making friends at work (to a point-when it's time to get things done, I'll duck out of the chatter and get 'er done. Brenda, save the Chihuahua stories for happy hour, I'm all ears then!).
- Committed to code quality, testing, and continuous improvement-because fixing bugs at 2 a.m. is only fun the first time.
- Quick to pick up new tech, frameworks, or whatever the latest buzzword is-just don't ask me to pick a favorite programming font (it's a trap).

References available upon request, or just ask my dog, Freddie Mercury (he is a master of both Grunt and Gulp). He'll vouch for my walk scheduling and treat distribution skills.