Sidney Alcantara

Portfolio: sidney.me ▪ **Email**: sidney@sidney.me ▪ **GitHub**: notsidney

Experienced **design engineer** passionate about crafting memorable and dependable user experiences on the Web, specialising in design systems.

Experience

Canva
Sydney

Software Engineer (Frontend)
Jun 2023–present

- Empowering Canva Creators around the world to design excellent templates!

Rowy
Sydney ▪ SaaS startup

Senior Frontend Software Engineer
Sep–Nov 2022

Frontend Software Engineer
Oct 2021–Sep 2022

- Designed and implemented a design system for a modern, appealing user experience. Responsible as the product owner of the entire frontend as employee #1 up to seed funding. Plus, designed the logo and visual identity.
- Improved the web app's reliability, maintainability, and performance by rewriting the frontend architecture, writing tests, fixing accessibility issues, and writing technical documentation, including contribution docs.
- Conducted code reviews for junior engineers and open-source pull requests, identifying talented developers who were subsequently hired.
- Produced high-quality writing—including a new landing page, tech blogs, and tweets—raising Rowy's visibility and attracting new users. Featured on top Medium publications, with three articles attracting 20,000+ views each.

Antler
Sydney ▪ early-stage VC

Frontend Software Engineer
Jan 2020–Aug 2021

- Led the development of Virtual Demo Day, a critical online platform for events showcasing Antler's new startups, which could not run in person during Covid. Hosted 12 events with over 10,000 viewers in its first year.
- Built and maintained web apps for expansion to five new locations focused on usability for thousands as part of a scrum team with weekly iterations.
- Contributed to the tech community by creating and open-sourcing internal libraries as npm packages, improving our team's developer efficiency.
- Collaborated with our UX designer on a new design system and wrote docs.

2hats[†]
Sydney ▪ HR tech startup

Full Stack Developer
Jul–Nov 2019

Junior Frontend Developer
Aug 2018–Jul 2019

- Orchestrated the frontend redesign of the student portal, enhancing the user experience and driving growth, boosting the user base by 40%.
- Modernised the codebase to TypeScript and React Hooks and wrote docs. Reduced code by 30% and JS payload by 50%, improving performance.
- Extended backend systems after learning existing serverless architecture.
- Conducted technical interviews and assessments, presented a talk at a uni.

Languages and technologies

Frameworks and libraries:	▪ React+Hooks ▪ MUI/Material UI ▪ Jotai ▪ Svelte+SvelteKit ▪ Gatsby ▪ Storybook ▪ Testing Library ▪ Hook Form ▪ CSS-in-JS ▪ TanStack Table
Frontend:	▪ Modern responsive CSS ▪ TypeScript ▪ JavaScript ▪ semantic HTML ▪ accessibility (WCAG 2.2, WAI-ARIA) ▪ performance ▪ OKLCH colours
Design:	▪ Design systems ▪ Figma ▪ Sketch ▪ Webflow ▪ copywriting ▪ typography
Backend:	▪ Firestore ▪ Firebase ▪ Google Cloud ▪ Node.js ▪ Vercel ▪ Netlify ▪ CI/CD

Education and awards
2018–2019 (3 semesters)

Bachelor of Advanced Computing at The University of Sydney
▪ Sydney Scholars Award ▪ Dalyell Scholars program