

Forest Welch



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Frontend-leaning Software Engineer passionate about building intuitive, impactful applications. With 4+ years of experience, I blend technical expertise with mission-driven collaboration. Known for clear communication and a commitment to team success, I strive to work on meaningful projects that emphasize empathy and connection, helping teams deliver seamless and user-centered solutions.

EXPERIENCE

Self-Employed

Various

San Francisco, CA

March 2024 - August 2024

- Enhancing SEO, UX, and page load times for small business websites using React and Next.js.
- Providing career guidance and mock interviews for full-stack development bootcamp graduates.
- Built an esports bracket management tool to streamline events with automated score reporting.

BuildVision

Software Engineer (Contract)

San Francisco, CA

November 2023 - April 2024

- Led the initial development of app views, transitioning from a basic Airtable setup to a database-driven system, and building the foundation for admin and customer tools with Next.js.
- Optimized data management and API interactions using RTK Query, improving UI performance with result caching, search filters, and inline editing.

Autodesk (Formerly BuildingConnected)

Software Engineer

San Francisco, CA

August 2018 - January 2022

- Directed a localization and internationalization initiative, expanding into Oceania and doubling the user base. Implemented a centralized translation system using react-i18next, ensuring consistent localization across all apps and services.
- Authored an org-wide React component library, reducing previous library size by ~30% while doubling functionality. Unified disparate component libraries with styled-components and documented props, usage, and design principles at design.buildingconnected.com.
- Rebuilt internal tools from the ground up and migrated UI from Angular to React, saving the Customer Success team 20 hours per week. Fixed critical date picker issues, ensuring contract compliance and protecting \$1.5M in revenue.
- Built a UserEvents tracking system and conducted A/B testing with LaunchDarkly, improving customer onboarding and product metrics via Mode Analytics.
- Streamlined the frontend CircleCI pipeline, reducing build and deployment times by 50%.
- Managed the frontend interview process, mentored new hires, and organized pair programming and wellness activities during COVID-19.

EDUCATION

App Academy

Fullstack Engineering

San Francisco, CA

2018

University of Pennsylvania

B.A. in Linguistics, minor in Deaf Studies

Philadelphia, PA

2012 - 2016

SKILLS

Proficient: JavaScript, React, Next.js, Redux, Node.js, MongoDB, Git, CircleCI, LaunchDarkly
Familiar: TypeScript, React Native, Angular, PostgreSQL, Docker, Heroku, AWS, Elastic Cloud, Snowflake, Redis, Mongoose, GraphQL, Jest, Cypress, Ruby on Rails, Webpack, jQuery