

Kenji Stephen Ross

<http://kenjiross.com>
kenji@kenjiross.com

17 Bay State Rd, #1R
Boston, MA 02215
413.210.9966

About Me

I've been breaking, fixing, and living all things internet for the past fifteen years. I'm a computer systems engineer by training and a front-end developer by trade, but after years working across the creative and development aisles of the advertising world, I made the jump into the role of Creative Director. It's been fascinating work — I've found that it synthesizes much of what I like about making websites: process, creativity, and implementation. I bring a unique perspective to the job — I've worked in the trenches of development, yet have the communication skills to explain technical concepts in plain English to clients and colleagues.

Away from work, I write music and play drums — both electronic and the real kind — for a variety of bands. I'm passionate about the history of recorded music, politics, education policy, food, and travel. I equally appreciate the shiny new and the beautifully old.

Skills

Over the years, I've developed a full-stack approach to making websites. I'm well-versed in every aspect of the process — reading RFPs and briefs, wrangling creative ideas, creating and pitching presentations, scoping, overseeing UX/IA and design, and finally, implementing the idea with code. When I'm involved in the development, I craft careful, semantically valid sites with HTML5, CSS, and JS — especially jQuery — keeping in mind web standards and accessibility. I strive to keep the big picture in mind at all times and work hard, regardless of my role, to ensure that the final product communicates exactly what it should.

Work Experience

I've spent the past eight years helping to grow The Barbarian Group from a boutique web shop of a dozen individuals to a full-service ad agency of 120 with global reach, working with a fascinating array of clients. In that time, I've progressed from Developer, to Senior Design Technician, to my current position of Associate Creative Director — the first ACD in the history of the company to come from the technical department.

During my college years, I cut my teeth working as an in-house developer for Tufts University. I also co-founded and became the CEO of a small web shop out of Boston at the age of 19.

Education

I have a Bachelor of Science from the College of Engineering at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst, with a minor in music.