

Robbie Kirkbride, Software Developer

LONDON, UNITED KINGDOM · robbie.w.m.kirkbride@gmail.com · +447788930837

PROFILE

I'm a Software Developer looking to take on a new challenge having spent five years in Civil Engineering. I am extremely enthusiastic about tech, driven by my desire to keep learning and to use my skills to make a positive impact on the world. I am a language agnostic coder who is proactive and has an ability to pick up new skills and technologies at pace.

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

Engineering Consultant, COWI UK (Jan 2018 to Oct 2022)

- Led a team as project manager, responsible for collaborating with stakeholders, managing client expectations and regularly delivering to a high-quality.
- Developed in-house design software tools in VBA, using Git for version control.
- Used Python, Rhino and Grasshopper to analyse significant Point Cloud Survey datasets of a mast to reduce the scope of structural strengthening and offer savings to a client.
- Processed topographical data using MATLAB to quickly create wind profiles and calculate structural loading effects.
- Co-founded an interoffice network that organised conferences, technical and social events.
- Championed sustainability, for example when delivering the design of a 300m tall mast with 33% less CO2e than the initial proposal, with additional cost and programme savings, despite intense time pressure.
- Created Finite Element models and led the fatigue analysis during design of the Mumbai Trans Harbour Link.

EDUCATION

Makers Academy, Coding Bootcamp (Oct 2022 to Feb 2023)

- Learned to be a 'language-agnostic' developer by building strong self-directed study skills, a skill put into practice by rapidly learning TypeScript since the course finished.
- Focus on coding best-practices such as test-driven development, SOLID principles, version control and agile methodologies.
- Built multiple fullstack MERN applications in Agile teams which were test-driven with Jest in the backend and cypress in the frontend.
- Used analytical thinking and a systematic approach both in planning and production to solve problems, and establish watertight TDD processes and debugging techniques.
- Communicated complex content methodically and concisely, for example explaining how a class system could be broken down to adhere to the Single Responsibility Principle.
- Signed up to the mentoring scheme, a supervisory trait carried forward from COWI.

Ecoliday - MongoDB, Express.js, React, Node.js, JWT, Tailwind, Jest, Cypress (GitHuB)

- Eco-conscious travel planner created during my two week Makers final project in a five person Agile team with regular stand-ups, retros and daily pair programming.
- Built with the MERN stack in four 2-day sprints using GitHub for Version Control. We incrementally improved the MVP each sprint, developing a consistently usable product.
- Created a REST API that called three third party APIs (climatiq, geoapify, google maps), with a total of eight calls made per search.

Frontleft - TypeScript, MongoDB, Express.js, React, Node.js, JWT, CSS, Jest

- A mobile-first festival planner app created solo since graduating Makers Academy, written with TypeScript after challenging myself to learn the superset.
- Built from the ground up with the MERN stack in under a week despite no prior TypeScript experience.
- Implemented JWT authentication and password encryption to ensure the app was secure.

University of Bristol, Civil Engineering - MEng First Class (2013 to 2017)

LINKS

GitHub

Portfolio website

Blog

LinkedIn

SKILLS

HTML/CSS/JavaScript

TypeScript

NodeJS

React

MongoDB

PostgresSQL

Test-driven development

Unit testing

Jest

Cypress

Agile Methodologies

GitHub

Tailwind

HOBBIES

- Keen footballer and runner. I compete in a 5 aside football team and have completed two half marathons
- Experiencing cultures from around the World. A highlight of my travels to date was an 5-day unaided trek in the Peruvian Andes which emphasises my thirst for challenges.
- Lover of natural history. I dare you to read The Golden Mole and not feel awe and concern in equal measure.