

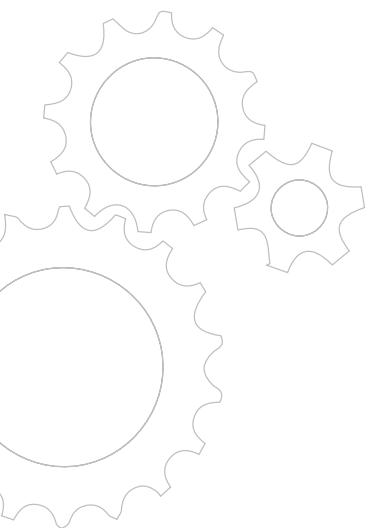


The Beginner's Guide to

# LANDING A JUNIOR DEVELOPER JOB

*skillcrush*

## INTRODUCTION



Everywhere you look these days, you see articles, blog posts, infographics, tweets, and—heck!—even pins about how in-demand developers are...AND how much money they make...AND about how fascinating their jobs are...AND about all the amazing things they create.

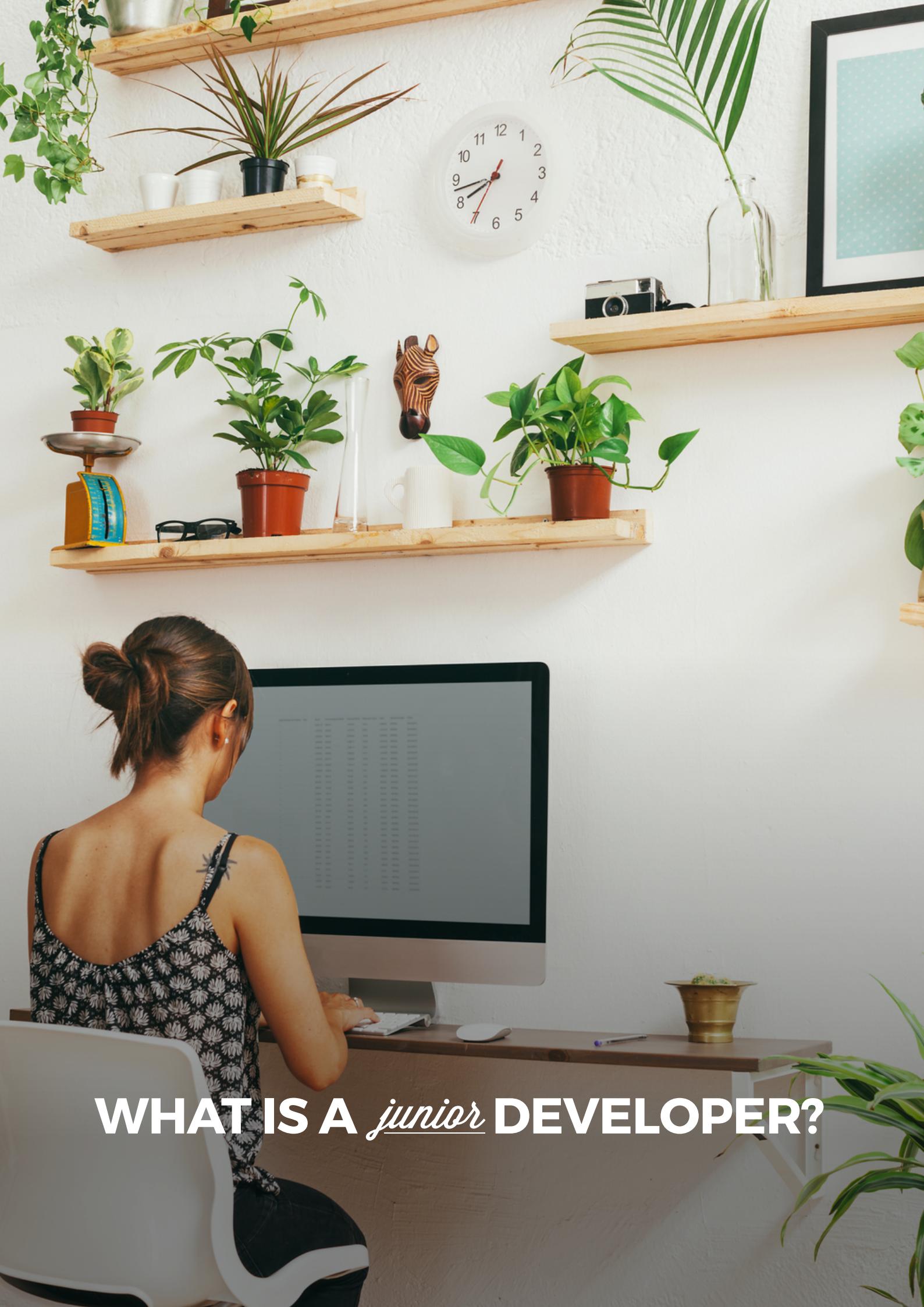
And I bet you want in on the action.

But, when you stop and think about it, what EXACTLY does a developer even do? And how would you go about landing a job as a developer? What skills would you need?

If you're looking to get started in the tech industry, this checklist will set you straight on how to get started as a junior developer, with insider information and practical tips for landing your first job as a developer.

### IN THIS GUIDE, YOU'RE GOING TO LEARN:

- The responsibilities of a junior developer
- The role of a junior developer on a tech team
- The titles of junior developer jobs you can look for
- The skills you need to become a junior developer
- What you can create with junior developer skills
- The real-life jobs you can get as a junior developer

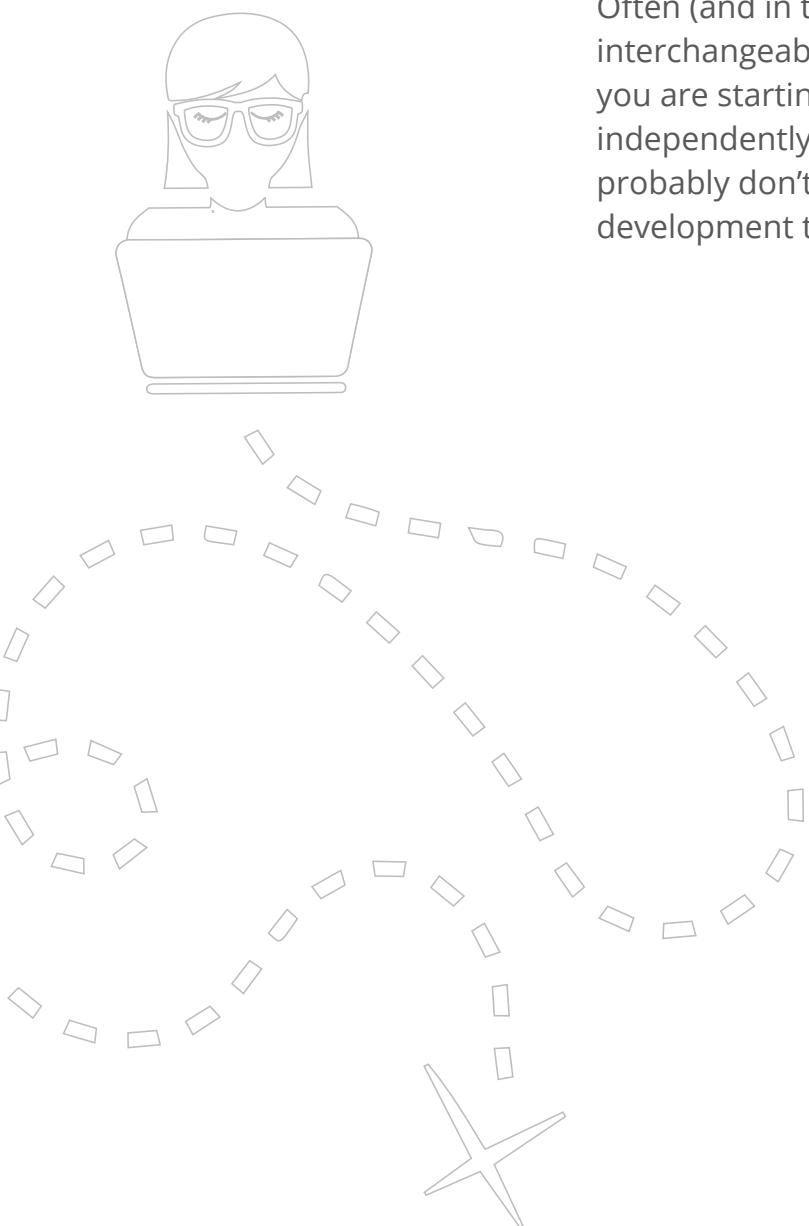


WHAT IS A *junior* DEVELOPER?

## INTRO

Although there's no official definition of a junior developer, it's a term used for a person who is starting their career in development. So, "junior" just means that you're new to the job.

Often (and in this guide), "junior" is used interchangeably with "entry-level." It means that you are starting with fresh skills that you've honed independently and on smaller projects, but you probably don't have much experience working on a development team...yet!



# THE ROLE OF A *junior* DEVELOPER

- Constantly grow your knowledge and skills
- Proactively learn about tools, processes, and products
- Diligently follow coding standards
- Always look for ways to help the team
- Happily take on any tasks that need to be done
- Openly communicate with all team members and departments
- Willingly accept feedback and improve as needed
- Consistently meet goals and deadlines
- Actively contribute suggestions and ideas

# RESPONSIBILITIES OF A *junior* DEVELOPER

- Write and mark up code
- Debug and refactor code
- Create and run tests
- Implement new features and improve current features
- Participate in and support deployments
- Write and maintain documentation
- Take part in planning and development meetings and projects
- Collaborate with other teams and departments on issues, requests, and support



## THE ROLE OF A *junior* DEVELOPER

As a junior developer, you could have a lot of different titles depending on the size of the company you work for, the specific role you're playing there, and the actual level of work you'll be doing. For example a Code Tester or QA Tester still needs junior development skills even though that's not apparent in the job title.

To get the low-down on all the job titles you could have as a junior web developer (and what you'll do in these roles!) check out this list.

- Junior/Entry-Level Developer**
- Junior/Entry-Level Programmer**
- Junior/Entry-Level Coder**
- Developer**
- Developer Trainee**
- Web Developer**
- Front-End Developer**
- JavaScript developer**
- Ruby developer**
- Rails developer**
- WordPress / PHP Developer**
- Software Developer**
- Mobile Developer**
- Application / App developer**
- QA Tester**
- QA Engineer**
- Code Tester**
- Tech Support Engineer**



THE SKILLS YOU NEED TO  
BECOME A *junior* DEVELOPER

# THESE ARE THE EXACT SKILLS YOU NEED TO KNOW TO GET A JUNIOR DEVELOPER JOB:

**HTML**

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**CSS**

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**GIT/GITHUB**

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**JAVASCRIPT/JQUERY**

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**PROJECT MANAGEMENT TOOLS**

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**AUTOMATED TESTING**

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**A BACKEND LANGUAGE LIKE  
PHP, RUBY, OR PYTHON**



**js**



**{ }**



# HTML & CSS

## WHAT IT IS

HTML, or HyperText Markup Language, is the language used to create structure and content like text and links. CSS, or Cascading Style Sheets, is the language used to format and style HTML.

## WHAT CAN YOU BUILD WITH IT

Web pages

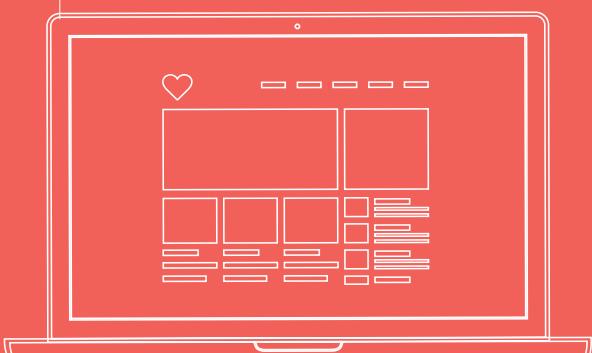
Websites

Apps

Games

## WHAT KIND OF JOB NEEDS IT

Junior Web Developer, Big Ass Solutions



# GIT AND GITHUB

## WHAT IT IS

Git is a version control system for keeping track of changes to code and documentation, and GitHub is a web-based tool for using Git.

Both Git and GitHub are crucial skills for working on a tech team.

## WHAT CAN YOU BUILD WITH IT

Store code and documentation

Copy and contribute code and documentation

Track changes to code and documentation

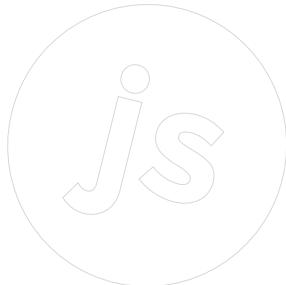
Collaborate with other developers

## WHAT KIND OF JOB NEEDS IT

[Junior Developer, Ninthlink](#)

A white line-art icon of a computer terminal window, showing three dots at the top and a command line prompt '>\_ terminal' inside.

# JAVASCRIPT AND JQUERY



## WHAT IT IS

JavaScript is a programming language that is often used to make web pages interactive, and jQuery is a popular JavaScript library that makes it possible to achieve JavaScript effects with less code.

And these days, JS frameworks, systems for building websites that make use of JavaScript and jQuery, are in high demand.

## WHAT CAN YOU BUILD WITH IT

- Forms
- Menus
- Dialogues
- Interactive elements on a webpage
- Dynamic web pages
- Web / mobile / desktop apps
- Games
- UI effects
- Widgets
- Interactions
- Responsive layouts
- Custom plugins



## WHAT KIND OF JOB NEEDS IT

[Junior JavaScript Developer, Architizer](#)

# PROJECT MANAGEMENT TOOLS

## WHAT IT IS

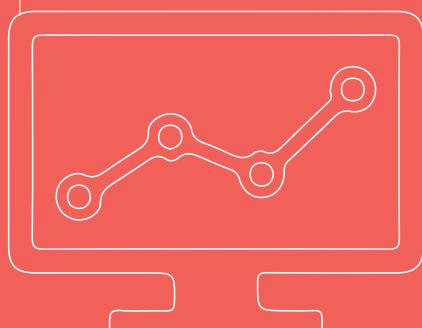
Project management tools are software or applications used by teams to coordinate tasks and schedules. Popular systems include Asana, JIRA, and Basecamp.

## WHAT CAN YOU DO WITH IT

- Keep track of issues to be handled
- Assign tasks and monitor progress
- Plan and monitor schedules

## WHAT KIND OF JOB NEEDS IT

[Entry-Level Web Developer](#), [Omnitracs](#)



## SPECIAL SKILLS

Once you have the basics down, you can start getting more specialized skills for specific jobs.

### SASS/LESS

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### MOBILE DEVELOPMENT

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### FRONTEND & JAVASCRIPT FRAMEWORKS

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### WORDPRESS/PHP

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### RUBY ON RAILS

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### PYTHON/DJANGO

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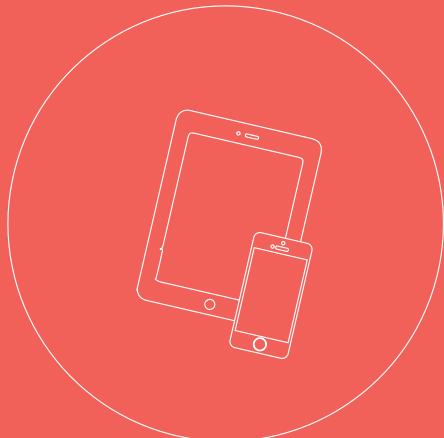
### DATABASE MANAGEMENT (USING SQL AND NOSQL)

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### AUTOMATED TESTING (TDD,BDD)

---

### AGILE WORKFLOW (SCRUM)

A large, stylized, light-gray letter 'B' is positioned within a circular outline on the right side of the page.

# CSS PREPROCESSORS

## WHAT IT IS

CSS Preprocessors like Sass and LESS are extensions of the CSS language that make CSS cleaner and easier to maintain.

## WHAT CAN YOU BUILD WITH IT

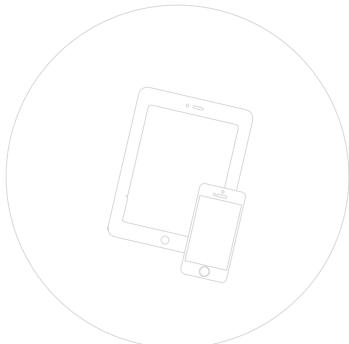
More organized, logical, and efficient stylesheets

## WHAT KIND OF JOB NEEDS IT

Junior Developer, Ocupop



# MOBILE DEVELOPMENT



## WHAT IT IS

Mobile development draws on CSS and JavaScript to build websites that are optimized for a variety of devices, like smartphones, tablets, and laptops.

## WHAT CAN YOU BUILD WITH IT

Websites and applications that respond dynamically to work well on different devices and in different situations

## WHAT KIND OF JOB NEEDS IT

[Web Developer](#), [Datadog](#)



# FRONTEND & JAVASCRIPT FRAMEWORKS



## WHAT IT IS

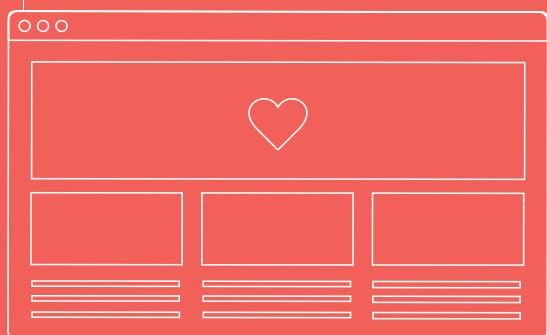
A framework is a collection of code libraries that make developing websites and applications faster and easier and code more consistent and compatible. Bootstrap is a popular front-end framework, and popular JavaScript frameworks include AngularJS, Backbone.js, and Node.js.

## WHAT CAN YOU BUILD WITH IT

Quickly create design templates and responsive layouts or single-page applications

## WHAT KIND OF JOB NEEDS IT

[Front-end Web Developer, Smarsh](#)



# WORDPRESS / PHP



## WHAT IT IS

WordPress is a Content Management System (CMS), and PHP, or PHP: Hypertext Preprocessor, is the server-side scripting language used for WordPress.

Wordpress powers over 60 milion websites, or at least 25% of the web.

## WHAT CAN YOU DO WITH IT

Create and manage content-based websites

## WHAT KIND OF JOB NEEDS IT

[Junior PHP and WordPress Engineer, CBS Radio](#)





# RUBY ON RAILS

## WHAT IT IS

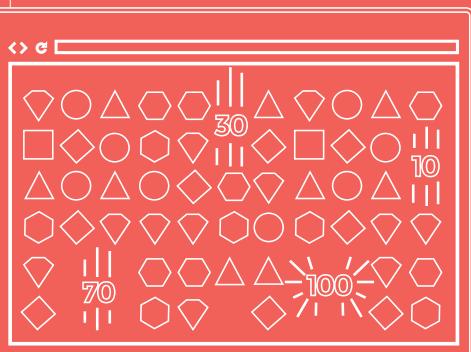
Ruby on Rails, or Rails, is a web application framework designed to work with the Ruby programming language.

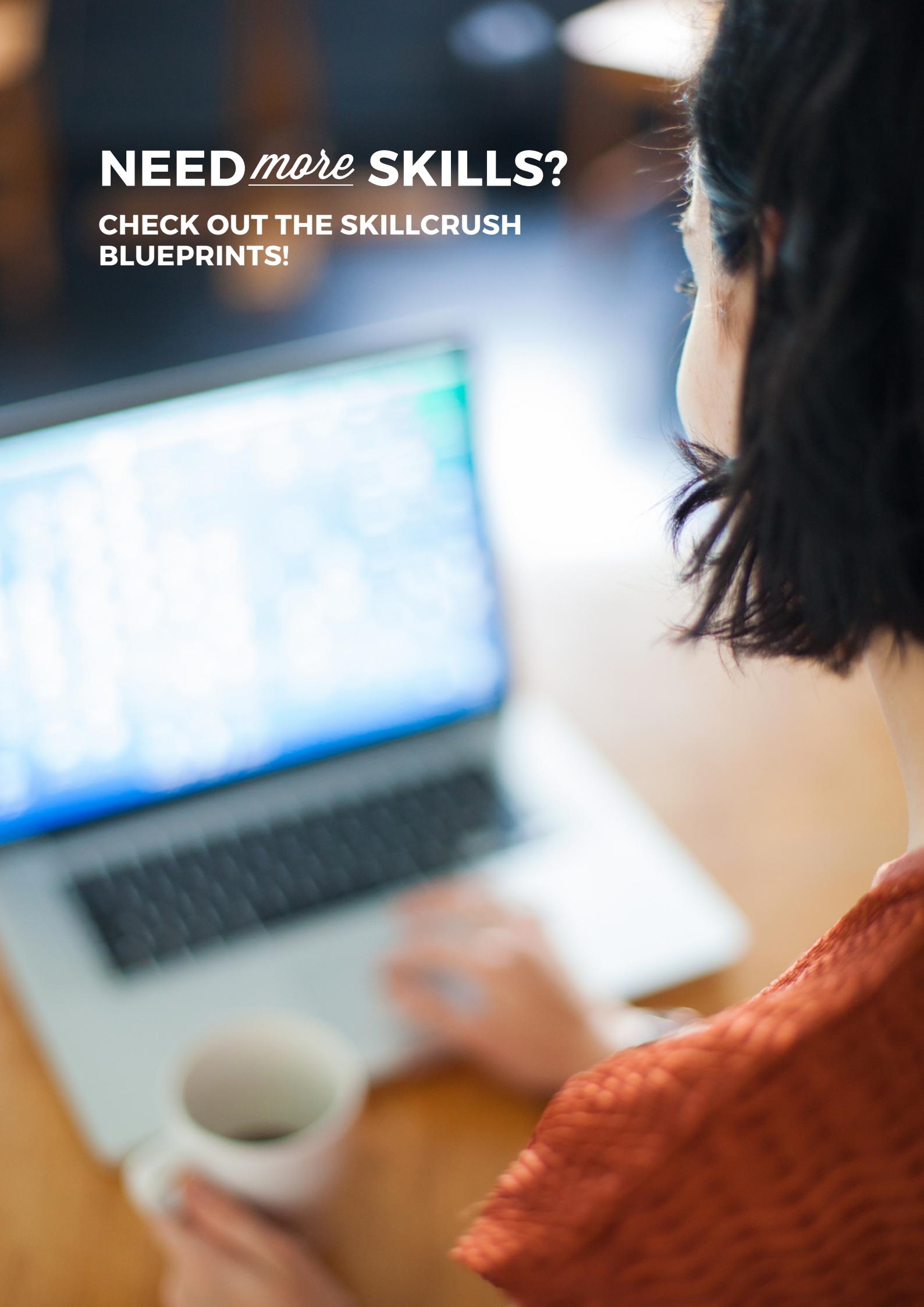
## WHAT CAN YOU DO WITH IT

Build mobile and web applications

## WHAT KIND OF JOB NEEDS IT

[Junior Software Developer – Ruby on Rails, Huckabuy](#)



A close-up, low-angle shot of a person's profile as they work on a laptop. The person has dark hair and is wearing a red patterned garment. A blurred laptop screen is visible in the background, suggesting they are looking at a computer monitor.

**NEED *more* SKILLS?**

**CHECK OUT THE SKILLCRUSH  
BLUEPRINTS!**



# WEB DESIGNER BLUEPRINT

Are you infatuated with the idea of being a digital designer but you don't have the tech chops? Or maybe you love the idea of being an online educator or customer service rep but the idea of using HTML + CSS on the daily sounds a little foreign. Our Skillcrush Web Designer Blueprint has your name all over it.

## YOU'LL LEARN:

- ✓ To Design & Code Your Very Own Website
- ✓ Photoshop for Web Design
- ✓ To Design for Your Users

## What Are You Waiting For?

Invest In Yourself,  
Invest In Your Future.

**SIGN UP NOW**

The Web Designer Blueprint is a three-month long online course that includes everything you need to get started in web design: structured lessons, useful exercises, master classes with industry experts, killer cheatsheets and sample files and instructors there to help guide you every step of the way! *Find out more at [skillcrush.com/blueprint/web-designer](http://skillcrush.com/blueprint/web-designer)!*

Your Blueprint is structured around three core classes:

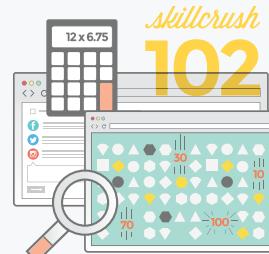
### skillcrush 100 UX AND WEB DESIGN



### skillcrush 101 HTML AND CSS



### skillcrush 102 JAVASCRIPT, JQUERY AND APIs





# WEB DEVELOPER BLUEPRINT

Product design sounds like a pretty cool gig, huh? Getting paid to invent cool products all the livelong day? Yes, please! If you are stoked to start creating but you're lacking some of the necessities – like knowledge of a programming language like Ruby or JavaScript – Skillcrush is here to guide you. Check out the Skillcrush Web Developer Blueprint and get tinkering.

## YOU'LL LEARN:

- ✓ To Build Websites from Scratch
- ✓ To Translate Designs into Code
- ✓ To Launch Your Very Own App

## What Are You Waiting For?

Invest In Yourself,  
Invest In Your Future.

**SIGN UP NOW**

The Web Developer Blueprint is a 3-month long Blueprint that includes everything you could possibly need to get started the right way: structured lessons, useful exercises, master classes with experts, killer cheatsheets and instructors there at every step along the way! *Find out more at [skillcrush.com/blueprint/web-developer](http://skillcrush.com/blueprint/web-developer)!*

Your Blueprint is structured around three core classes:

### skillcrush 101 HTML AND CSS



### skillcrush 102 JAVASCRIPT, JQUERY AND APIs



### skillcrush 104 RUBY, GIT AND SINATRA



## ADVANCED BLUEPRINTS

If you are already comfortable using HTML and CSS, or if you are already off to a great start when it comes to web design and development, you might be ready to dive into one of our advanced blueprints:



### **Freelance WordPress Developer**

**AVERAGE SALARY: \$85,000**

Are you ready to learn one of the most marketable skills on the planet? Do you want to land a side project that pays more than your monthly salary? Are you sick of being dependent on expensive templates that aren't QUITE right, or having to call your developer every single time you need to make even a tiny tweak? Then, my friend, it's time for you to learn WordPress.

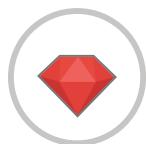
#### **YOU'LL LEARN:**

- ✓ To Code and Launch Custom WordPress Sites
- ✓ Plugins for SEO, Analytics and More
- ✓ To Pitch and Land Your First Paying Client

### What Are You Waiting For?

Invest In Yourself,  
Invest In Your Future.

**SIGN UP NOW**



## Ruby on Rails Developer

AVERAGE SALARY: \$108,000

Ask any industry pro what technology you should learn to build custom web applications and they will all say the same thing: Ruby on Rails. What makes Rails so special is that it is both incredibly complex and unbelievably simple, making it the perfect choice for beginners and experts alike. If you want to get hired full-time at a major tech company (or start your own tech company), this is the technology you must learn.

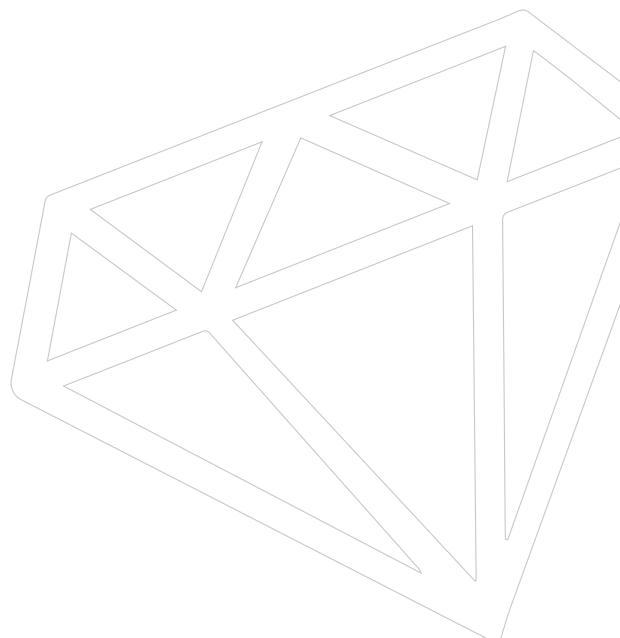
### YOU'LL LEARN:

- ✓ To Build Complex Web Applications
- ✓ To Work On An Existing Ruby on Rails Project
- ✓ How Tech Companies Use Rails

## What Are You Waiting For?

Invest In Yourself,  
Invest In Your Future.

[SIGN UP NOW](#)





## Mobile Web Designer Blueprint

AVERAGE SALARY: \$92,000

If you've ever built a website, chances are, you've heard the question, "Is it mobile friendly?" With more and more users accessing the Internet from mobile devices, creating responsive websites has never been more important. If you are a smartphone addict and are obsessed with streamlining the mobile experience, then Responsive Web Design and Development is for you. And if you want to get hired to do frontend design or development at a tech company (or meet the demands of freelance clients), responsive design skills are a must.

### YOU'LL LEARN:

- ✓ To design and build mobile-friendly sites
- ✓ To optimize designs for the mobile web
- ✓ To create interactive, adaptive user experiences

## What Are You Waiting For?

Invest In Yourself,  
Invest In Your Future.

[SIGN UP NOW](#)

## HAVE YOU JOINED *the CLUB?*

Find more on [our blog](#)

If you found this resource (and the ones listed here) helpful, there's even more to discover on the Skillcrush blog.

We share top career advice, inside tech tips, real-life stories of getting into tech, and tons of FREE guides, worksheets, and resources.



Sign up for our newsletter now so you won't miss a post. Each week, we send you 2 researched, detailed, easy-to-read articles to help you harness the power of tech and get the career you deserve.

Join thousands of happy readers! Here's what a few of them have to say:

"I read a blog post every day and learn something new. The resources you give us are priceless!"

SARA EVANS

"I have been on your mailing list now for 8 months and in that time alone I saw the platform grow so much. Seriously, in the online education space you guys have some of the best content marketing. (Some online learning platforms neglect it entirely, while others only post articles about latest updates or course offerings, which is a bore.) Skillcrush actually generates valuable content for readers."

LAURENCE BRADFORD

"The 99 Tech Terms You Need to Know When You're New to Tech has been a big help! I love materials that cover the basics."

APRIL HARRIS

"Skillcrush, Thank you for offering such a great newsletter to your subscribers. The content that you send out is always helpful and something that I can refer back to as I improve my coding skills. I especially love your PDF quicksource guides."

JUBILEE GRACE

"Your email newsletters, videos and articles are so inspiring, I really look forward to them and I love your attitude, all of you, and the great images. You make me feel included in a world where it seems everyone is an expert, and I wanted to say thanks."

ATTY CRONIN

"I love your blog posts! They always end up being my lunchtime reads at work!"

CAROLINE KIM



## WHAT *are* YOU WAITING FOR?

Sign up to our newsletter now so you won't miss a post.

[SIGN UP NOW](#)



# THANKS FOR JOINING US.

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Feel free to email us with any questions at  
[hello@skillcrush.com](mailto:hello@skillcrush.com)