

Simon Rose

Software Engineer and Tech Leader

 Nottingham, UK

 simon-rose.co.uk / rose.tech

 linkedin.com/simonprose

 simon@rose.tech

 +447791863017

Summary

I am a software engineer and tech leader with 10+ years experience of building and leading high-performing, innovative and results-driven software development teams. I have led the design, development and delivery of complex software projects across fintech, edtech and academia. I pride myself on my leadership and communication skills, and I am exceptional at organisation, process implementation and attention to detail. I hold a PhD in Computer Science, and my research focused on creating games to teach children programming skills.

Recent Experience

Director - RoseTech

May 2020 -

- Provided software development, technical leadership and software engineering consultancy services to a variety of clients from digital agencies to universities.

Lead Software Engineer - Thrive

Oct 2023 -

- Guided the frontend implementation of Thrive's learning platform using React, TypeScript, Redux and GraphQL. Ensuring that code is fast, testable, scalable and high quality.
- Responsible for line managing 8 frontend software engineers (4 direct and 4 indirect) including other leads and seniors, guiding career development and coaching through 1:1s.
- Made enterprise-level frontend architectural decisions and implemented best practices.
- Worked on platform health and technical debt initiatives, collaborating with backend, QA and cloud engineers on Thrive's event-driven microservice architecture.
- Expanded the team through interviewing and hiring permanent and contract software engineers.
- Built Thrive's component library using Storybook and MUI, working closely with the UX team.

Lead End Point Assessor - Sheffield Hallam University (Part-time)

Jul 2020 -

- Assessed the Digital and Technology Solutions Specialist Integrated Degree Apprenticeship - Software Engineering Specialism.
- Developed the assessment process, including assessment schemes and question frameworks, based on the Government-provided standard.
- Conducted the assessments for 45 apprentices over 4 years, each involving a 2 hour discussion and grading a 10,000 word project report.

Chief Technology Officer - MTa Learning

Jan 2022 - Mar 2023

- Oversaw the delivery of 18 web applications and APIs for a collaborative experiential learning platform.
- Architected the platform solution (full-stack TypeScript using Next.js, Nest.js and MongoDB) based on requirements from the Managing Director.
- Created UI/UX designs in Figma for user-facing applications using a reusable design system.
- Handled product strategy, including road-mapping, stakeholders, and managing task priorities and dependencies.
- Hired software engineers and designers at various levels to build the platform.

Principal Software Engineer - 542 Digital

Apr 2022 - Mar 2023

- Oversaw the development and delivery of 19 fintech web applications using TypeScript, React, Redux and Next.js.
- Built and led a team of 5 engineers, supporting their personal and professional development through 1:1s and continuous feedback whilst fostering an open and productive culture.
- Implemented industry standard software development processes and an Agile methodology across multiple teams.
- Led on hiring for multiple roles across the business, including software engineers, project managers and product designers.
- Consulted the business on growth from a small agency (10 employees) to an SME (40 employees) and acted as a de-facto Director in terms of financial and business discussions.

Lead Software Engineer - 542 Digital

Oct 2021 - Mar 2022

- Led on the development of 8 fintech web applications using TypeScript, React, Redux and Next.js.
- Overhauled the frontend tech stack from JavaScript/jQuery projects sitting within a larger Laravel application, to standalone TypeScript/React projects that can handle additional complexity, are more scalable and are easier to test.
- UI/UX design in Figma using a design system based on Ant Design.
- Standardised documentation practices company-wide.
- Implemented an automated and manual testing strategy, code review process and coding standards.
- Configured reusable CI/CD pipelines using Gitlab CI.
- Configured application deployments to AWS using Docker/EKS and Amplify, Vercel and Cloudflare Pages.

Senior Software Engineer - 542 Digital

Jul 2021 - Sep 2021

- Developed 2 web applications in React, JavaScript and Highcharts.
- Maintained 4 legacy applications in JavaScript and jQuery.

Skills

Technical

- React, Next.js and Redux
- AngularJS and RxJS
- Vue.js and Nuxt.js
- TypeScript / JavaScript
- HTML / CSS / SCSS
- Node.js / Express.js
- Automated testing using Jest / Cypress / Playwright
- MongoDB / SQL databases
- GraphQL
- Deployments using Vercel, Netlify, AWS, Google Firebase and Ubuntu servers.
- Pipeline configuration using Gitlab CI/CD and Jenkins.

Soft Skills

- Problem-solving
- Organisation
- Planning
- Adaptability
- Communication
- Attention to detail
- Pragmatism
- Evaluating competency
- Situational awareness
- Leadership
- Business awareness
- Educating
- Presenting
- Building productive team cultures

Design and Project Management

- UI/UX design
- Figma
- Jira / Linear / Trello
- Agile

Education

PhD Computer Science - Sheffield Hallam University

Oct 2016 - Sep 2019

Thesis Title: Developing Children's Computational Thinking Skills using Programming Games

Supervisors: Dr Jacob Habgood and Dr Tim Jay

Outputs: Pirate Plunder (an online programming game available for free and currently being used by the Federal Center for Technological Education of Rio de Janeiro as part of their programming curriculum.)

MComp Software Engineering - Sheffield Hallam University

Sep 2011 - Jul 2016

First Class (Honours)

Sandwich Course

Award Classification Mark: 86.55%

Interests

Reading

I like to read and am always striving to broaden my knowledge and understanding on a wide range of topics. I set myself the goal to read a book a week in 2016 and have continued to exceed this target each year.

Exercise

I enjoy keeping myself in good shape, primarily through cycling and resistance training.

Travel

I am a keen traveller and enjoy throwing myself into the unknown. I have travelled around Asia, South America and Europe over the last few years.

References

References available upon request.