

Simon Rose

Software Engineer and Technology Leader

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Summary

I am a driven and adaptable lead software engineer who is experienced in 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 have a PhD in Computer Science, and my research focused on creating games to teach children programming skills.

Recent Experience

Director - RoseTech

May 2020 -

- Providing software development, technical leadership and software engineering consultancy services.

Senior Lead Software Engineer (Front-end) - Thrive

Oct 2023 -

- Guided the front-end implementation of Thrive's learning platform using TypeScript, React, Redux and GraphQL.
- Line managed a team of 8 front-end software engineers (4 direct and 4 indirect) including leads and seniors, guiding personal development and setting goals through 1:1s.
- Implemented front-end best practices and a consistent solution architecture.
- Worked on platform health and technical debt initiatives, collaborating with back-end, QA and cloud engineers.
- Led on interviewing and hiring permanent and contract software engineers.
- Built out Thrive's component library using Storybook and MUI, working closely with the UI/UX team.

Senior Technical Manager (Front-end) - 542 Digital

Apr 2022 - Mar 2023

- Overseen the development and delivery of 19 fintech web applications using TypeScript, React, Redux and Next.js.
- 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 within the team.
- 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.

Chief Technology Officer - MTa Learning

Jan 2022 - Mar 2023

- Overseen 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 design system.
- Handled product strategy, including road-mapping, stakeholders, and managing task priorities and dependencies.
- Hired software engineers and designers to build the platform.

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 an assessment process, including assessment schemes and question frameworks, based on the Government provided standard.
- Conducted the assessments for 40 apprentices over 3 years, each involving a 2 hour discussion and grading a 10,000 word project report.

Technical Lead (Front-end) - 542 Digital

Oct 2021 - Mar 2022

- Led on the development of 8 fintech web applications using TypeScript, React, Redux and Next.js.
- Overhauled the front-end tech stack from JavaScript/jQuery projects sitting within a larger Laravel application, to standalone TypeScript/React projects that can handle additional complexity.
- UI/UX design in Figma using a design system of components and variables.
- 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 (Front-end) - 542 Digital

Jul 2021 - Sep 2022

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

Skills

Technical

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

Soft Skills

- Organisation
- Planning
- Adaptability
- Communication
- Attention to detail
- Pragmatism
- Evaluating competency
- Situational awareness
- Leadership
- Business awareness
- Educating
- Presenting
- Building 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

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.