

Steven Wanderski

Senior Ruby on Rails Engineer

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Senior Ruby on Rails Engineer with 10+ years of experience building and maintaining high-traffic web applications. Specialized in payment processing, test-driven development, and cloud-based deployments.

SKILLS

Backend: Ruby on Rails, Node.js, Postgres, Redis, GraphQL

Frontend: React, Hotwire/Turbo, Tailwind, Javascript, TypeScript

DevOps: AWS, Heroku, CI/CD, GitHub Actions

Practices: TDD, Code Reviews, Agile, Clean Architecture

EXPERIENCE

4aGoodCause - *Lead Engineer*

JANUARY 2015 - PRESENT

- Architected and built a Ruby on Rails platform from the ground up, migrating legacy ASP data
- Sole maintainer for 9+ years, ensuring reliability, scalability, and clean test-driven code
- Platform processes over \$20M in annual donations and supports hundreds of nonprofits
- Integrated multiple payment gateways (Stripe, Authorize.net, PayPal), handling secure transactions and recurring billing
- Designed background job systems and cron processes to manage high-volume data operations
- Deployed and maintained production environments on Heroku with robust CI/CD and monitoring
- Maintained a comprehensive test suite including end-to-end, integration, and unit coverage

Popular Pays - *Co-Founder / Software Engineer*

NOVEMBER 2013 - JUNE 2019

- Built and scaled the initial Rails API and admin tools powering a two-sided influencer marketing platform
- Developed large-scale JSON APIs consumed by multiple front-end clients (Ember.js, iOS)
- Practiced agile development, code reviews, and test-driven workflows with distributed teams
- Helped grow the company from 2 to 40 employees, acquired by Lightricks, Inc. in 2022

EDUCATION

B.S. in Computer Information Systems — Eastern Illinois University