Thom Allen

Freelance web developer based in London

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Summary

I'm a front-end web developer passionate about building **effective, user-friendly web experiences**. Currently focusing on building **modern web app components**, particularly in **React**.

History

(More examples and info for much of the below available on my portfolio site along with various side projects & open-source code on GitHub.)

Freelance *Jan 2016– present & 2009– 2012*

Agency: **ASOS.com / ASOS Creates** | Clients: **PayPal, Hostelworld**
Built microsites for ASOS' brand partnerships with PayPal and Hostelworld. Used Gulp scripts to build from Pug templates into an array of static files, targeting various devices & languages.

Agency: **Dunnhumby** | Client: **Tesco**
Provided QA for Tesco Groceries' XML-based banner ads along with workflow consultancy. Prototyped approvals-oriented web app with Knockout.js and responsive ad components with React.

Agency: **StirPR** | Client: **Felix**
Developed responsive HTML emails from provided designs.

Agency: **Antidote** | Client: **Travel Republic**
As part of a two developer team I created banner ads with HTML+JS for Travel Republic's summer campaign for a wide variety of destinations and formats. Also created a simple ad viewer to help the agency team quickly review changes & help meet the deadline.

Agency: **Antidote** | Client: **Libratone & Sigma**
Created a custom player module for YouTube 360° videos with JavaScript and YouTube's JS API to be used on a landing page, to a strict deadline. Assisted with refactoring colleague's first-draft JS into a revealing module pattern and added BEM and 7-1 code conventions. Created documentation for the handover to back-end devs.

Skills & experience

Front-end fundamentals
HTML5, CSS3, Sass, PostCSS, JavaScript to ES6+ with Babel, TypeScript

Libraries & frameworks
jQuery, React, Vue.js. Bootstrap, Foundation. Electron. GSAP, Anime.js

App state management
Redux, MobX, Flux

Build tools
Webpack, Rollup, Gulp, Grunt

Testing & assertion libs
Mocha, Jest, Tape. Expect, Enzyme. Familiar with TDD, Unit & Snapshot tests, etc

Templating
EJS, Twig, Jade/Pug, Mustache, etc

CMS & back-end
Craft, ExpressionEngine, WordPress, ProcessWire, Grav, Jekyll, etc.
Familiar with Nodejs, Express, REST APIs.

Version control
Git (via CLI/terminal)

Development practices
Continuous Integration (w/ TravisCI)
Test-driven Development (TDD)
Module / Component-based JS development & SemVer
Code linting (ESLint etc) & auto-formatting (Prettier etc)

Creativity to make you happy
Designed & developed this responsive Grav-based [blog site](#).

Various clients *2009–12*
Designing, building, hosting and maintaining client sites for small businesses.

Open-source & side projects *2016–present*

[react-simple-range](#)
Released this React component as an NPM package in Sep 2016.

Uses semantic-release & Travis CI for automated releases & package publishing when updates are committed to the master branch. Developed in ES6 and compiled to ES5 with Babel + Webpack.

Worked with open-source contributors to add new features & bugfixes.

[countdown-app](#)
A countdown timer app built with React and Electron, featuring web and desktop builds (and a truly original name...)

Part-time *2013–2015*

Phosphor Art
Part-time Developer
Built responsive promos and landing pages alongside maintaining, updating and improving existing WordPress site. Created HTML email campaigns & email builder, newsletter signup forms etc. Prototyped a responsive online store page with ExpressionEngine & PayPal's API.

Stuff & Sense
Part-time Developer & consultant
Designed & built the Stuff & Sense company site with a responsive front-end and an ExpressionEngine-based back-end. Provided consultancy services to various clients.

Other work

2011 - Facilities assistant at Google, Buckingham Palace Rd
2008 - Office administrator at Eaux de Vie, Harcourt St (now Marussia Beverages)

About

I'm an efficient, versatile and self-motivated developer.

I've designed and built a number of websites & web apps from the ground up, both solo and with a team. I currently specialise in **front-end development**.

I enjoy learning (and working with) modern, future-facing web technology, and currently prefer using **React** for the view layer of web apps due to its composable, reusable component model, time-efficient development and rich ecosystem.

I'm partial to using **Redux** as a state container, as I believe its consistency & predictability is worth the additional boilerplate.

Education

Self-taught developer.
The Ravensbourne School,
10 GCSEs A* – C

References available on request