Vada Karlen

Full-Stack Software Engineer with a passion for clean & meaningful code

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SKILLS & INTERESTS

- **Languages:** JavaScript, PostgreSQL, Python, HTML5, CSS
- **Frameworks:** React, Redux, Node, AJAX, Express, jQuery, Flask, Jest, Material-UI, Bootstrap
- **Interests:** Drawing, Houseplants, Dog Sports, Video Games, Hiking, Animation

PROJECTS

Canomiks Dashboard — github.com/vkarlen/Canomiks-Dashboard

A dashboard for Canomiks, a company that tests and certifies the biological efficacy of CBD, to effectively streamline the testing process and simplify communication with their customers.

- With a small remote team and a UX prototype, we planned, scoped, and built out a fully working dashboard over a 2-week sprint for a real-world client.
- My primary focus during this project was the customer-facing displays, AWS S3 Cloud implementation, and directing the overall cohesiveness of our code. Further, I trained our client on setting up their own AWS account with IAM users for the project hand-off.
- **Technologies used:** JavaScript, React, Redux, AWS S3, PostgreSQL, Express, Node, Material-UI

Sniffer — github.com/vkarlen/Sniffer

A full-stack web app designed to help the average pet parent manage their dog's food allergies and connect them with foods that fit their pup's specific needs.

- Sniffer is a passion project that bridges a major gap in the pet industry, greatly reducing the frustration and hours spent by pet parents when dealing with food allergies. Personally scoped out all functions, views, and user stories to assess what could be completed within a two-week sprint.
- Built out a search function that filters out specific allergens and a comparison tool to help the user quickly identify overlapping allergens in two foods. Additionally, there is a robust admin portal for adding and managing food in the database that handles all of the backend organization.
- **Technologies used:** JavaScript, React, Redux, PostgreSQL, Express, Node, Material-UI

EDUCATION

Prime Digital Academy   December 2020 – April 2021
Full-Stack Software Engineering Student
Minneapolis, MN

- Completed a 20-week full-time, immersive program where I learned to collaborate remotely with a team utilizing the agile format to plan, scope, and build full-stack web apps using a variety of languages and frameworks.
- Gained valuable experience in quickly self-teaching new languages, utilizing APIs, writing unit testing, publicly presenting projects, and working with real-world clients.

WORK EXPERIENCE

American Distribution and Manufacturing Company   **November 2019 – January 2021**

Inside Sales Representative   *Cottage Grove, MN*

- Entered large-scale pet food orders, managing time, and prioritized accounts to meet daily deadlines to ensure that stores received their orders in a timely fashion.

- Worked directly with retail customers, prioritizing urgent needs and offering rapid solutions.

- Navigated the shift from in-office to remote and continued to work efficiently and effectively while collaborating with my team.

Chuck & Don's Pet Food & Supply   **May 2015 – November 2019**

Various Roles and Promotions   *Mahtomedi, MN*

Inventory Specialist | June 2018 – November 2019

- Researched and analyzed sales for all 48 stores across 4 regions and adjusted inventory accordingly. Acted as the corporate liaison for 18 of these stores, solving any issues that arose.

- Engineered key projects for the rebranding of our company while on loan to the Marketing Department, and utilized a style guide to redesign outdated coupons, signage, merchandise, and other branded items.

- Trained to fill in across all other department tasks.

Supervisor | May 2015 – June 2018

- Navigated a fast-paced store and grooming environment, balancing excellent customer service and store functions on a daily basis.

- Worked directly with customers to meet their needs. Constantly sought further research to keep up with an evolving industry. Clarified complex concepts for both customers and coworkers.