

# Vance Faulkner

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## Summary

Full-stack engineer, strong problem-solver and lifelong learner

I am a proponent of simple, thoughtfully-crafted solutions and thrive in fast-moving, distributed teams where communication is critical. I love building things, solving complex problems and making customers happy.

## Technologies

**Back-end:** Ruby, Ruby on Rails, Sidekiq, Rspec, Mongoid, Capybara, SQL

**Datastore:** MongoDB, PostgreSQL, Redis

**Front-end:** HTML, Javascript, CSS, SASS, jQuery, AJAX, Websockets, Bootstrap, Jekyll

**Infrastructure:** Linux/Unix, AWS, DigitalOcean, Docker, NGINX, Codeship, Kafka, Heroku

**Monitoring:** Rollbar, Graylog, Grafana, New Relic, StatsD, Kibana

**Development:** Git, GitHub, JIRA, Trello, Vim

## Expertise

### Strong

API design

Data strategy

Concurrency

Documentation

Object-oriented design

Automated testing

Support

Legacy code

### Proficient

Front-end design

Responsive design

User experience

Monitoring

Distributed systems

Infrastructure mgmt.

Linux sys. admin.

System architecture

## Experience & Projects

### Software Engineer at Validic

Durham, NC / Remote | December 2014 — Present

Responsible for scaling and improving our core Ruby on Rails application

### Partner & Mobile API

I have led the design, development and maintenance of our partner and mobile JSON APIs which, combined handler 6+ million requests/day. Additionally, I am heavily involved in their documentation ([partner.validic.com/docs](http://partner.validic.com/docs)), support, and strategic roadmap.

### Developer Portal

For our partner API I led the creation of a developer portal ([partner.validic.com](http://partner.validic.com)) that decreased API implementation time by 70%. I was involved with almost every detail of this project: from the front-end, to the back-end, to integrating it with our legacy applications, to its deployment, to its maintenance through today.

## Legacy Cleanup

I was one of four engineers who dramatically stabilized our core legacy system by addressing technical debt during our first year. This involved establishing development best-practices and protocol, doubling test-coverage, and lots of refactoring. We cut the number of monthly support tickets in half over a period of 8 months.

## API Integrations

Our system has dozens of 3rd party API integrations, and I have been involved with the majority of them, sometimes as the sole developer. In these I regularly deal with issues of authorization, data-transformation, concurrency, rate-limits, caching, etc. I have also been heavily involved with the design and refactoring of our integration code patterns.

## Image Upload/Download Endpoints

In order to make images recorded by our mobile app available to customers, I created image upload/download endpoints. This involved authentication, image processing, and persistence to S3.

## Token Migration Endpoint

I advocated for and implemented a new customer migration API endpoint. Our system manages OAuth integrations for our customers and, previous to this, new customers would migrate any existing OAuth Access Tokens to our system via CSV that we manually processed. This new endpoint made the migration process quicker, easier and safer.

## Student at The Iron Yard

Durham, NC | August 2014 — December 2014

Took a 3 month leave of absence to gain experience with the major full-stack technologies including Ruby on Rails, JavaScript, HTML, CSS, Git, etc. Final project was an app to provide aggregate data on elected officials including voting patterns, fundraising, etc.

## Growth Strategist at Validic

Durham, NC | August 2013 — August 2014

2nd full-time hire for startup that's grown to over 60. Established critical early operations and systems including on-boarding, marketing analytics, our CRM, sales-engineering, account management, etc.

## Open Source

[rails-sandbox.com](https://rails-sandbox.com) | [https://github.com/vpfaulkner/rails\\_sandbox](https://github.com/vpfaulkner/rails_sandbox)

Developed web app aimed at promoting Rails conventions by generating Rails code. Gained experience with Rails 5, websockets and lots of DevOps technologies.

## Education

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Bachelor of Arts in Economics; minor in English Literature; Graduated with Distinction