

BENJAMIN WRIGHT

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PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS

Builder, collaborator, and lifelong learner with a knack for making the complex simple. I spent 10 years leading and creating in tech, then took a 10-year break to grow in new directions—studying leadership, project management, and how people think, work, and grow. Now I'm back, sharper than ever, with the energy to contribute, lead, or learn something completely new. Big on clarity, fast on the uptake, and always people-first. [See References](#)

Career Break Grand Rapids, MI

Independent Growth and Exploration Mar 2015 - Present

- Earned a 23-credit hour Project Management Certificate from Grand Valley State University in 2025, deepening expertise in project planning, execution, and leadership.
- Committed to a decade of self-directed learning across a range of disciplines, including marketing, business, psychology, and technology.
- Read extensively from college-level textbooks—especially in marketing and business—fostering critical thinking, strategic awareness, and knowledge synthesis.
- Completed formal college coursework in statistics, calculus, sociology, and C++, reinforcing analytical reasoning, mathematical fluency, and systems thinking.
- Took self-paced courses in Python (Harvard University/edX), earned a problem-solving certificate at HackerRank, and completed the official React tutorial—building technical fluency, adaptability, and problem-solving skills.
- Learned to play guitar and sing—developing creativity, discipline, and a growth mindset through consistent practice.
- Trained for and completed a full triathlon, demonstrating long-term discipline, goal-setting, and resilience.
- Took private pilot lessons, sharpening situational awareness, focus under pressure, and decision-making in dynamic environments.

Verisign Reston, VA

Software Engineer III Mar 2013 - Sep 2014

- Collaborated with a cross-functional team including front/back-end developers, product managers, UI design, and QA to optimize development processes.
- Recognized for reducing pain points in the development cycle.
- Worked on UI development with JavaScript (React, jQuery, DataTables.js) and Java (JavaServer Faces) in mdns.verisign.com.

Freelance Seattle, WA

Front End Web Developer Oct 2012 - Dec 2012

- UI development in BookmarkChess.com (jasmine, jsdoc)
- UI development in GE.com (webgl, three.js)

Digitas Detroit, MI

Principal Software Engineer Mar 2011 - Jun 2011

- Recognized and promoted for SME expertise at Compuware.
- Collaborated with marketing and analytics teams to drive results.

Compuware Detroit, MI

Senior Software Engineer, UI Team Lead May 2009 - Mar 2011

- Supervised a multidisciplinary UI/UX team in delivering OnStar.com.
- Mentored junior developers, conducted interviews, and worked closely with clients to achieve project milestones.
- Collaborated with external teams from Digitas and GM, handling UI development with JavaScript (jQuery) and Java (Liferay).

Organic Bloomfield Hills, MI

Web User Interface Engineer (Contract) Jul 2008 - May 2009

- Collaborated daily with developers, product managers and account managers to achieve project milestones on time
- Chosen to develop the prominent vehicle selector widget, a coveted portfolio opportunity
- UI development with JavaScript (mootools, jquery, google maps api) and PHP in Chrysler.com, Dodge.com and Jeep.com

WHO I AM—[Plum.io](#) (Aptitude and skills evaluation)

- Clear Communicator: Skilled at fostering openness and clarity in communication, ensuring that all parties—technical or non-technical—are aligned and engaged.
- Relationship Builder: Adept at developing strong cross-functional team relationships through transparent and effective communication.
- Leader & Coach: Leadership and coaching experience drawn from athletics, business, and the U.S. Marine Corps, with a focus on motivating teams and individuals toward success.
- Behavioral & Social Science Enthusiast: Deeply curious about understanding people, with a strong interest in behavioral, cognitive, and social sciences.
- Analytical Thinker: Above-average analytical and pattern recognition skills, driving insight into complex situations.
- Problem Solver: Enthusiastic about tackling challenges, with a strong focus on creative and actionable solutions.
- Self-Starter with Action Bias: Proactively identifies needs and takes initiative, ensuring progress in high-stakes environments.
- Customer-Centered: I empathize with my customers and prioritize removing their pain points to improve their experience.

TECHNICAL SKILLS—[HackerRank](#) (Problem-solving certifications)

- Excel (Statistics), SQL (MySQL)
- [GitHub](#), JIRA ([Agile](#) Development, Scrum), Microsoft Project
- Bash (Unix shell), CSS, JavaScript ES6, Java 6, [Python 3](#), Perl 5, PHP, C++, and XML (HTML5)
- Growing experience with Node.js 22 and TypeScript 5.8

MORE ABOUT ME

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| Learning | I'm autodidactic; I'm an avid reader and I read to learn. I taught myself business administration with marketing, software engineering, and essential mathematics using regular textbooks—I just didn't complete a degree. I do have a year's worth of college credits in management, psychology, etc. |
| Fitness | I have over 20 years of fitness experience that includes cycling, marathons, an Olympic distance triathlon and common achievements in strength training. |