



// 2010 Graduate
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// Full Stack Technical Lead

// Bio

Through a general passion and enjoyment in finding solutions to problems, I have developed my career from university to team lead in our development department.

// Tell us about your role

My typical tasks include planning and architecting web / mobile applications and websites using a variety of technologies through to completion. I am also involved heavily in client liaison, staff management, project planning and resource load, as well as DevOps, systems optimisations, and web application deployment and maintenance.

// Why did you choose the industry?

A general passion and enjoyment in finding solutions or ways of automating processes. I've always been a creator so the natural progression was to build applications to make complex tasks simple enough and to provide solutions to real-world problems.

// How did you get into this industry?

After I finished university where I studied Computer Science (Games Technology), I began searching for roles as well as building a portfolio of websites / web applications using tutorials and projects from university.

My previous roles involved a mix of contract work and full-time positions, and my career started within the design / creation of websites but progressed to the point of architecting, delegating tasks to other developers and being heavily involved in the planning stages.

// How could others follow your route to industry?

Stay current and subscribe to developer-focused blogs / articles – **DEV** is a good source. Constantly look at tutorials and different ways to solve the same problem, this will

help develop refactoring skills and general problem solving. Take a common problem you may have in a day to day task and see if there is a digital way that you could solve it (e.g. budget planner app, to-do list app, pulling live data from a public API, recipe book app).

// Top Tip

Fundamentally, web dev, software engineering and computer science come down to the principle of finding solutions to problems. If you focus on problem solving day to day and can translate that to software engineering, then it will be a big plus.

One of the main drivers for success in this field is not being afraid to fail, all seasoned devs have failed or come across bugs – the difference between the ones that have grown is mostly down to persistence in trying to find solutions.

// Are there any sources of information you would recommend?

DEV – source for tutorials, videos, and podcasts for all things dev.

Hacktoberfest – a yearly event to create / contribute to open source projects in exchange for SWAG.

YouTube – channel with a number of easy to follow simple applications. The broad range of topics makes it a very good all-rounder for someone new to the industry that wishes to cover the fundamentals of Full Stack development.

