

Ben Hodgson

Telephone: 07595 047180

Email: ben@benhodgson.com

PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

I'm a Web Technologist specialising in Javascript/jQuery, Python/Django, object-oriented PHP and RESTful web services. I have five years of commercial experience with these technologies and am passionate about producing high-quality work that is people-friendly, standards-compliant and scalable. I'm naturally curious and love learning about new technologies and businesses.

I have experience working with clients from a range of industries internationally. Recently, I've worked on a Twitter-based web application for Infinity Ward (publishers of the "Call of Duty" series of video games) which received 250,000 unique visitors per day within a week of its launch. I've also lead development on a number of other PHP5 and Django web applications.

I'm friendly, hard-working and I love solving difficult problems. Although my professional interests are mainly technical, I have a solid appreciation for good design and thrive on applying my creative approach to problem solving.

EDUCATION AND QUALIFICATIONS

2006 – 2009:
University of Southampton

BSc (Hons) Computer Science (2:1)
My dissertation title was "*Richer Twitter: A Folksonomic Approach to Microblogging*". The body of written work produced is available at <http://portfolio.ecs.soton.ac.uk/62/>.

2004 – 2006:
The Judd School, Tonbridge

A-Levels:
Physics (A), Chemistry (A), Maths (B), Computing (A)

1999 – 2004:
Claverham C.C., Battle

GCSE: 9 Subjects
5 grade A*; 4 grade A

Other Qualifications

PADI Scuba Diver, LAMDA Grade 5 Acting (Distinction)

EXPERIENCE

Feb. 2009 – Present: **Director & Application Developer**
Fantastic Software Ltd.

We build web apps for awesome people. Recently we've worked with Infinity Ward (makers of the Call of Duty video games), Coudal Partners in Chicago and GamerDNA. We're currently building <http://greenwriter.org> for L.A.-based startup Greenwriter.

Alongside my day-to-day work with Javascript and Python, I'm also charged with looking after the company's finances.

Sep. 2008 – Oct. 2009: **Web Technologist**
Zoboa Ltd., Westbourne, UK

Developing and maintaining a product for the sailing market. Most of my work is on the server-side but I'm often asked to help solve Javascript and interface problems on the client-side. Organisational responsibilities include estimating timescales, advising on purchases and interviewing technical candidates.

Feb. 2003 – Present: Managing Director
Iroxa Creative Technology Ltd.

Web development and IT consultancy for a number of clients internationally.

Summer 2008: Vacation Student
Roke Manor Research Ltd., Romsey, UK

Java development, documentation writing and web application interface development for Roke, a Siemens company.

Nov. 2006 – Feb. 2007: Web Developer
Southampton University Students' Union, UK

Web development in a LAMP environment. Worked as part of a team building social and administrative applications.

Summer 2006: Junior Web Developer
Charles Russell LLP, London, UK

ASP.NET intranet development, documentation writing, helpdesk and Macintosh support.

SKILLS

Software and Systems

- Strong background in various flavours of UNIX and Linux
- Commercial experience with Apache and ISS web servers and Microsoft and MySQL database server software
- Git and SVN version control software

Programming Languages and Technologies

- Python (including the Django web framework)
- Object-oriented PHP5
- RESTful web services
- Javascript and Ajax techniques (either using jQuery or “neat”)
- Adobe AIR
- SQL and database administration
- ASP.NET
- Java, C++ and a little Perl
- I know my way around the UNIX command line
- Semantically rich HTML and CSS

Communication and Business

Owning a business has exposed me to a range of situations from which I've gained a lot of valuable experience. In particular, I've learned a little about how small businesses operate and picked up some interesting domain knowledge from a number of my clients' industries. Being dropped in “at the deep end” has trained how I interact with customers face-to-face, via email and over the telephone.

I was treasurer of the University's Electronic and Computer Science Society for 2007–2008.

REFEREES

For reasons of privacy, I don't publish this list online. If you are interested in working with me, please contact me for a list of references.

Ben Hodgson, October 2009