

Rob Hesketh

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Personal statement

I am an experienced Ruby on Rails developer who has been writing commercial software for 7 years, working in Ruby exclusively for the past 4 years. I have worked with teams of developers on large-scale data import, data processing and data storage systems, and I have experience leading the development of smaller projects such as front-end tools used by thousands of internal workers and external clients. I have worked with test-driven and behaviour-driven teams and I make use of testing extensively in my hobby projects. I believe that good code should be expressive and easy to read.

Key Skills

- Ruby on Rails
- Client-side JavaScript / jQuery
- HTML5 / CSS
- Amazon Web Services (EC2/S3)
- Test-Driven Development
- RSpec/Cucumber
- Agile development
- .NET/C# development

Employment History

Software Developer, Forward3D

(November 2013 – October 2016)

- Developed and maintained internal Rails applications used by hundreds of day-to-day users.
- Created automated data import tools to interface with APIs and other data sources thousands of times an hour.
- Used Hadoop, MySQL, MongoDB and Redis to store large amounts of data for various purposes.
- Lead the development of our data storage applications (front-end SQL-based Rails app and back-end Ruby tools) used by hundreds of internal users and external clients as part of their daily workload.
- Established documentation standards and created maintenance documentation to assist with future development of existing tools.

Software Developer, uSwitchForBusiness

(October 2012 – November 2013)

- Responsible for developing and maintaining the complete software pipeline, from public-facing websites to desktop software used by call centre staff.
- Worked as part of a test-driven development team to create a Rails-based replacement for existing call centre software.
- Consolidated data stored in multiple MongoDB and MySQL databases into a single useful data store.

Software Developer (Contract), Lyagushka

(October 2011 – October 2012)

- Developed and maintained custom trading software used by a Private Equity firm trading in London.
- Worked with non-technical users to establish specifications using Cucumber.
- Worked closely with a team of 6 engineers to establish weekly plans of action and split work into manageable chunks.
- Helped to spec out requirements from the client, establishing what would need to be built and how to go about building it.

Software Developer and Support Engineer, Ultra Electronics Airport Systems

(August 2010 – October 2011)

- Met with external clients to discuss maintenance issues and relay development updates
- Also developed in-house software tools to assist with testing of new software builds.
- Responsible for the installation of new software builds on site and maintenance of existing installations.
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Hobbies & Interests

I have been a keen programmer for most of my life and I've always been interested by the potential of creating software from scratch. I spend a large part of my free time working on various hobby projects, including an MMORPG game client, a multiplayer cycling activity tracker and an interactive map of London's bicycle hire points.

I love riding my bike, working on my allotment and reading. A book that has greatly influenced my development is Clean Code by Robert C. Martin, I think writing maintainable code is not just important but achievable with the right approach.

Education

Staffordshire University

(August 2003 – May 2008)

- BSc (Hons) Software Engineering

Accrington and Rossendale College

(August 2001–May 2003)

- BTEC (Level 3) Computing

References

References are available upon request.