David Gowrie

Frontend-Leaning Full-Stack Software Engineer

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Frontend-leaning full-stack engineer specializing in **React**, **TypeScript**, and **modern, scalable web architecture**, with over **8 years of experience** building **high-performance, user-centered applications** and **leading technical strategy** through **cross-functional collaboration**. Skilled in evolving **design systems**, improving **developer tooling** and **engineering practices**, and applying **UI/UX best practices** to create polished, maintainable interfaces. Guided by a **product mindset** and a commitment to **craftsmanship**, I'm passionate about delivering **intuitive, accessible solutions** that simplify complex workflows and support customers, communities, and teammates.

Work Experience

Experienced Software Engineer - Transfer | Plaid   September 2022 - August 2024
- Owned **end-to-end development** of the customer-facing product dashboard, working **full stack** with **React**, **TypeScript**, **Remix**, **GraphQL**, **Node.js**, **Go microservices**, and **PostgreSQL**.
- Spearheaded platform overhaul to **unify frontend architecture** with **component-based integrations**, **boosting developer velocity**.
- Optimized registration and onboarding workflows, **reducing user drop-off rates by 90%** and cutting review SLAs from **7 days to 24 hours**, achieving a **7× improvement in operational efficiency**.
- Defined **technical direction** and shaped quarterly **product roadmaps**, aligning business goals with customer needs to drive new features and product improvements from inception to delivery.
- **Partnered cross-functionally** with engineering, product, design, and data science teams to build **intuitive user interfaces** and integrate backend systems into a **cohesive user experience**.

Growth Engineer - Developer Growth | Plaid   January 2021 - September 2022
- Amplified conversions by **50%** through **SEO** and **UX improvements**, increasing organic traffic and registrations.
- Engineered **internal automation tools to streamline operational workflows**, reducing manual intervention and eliminating customer bottlenecks.
- Built **observability** and **experimentation** frameworks to accelerate **UX iteration** and **data-driven improvements**.

Software Engineer, Technical Lead - Web Development | Plaid   January 2019 - January 2021
- Led the migration of Plaid.com to a **Next.js-based serverless CMS architecture**, cutting deployment times by **95%** (1-2 days to under an hour) and empowering marketing and product teams with self-service capabilities.
- Established **CI/CD** and **automated testing** (Jest, React Testing Library, Cypress), achieving **80% test coverage**.
- Hired and mentored **7 engineers**, improved operational processes, and set the web platform's technical strategy.

Lead Frontend Engineer | Quovo (Acquired by Plaid)   January 2017 - January 2019
- Directed frontend engineering for marketing site and user dashboards, collaborating with backend teams on **system architecture**, **API design**, and integrating **Node.js**, **Python microservices,** and **PostgreSQL**.
- Drove an **accessibility overhaul**, delivering reusable **React UI components** with **100% WCAG compliance**.
- Orchestrated the adoption of **frontend best practices, mentored** engineers, and enhanced **hiring** processes.

Skills & Technologies

- **Frontend:** React, TypeScript, Redux, Next.js, Remix, JavaScript (ES6+), HTML(5), CSS(3), Tailwind CSS, SSR
- **API & Backend Development:** Node.js, Express, REST, GraphQL, Apollo, gRPC, Python, Go, PostgreSQL, Redis
- **DevOps & Infrastructure:** AWS, Docker, Jenkins, Git/GitHub, CI/CD, Sentry, PagerDuty
- **Testing & Quality**: Jest, React Testing Library, Cypress, Playwright, WCAG, web performance optimization, SEO
- **Soft Skills:** Technical leadership, system architecture, code reviews, mentoring, project management

Previous Experience

- Tech Lead, Frontend @ Weber Shandwick (IPG) | March 2015 - October 2016
- Senior UI Engineer @ 360i (Dentsu) | September 2013 - December 2014
- Team Lead, Senior Frontend Engineer @ Totsy | November 2011 - May 2013
- Founder & Lead Developer @ WebModia webmodia.com (part-time / freelance) | September 2006 - Present