John Blackwell

jblackwell072588@gmail.com

Summary

Senior Full-Stack Engineer with 8+ years building scalable SaaS platforms and leading technical initiatives at high-growth companies. Combines deep expertise in modern web technologies (React, TypeScript, Node.js, Python) with proven ability to translate complex business requirements into reliable, user-focused software solutions. Thrives in collaborative environments where technical innovation meets customer impact.

Experience

Hometap — Boston, MA/Remote

Senior (Lead) Software Engineer — Oct 2025 - current

- **AI Underwriting Insights**
  - Led productization of an AI underwriting-insights feature from a data-science proof of concept into the core lending platform, owning architecture, delivery, and stakeholder management
  - Scoped and estimated a quarter of work for a team of 3 to 4 engineers
  - Built structured-output insight generation on the Claude API, orchestrated with Temporal (TypeScript) alongside a Python/Django and React application
  - Shipped to production at under $0.10 per application, analyzing thousands of applications with roughly three quarters of reviewer-rated insights marked helpful
- **Frontend Architecture & Platform Health**
  - Revived and led a cross-team Front-End Guild, driving a restructure of the primary customer-facing React application into enforced architectural tiers with lint-level dependency boundaries
  - Introduced front-end observability with Grafana Faro, adding real-user telemetry with sensitive-data redaction
  - Audited React upgrade readiness, design-system parity, and accessibility to shape the front-end roadmap
- **Product & Integration Delivery**
  - Served as engineering champion for a time-critical CRM authentication migration, authoring the technical design and delivering ahead of a hard vendor deadline
  - Leading delivery of a redesigned customer pricing experience after authoring its technical requirements, including load-testing its new APIs at roughly 16x peak production traffic
  - Designed a feature-flag targeting approach (LaunchDarkly) shared across three applications so customers and staff see a consistent experience during staged rollouts

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O'Reilly Media — Sebastapol, CA/Remote

Software Engineer — Jul 2021 - Jan 2024
Senior Software Engineer — Jan 2024 - Oct 2025
Team Engineer Lead — Jan 2023 - Oct 2025

- **Technical Architecture & Platform Development**
  - Architected and delivered AI-powered search platform from concept to production for learning platform users
  - Built and maintained microservices and micro-frontends using Node.js, TypeScript, Python, and React
  - Led complete Chrome extension rebuild, modernizing architecture and eliminating legacy technical debt
- **Team Leadership & Process Innovation**
  - Mentored engineers on technical growth, code quality, GraphQL, JavaScript, and professional development
  - Facilitated cross-team technical discussions and architecture decisions for product initiatives
  - Drove adoption of testing best practices and enhanced tooling across team projects

PINS Advantage — San Diego, CA/Remote

Contracting Software Engineer — May 2022 - Jan 2023

- **Test Automation & Quality Assurance**
  - Built comprehensive test automation framework using Dusk and Jest for critical user workflows
  - Implemented automated regression testing in CI/CD pipeline to improve software reliability
  - Partnered with product team to establish acceptance criteria and testing protocols for feature releases

Q-Centrix — San Diego, CA/Remote

Frontend Software Engineer — Jan 2020 - Jul 2021

- **Frontend Development & Component Systems**
  - Developed React/Apollo applications integrated with Ruby on Rails APIs for hospital systems reporting
  - Created reusable component library and design system to accelerate feature development across teams
  - Built configurable dashboard and reporting system with data visualizations for administrative workflows

2U/Trilogy Education — Remote

Senior Tutor — Mar. 2018 - Jan. 2022

- **Technical Education & Remote Mentorship**
  - Delivered 1-on-1 tutoring to bootcamp students in Computer Science, JavaScript, and web development technologies
  - Provided debugging assistance and technical interview preparation for career-transitioning developers
  - Developed effective remote communication approaches for technical instruction and mentorship

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RTS Labs — Richmond, VA/Remote

Software Engineer — Jul. 2018 - Dec. 2019

- **Client Application Development**
  - Delivered custom web applications for diverse clients using React
  - Conducted requirements analysis and technical discovery sessions, translating business needs into technical specifications
- **Engineering Culture & Best Practices**
  - Participated in technical interviews and candidate evaluation for engineering team growth
  - Advocated for test-driven development practices and pair programming workflows to improve code quality

Skills

- **Full-Stack Development** TypeScript, Node.js, Express, Python, Django, Ruby/Rails, REST/GraphQL APIs, PostgreSQL, Microservices Architecture
- **AI & LLM Integration** Claude API, Structured Outputs, Prompt Design, Temporal Workflow Orchestration
- **Frontend & Tools** React, State Management (Redux/xState/Apollo), TypeScript, Cypress, Storybook, Jest, HTML/CSS, Chrome Extensions
- **DevOps & Infrastructure** Git, Docker, Kubernetes, CI/CD, Feature Flags (LaunchDarkly), Observability (Grafana Faro), Database Design & Optimization
- **Leadership & Collaboration** Cross-Functional Team Leadership, Mentorship, Agile/Scrum, Problem Solving, Remote Communication

Education

University of Richmond — Oct. 2017 - Apr. 2018

University of Richmond Coding Bootcamp- JavaScript Full Stack Web Development
An intensive 24 week long program designed to immerse students in designing and building web applications.

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