Megan Davidson
(Contract Senior Full Stack Web Developer)

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Profile

I am a full-stack web developer with a focus on PHP development using the Laravel framework. I work to industry standards and best practices, including pragmatic design approaches such as SOLID and KISS, test driven development and PSR12 guidelines.

While I specialise in PHP, I am proficient in frontend development, and utilise JavaScript frameworks including ReactJS, VueJS (InertiaJS/SSR) and Typescript. I also use Docker, git and numerous other cloud-based technologies, such as Google GCP, Amazon AWS and Pusher, and I have experience of working with automation testing frameworks.

Development

- PHP versions 4 to 8 and modern OOP practices and design patterns.
- Flutter and Dart mobile app development.
- Go programming language and unit tests.
- Package managers including Composer and NPM.
- MVC Frameworks including Laravel and Symfony.
- RESTful API providers and consumers.
- Service orientated design and architecture and micro-services.
- Various authentication mechanisms, including Oauth2 and Basic Auth, JWT and token-based authentication.
- Functional testing and unit tests, including TDD using PHPUnit.
- CSS, SASS and LESS preprocessor scripting languages
- Electron and NodeJS.
- HTML and JavaScript (Procedural and OPP).
- DDD (Domain Driven Development including Event Sourcing).

Databases

- MySQL version 5 to 8 and SQLite.
- Postgres
- SQL and NoSQL.
- Database ORMs such as Eloquent and Doctrine.

Frameworks

- Laravel versions 4 to 10.
- Lumen microservice.
- Symfony version 6.
- InertiaJS with SSR
- VueJS (version 3) and ReactJS (version 18).
- Vue Pinia store.
- Typescript.

Server Skills and System Administration

- GNU/Linux GNU based systems.
- Administration of web and email servers.
- Docker container technology.
- Supervisord and Redis.
- Vagrant/VMware.
- Ansible.
- Working knowledge of Kubernetes and Google Cloud, AWS (Lambda and API Gateway).

Other

- Laravel Forge and Envoyer.
- Agile software development.
- Waterfall software development.
- Atlassian (Jira and Bitbucket).
- Git version control system, including Git Flow for branching and peer review systems.
- GitHub actions for continuous integration and code coverage and unit tests.

Contract Senior PHP Developer – Finixio
June 2023 – Present

I'm current working as a contract PHP Developer with Finixio on custom search engines for various sectors of the entertainment industry, including dashboard administration using Laravel 10 and InertiaJS with SSR, and several satellite systems that are written in GoLang and Python.

Using advanced options within of Laravel to create custom filters that can be applied to database queries whilst taking full advantage of Postgres Materialized Views for speed and optimisation.

Main tasks and responsibilities:

- Unit tests and code quality
- Payment Gateway Integration
- Designed and development of their custom search engine.
- Bug fixes and design decisions on custom integrations of 3rd party applications.
- Custom additions to the codebase to help improve productivity and scalability.
- Creating satellite applications in GoLang .
- Working to strict SLAs and optimisation always at the forefront to help deliver fast, scalable and SEO friendly applications.
- Helping setup their Ci pipelines in GitHub and AWS Code deploy and Cloudflare R2
- Pull request reviews.

Key Technologies: PHP (Laravel 10 Octane framework), Postgres, Alpine JS, VueJS, InertiaJS, Ansible, Docker, Go , AWS, GitHub CI, Redis

Contract Senior PHP Developer – Go Green
December 2022 – September 2023

I worked as a Contract PHP Developer for Go Green on their B2B waste management applications, the platform is broken down into several areas that utilise Domain Driven Design and Event sourcing to handle the large and complex business requirements in Symfony with React/Typescript front end; along with several satellite applications complement the system using Go and AWS lambdas and Flutter for mobile and tablet applications, alongside this I have also been involved with updated and maintenance of their Laravel applications.

Main tasks and responsibilities:

- Planning and building their audit offline first mobile/desktop application written in Flutter with a Go API with authentication using AWS Cognito that handles on-site auditing to create searchable data and PDF documents that helps cut business costs compared to the current manual process.
- Building job confirmation application that uses Oauth2 in Symfony 6 and React 18 front-end with Typescript
- Help plan and architecture the DDD and event sourcing platform and micro-services written in Symfony using TDD and modern day best practices.
- Maintenance and updates to their Laravel systems.
- Pull request reviews.

Key Technologies: PHP (Laravel 9, 10 and Symfony 6 frameworks), MySQL, Flutter, React 18, Typescript, Docker, Go and Lambda functions, AWS, Atlassian Suite (Jira, Bitbucket)

Director and Senior PHP Developer – PHP Developers Ltd
July 2020 – Present

I'm the Director and a Senior PHP Developer at PHP Developers Ltd, we provide consulting and full stack web development contracts to businesses and individuals, specialising in PHP (Laravel and Symfony) on the backend with VueJS or React on the front end; but also have experience with Go and Flutter.

Lead Developer - Usay Compare, Cirencester
February 2020 – November 2022

I worked as the Lead Developer at Usay Compare. My role involved leading the development and migration from the company's existing platform (Laravel 6, GraphQL, MySQL and Postgres) to an API and event driven service orientated architecture (SOA)

built using Laravel 9 and Lumen and Go. This provisions Usay's new online quoting platform for clients to aid them in the sales of Private Medical Insurance (PMI), comparing insurance quotes from providers such as Aviva, Bupa, AXA.

Main tasks and responsibilities:

- Design and development of the architecture's consumer agnostic authentication, mail and auditing services using Lumen
- Instrumental in the design and development of the core API using Laravel 9
- Microservices written in Go that call out to 3rd party providers api
- Created several in-house Laravel packages to encapsulate service to service communication
- Created an in-house Laravel package development system that makes it easy to design and develop new packages
- Architecture and development of interconnected services, including the authentication and quoting systems
- Maintenance and reviewing of the new consumer independent quoting and onboarding systems utilising GCP Storage, Pub/Sub event service and Pusher for the front-end integration
- Implementing and driving the coding standards for best practices using principles such as SOLID, KISS, design patterns and using test driven development (TDD) for the entire project
- Code review and sign-off, ensuring all merged code adheres to financial sector security requirements and coding standard best practices including data gathering, housekeeping and GDPR best practices
- Mentoring of developers (including pair programming)
- Project planning and communication between the business stakeholders and developers
- Created several Laravel packages to encapsulate service to service communication
- Developer reviews and progress reports
- Writing functional specifications from business requirements, and approving and writing high level designs (HLDs)

Key Technologies: PHP (Laravel framework version 6 LTS to 9 and Lumen), MySQL (5 & 8), JavaScript (React and GraphQL), Docker, GitHub, Atlassian Suite (Jira, Bitbucket), Go, Google GCP, VMware, Ansible, Postman

Senior Web Developer - The Lines Group (Creative Agency), Gloucester

November 2018 – February 2020

I was one of the leaders in helping move the company forward in their development practices and deployment strategy. This involved moving old legacy projects to use industry standard development and deployment practices. I was also the lead on several other projects for clients.

Main tasks and responsibilities:

- Converting several procedural PHP applications to use Laravel 7 and Lumen
- Upgrading old legacy systems from Laravel version 5 to Laravel version 7
- Incorporating micro-services for some of the labour-intensive tasks within several of the client projects
- Implemented Laravel Forge and Envoyer for zero downtime on several of the clients' critical projects
- Migrating old mobile web applications written in Swift 2 and JQuery to Swift 5 and VueJS
- Designed and helped implement a new application and quoting system for Neighborly (USA), using Laravel 7 and Lumen, VueJS and Tailwind; which also included app deployment and upgrades in real-time.
- Created an upgrade mechanism for one of our clients' mission-critical applications
- Developing an MVC routing and templating system for use within WordPress

Key Technologies: PHP (Laravel 5, 6 and Lumen), MySQL (8), JavaScript (Vue and VueX), Swift, Tailwind, WordPress, Deployer, GitHub, Laravel Forge and Envoyer, Digital Ocean, GitHub, Ansible, Postman, Puppeteer

Senior Web Developer - BaseKit Platform Ltd, Bristol

March 2009 – November 2018

I worked on BaseKit's website builder and mobile application which has been used by companies including Amazon and Google.

Main tasks and responsibilities:

- Worked on the frontend to backend communication systems using Silex 2.3 and Symfony and Laravel 5 as the RESTful API provider with TWIG as the main templating engine
- Created a PSD-to-website-template conversion PHP extension written in C
- Created an application of the website builder for Android and IOS mobile devices
- Helping to develop BaseKit's V7 frontend framework that consumed the in-house RESTful OAuth API
- Using a full docker environment to enable continuous deployment
- Using Puppeteer and Selenium with the Appium automation framework in the testing environment
- Using GitHub and branches for feature work
- Peer reviewing colleagues' work and actively encouraging pair programming
- Integrating third party libraries including Getty and Intercom
- Integrating payment gateways including Klarna and Stripe into the website builder

Key Technologies: PHP (Symfony version 3 to 4 , Silex version 2.3 , Zend Framework version 1, Laravel versions 4, 5 and Lumen), MySQL version 5, JavaScript (React), C, Swift, Tailwind, CSS, Bitbucket, GitHub, Ansible, Amazon AWS, Puppeteer, Selenium, Doctrine and Eloquent

Web Developer/Programmer - twentyfive creative (Creative Agency), Gloucester

December 2003 – March 2009

My role involved designing and building client websites, intranets and Content Management Systems using PHP and incorporating many of the most up-to-date web 2.0 technologies where applicable. A major project was the construction and setting up of a web server and website for Volkswagen Commercial Vehicles. Other clients included Fleetway Vehicle Rentals, Crescent Suzuki racing team, and Wayside Group.

Main tasks and responsibilities:

- Design and building of client websites, intranets and content management systems (CMS) using PHP and relevant web 2.0 technologies including JavaScript, AJAX, XHTML and CSS
- Core creator of the company's new content management system, which was later used as the basis for all future client content management systems.
- Ensuring all sites adhered to W3C and WAI level 1/2 and were fully accessible to all users

Key Technologies: PHP versions 4 and 5, MySQL version 5, JavaScript, CSS, CVS, SVN, Debian Linux

Security Development Engineer - Serco Justice, Gloucester

October 2002 – December 2003

This involved the implementation and day-to-day support of Pentasafe IDS systems; providing analysis and forensics on intrusions; providing support to Network Consultants with penetration testing both internally and to clients; and advising on securing and setup of Apache and PHP, E-mail (Postfix, Sendmail) and DNS (Bind) on both Windows and Linux within a secure environment.

Main tasks and responsibilities:

- Building and running of Intrusion Detection for review by senior Pentest engineer
- Installing and setting up of web and email systems on Red Hat Linux

Key Technologies: Terminal, Pentasafe IDS, GNU/Linux (Red Hat), Apache, Postfix, Bash

Computer Systems Administrator - MM Group, Bristol

October 2000 – October 2002

This involved system administration of Windows NT4 and Red Hat Linux servers and moving several of the companies BSD servers to Red Hat Linux systems, including integrating Samba into existing Windows Domain; Sendmail administration; mailing lists; database management and basic website maintenance using MySQL and Perl.

This also included maintenance of website hosting services using Apache for several commercial customers, such as Royal Britannica

Main tasks and responsibilities:

- Server maintenance of intranet and extranet
- DNS Server maintenance and upgrades
- Shell scripting using Pearl and Bash
- Remote administration
- Basic website maintenance of client websites

Key Technologies: PHP 4, Pearl 5, MySQL, Bash, FTP

References:

Go Green:
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