Ben Sheridan-Edwards

Front-End Engineer

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PERSONAL SUMMARY

I'm Ben, an accomplished front-end developer with over 2 years of experience crafting responsive websites for fast-growing startups in London. I have contributed to a diverse range of projects, including an e-learning platform teaching personal finance and a SaaS case management system for universities. Recently, I played a key role in driving the global expansion of a renowned FinTech unicorn based in London.

TECHOLOGY   EXPERIENCE

React	3 years
TypeScript	2 years
JavaScript	3 years

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Front-End Engineer - Global Over-the-Top (OTT) Data Team
Sky (https://www.sky.com/)

Jan 2023 - Present
London, United Kingdom

Sky is a global entertainment and telecommunications company, known for offering satellite TV, broadband, phone, and streaming services. With a focus on innovation, Sky provides diverse, high-quality entertainment and communication experiences to customers across the UK and Europe.

As part of Sky's global data team, I contribute to the DataHub project—an internal metadata platform that streamlines data discovery, observability, and governance across Sky's products and services, boosting analytics and insights for the company.

Tech stack

React, *TypeScript, Styled-Components, GraphQL (with Apollo), Java, Scala, Python*

Responsibilities

- Develop and maintain the UI front-end for DataHub, ensuring seamless data management and accessibility for various teams across Sky's Over-the-Top (OTT) products.
- Collaborate with UI/UX Designers, Data Engineers, and Data Scientists to create exceptional user experiences and integrate data pipelines, models, and analytics within the DataHub platform.
- Champion best practices in front-end development, including code maintainability, reusability, and performance optimisation, to maintain platform scalability and sustainability as Sky's data needs evolve.

Achievements

- Authored the front-end testing strategy document for Sky's DataHub platform, outlining best practices and guidelines for consistent, high-quality testing across the project. I led the initiative to add over 300 tests, covering crucial aspects and significantly improving the platform's reliability and maintainability.

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Front-End Developer - Global Web Team   **Oct 2021 - Sept 2022**
TrueLayer (https://truelayer.com/)   **London, United Kingdom**

TrueLayer is a leading global FinTech unicorn, revolutionizing the financial industry by providing a cutting-edge platform that enables financial apps to securely access bank data, verify accounts, and streamline payments through open banking technology.

Tech stack

React, *TypeScript, Vanilla-Extract (CSS-in-JS), Gatsby, Storyblok, Jest, React testing library, Cypress, Webpack, Cloudflare pages, AWS (S3)*

Responsibilities

- Drove the growth and international expansion of TrueLayer's website, scaling it across multiple languages while ensuring a consistent and seamless user experience for a global audience.

- Optimised TrueLayer's website to achieve high scores on Core Web Vitals and SEO across 500+ pages, ensuring fast load times, responsive design, and increased organic search visibility.

- Managed and scaled the CMS integration for a team of 10 content writers, creating a self-serve solution that empowered content writers to easily create and manage their own pages within the CMS, streamlining content production and updates.

- Collaborated within a cross-functional team to support and maintain the internationalisation of TrueLayer's website, addressing localisation challenges and adapting to diverse market requirements.

Achievements

- Successfully completed a massive 3-month project, collaborating with my Engineering Manager to migrate 500k+ lines of code in our entire codebase from **JavaScript to TypeScript** and transition our styling from **Sass to Vanilla-Extract (Type-safe CSS in JS)**.

- Spearheaded a large-scale refactor of our CMS (Storyblok) integration, enhancing the user experience for our content team and significantly improving our SEO scores on Google Analytics. This resulted in a **30% reduction in data transfer** for our pages and a **25% increase in our "good page" score** within Google Analytics.

- Led a performance optimisation project for our Webpack bundle, involving a refactor of our plugin architecture to enable better code-splitting by Gatsby and manual chunking of our node modules. The changes led to a **95% reduction in our commons.js file size**, from 950kb to 65kb. This resulted in a **70% decrease in page size** and substantial improvements in our Core Web Vitals. **First Contentful Paint became 65% faster**, and our **Time to Interactive improved by 40%**.

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Front-End Developer - Product Team   **Sept 2020 - Aug 2021**
Blackbullion (https://www.blackbullion.com/)   **London, United Kingdom**

Blackbullion is an innovative technology company specialising in the development of an e-learning platform for university students, as well as a comprehensive SaaS solution for universities. Their solution streamlines student funding applications, and facilitates efficient payouts through an integrated payment solution,

Tech stack

React, JavaScript, PHP, Sass(CSS), HTML, Jest, React testing library, Webpack, Docker, AWS

Responsibilities

- Transform high-fidelity UI designs in Invision into fully responsive web pages.
- Take features from ideation to release, crafting clean, well-tested code using industry best practices.
- Be a champion for testing best practices using Jest and React testing library.

Achievements

- I led the implementation of two **large greenfield projects**, a case management system for universities and an integrated payments solution that leverages CurrencyCloud to allow universities to pay students directly through Blackbullion's platform.
- I built and **deployed three stand-alone marketing campaign sites**.
- Refactored Blackbullion's core platform codebase to **meet WCAG 2.1 guidelines**.
- **Rebuilt Blackbullion's style guide** using the principles of Atomic design.

EDUCATION

Bootcamp student   **Oct 2019 - Feb 2020**
Maker's Academy   **London, United Kingdom**

Maker's Academy is a 16-week intensive coding bootcamp focused on teaching the fundamentals of agile software development with JavaScript and Ruby.

A-Levels   **2014**
Oaklands   **London, United Kingdom**

Biology (A), Chemistry (B), Physics (C)

GCSEs   **2012**
Goff's Academy   **Hertfordshire, United Kingdom**

10 GCSEs (4A*, 4A, 1B, 1C) & Certificate in Information Technology (Distinction)