Richard Benjamin

✉ richardbenjamin@me.com ▫ (503) 367-9244 in in/rbenj ○ github.com/rbenj

SUMMARY

A builder who likes to move fast, iterate, and optimize. I love engineering software that people want to use. Known for solving problems and driving growth, I enjoy being a positive force for teams creating remarkable software.

EXPERIENCE

Principal Software Engineer | Digital Trends | Portland, OR | September 2022 - February 2025

- Owned the user experience for a tech-news platform with 30 million monthly active users.
- Optimized front-end performance, achieving top 10% Core Web Vitals among large media sites.
- Directed the design and implementation of user subscription features and account management flows.
- Built a proprietary A/B testing framework that increased user engagement by 70%.
- Designed a modular front-end build system using Webpack to improve code splitting, linting, and testing.
- Defined technology standards, mentored engineers, and conducted code reviews.

Dev Manager | Digital Trends | Portland, OR | September 2019 - September 2022

- Managed a team of four engineers, leading hiring, daily standups, and weekly scrum meetings.
- Translated Figma designs from talented designers into pixel-perfect templates and React components.
- Delivered a modular content platform that cut new vertical launch time from four weeks to same day.
- Increased newsletter subscription rate by 10x without relying on intrusive interstitials.
- Achieved 80% ad viewability compliance ahead of industry peers using a context-aware, user-timing strategy.
- Built an ad templating and deployment tool that automated creative rollouts, saving 12 developer hours per week.

Senior Web Developer | Digital Trends | Portland, OR | September 2012 - September 2019

- Completed a full WordPress re-architecture and rebrand that led to a 30% increase in session duration.
- Established design systems enabling expansion from two distinct sites to a network of cohesive publications.
- Invented multiple high-performing, revenue-generating custom ad units and monetized experiences.
- Developed an early Prebid/GPT wrapper to unlock new programmatic revenue.
- Integrated video platforms and IMA3 to optimize delivery and ad revenue while maintaining engaged viewership.
- Helped establish full-page caching strategies, ensuring sub-200ms response times during high-traffic surges.

Freelance Web Developer | Various Clients | San Jose, CA | May 2001 - September 2012

- Built websites and apps for 30+ clients across pro sports, media, finance, and tech industries.
- Delivered high-visibility projects for notable clients including Olympian Kerri Walsh and MLB player Pablo Sandoval.
- Created responsive, accessible UIs with PHP, HTML, CSS, and JavaScript.
- Optimized front-end performance and compatibility during an era of fragmented browser behavior.
- Led projects from concept to launch, earning 100% client satisfaction and steady referral-based growth.

SKILLS

TypeScript, JavaScript, React, Redux, HTML, CSS, Jest, Vite, Webpack, Docker, Git, User Interface, User Experience, Web Optimization, Accessibility, Technical SEO, A/B Testing, Ad Tech, Test Driven Development, Leadership