DANIEL KALEN

Passionate and dedicated software engineer

SUMMARY

- Over 12 years of experience as a software engineer/architect; 8+ years of lead experience.

- Over 14 years of UX design experience; 18 years of UI/Graphic design experience.

- Over 5 years of marketing experience; 4 years of copywriting experience.

- My experience across the aforementioned talents provide me with a unique perspective and understanding that allow me to construct unparalleled solutions.

- Constructed, built, and maintained many systems ranging from simple to highly complex from ground-up.

- Committed major contributions to the open-source community by releasing over 45 open-source tools and projects.

- Contributed to major open-source project such as Node.JS, NPM, Acorn parser, Github Desktop app, Grafana, NeDB, FeathersJS, Mapbox, and more.

- In 2017 I was within the top 25 most active members (by contribution count) of the entire GitHub.com platform (millions of active developers).

- I possess mastery in documentation comprehension which allows me to learn and *master* new topics in exceptional speeds.

- I compose highly "custom-tailored" solutions with great attention to detail for all the issues that I am tasked with solving.

COMPETENCE / CAPABILITIES

Note: The following is a list of technologies I commonly utilize across my day-to-day work. My capabilities are not limited to the list below and most importantly I possess the ability to learn and master technologies with great speed.

Programming Languages: Frontend Javascript, Backend Javascript, Golang, Python, Kotlin, Ruby, C, C\++, PHP.

Structuring Languages: HTML, Jade/Pug, EJS, Handlebars, Haml, JSON, Yaml, Markdown, DOT, GraphML.

Superset Languages: Coffeescript, Typescript.

Styling Languages: CSS, Sass, Less, Stylus.

Meta Frameworks: Next.js (12-14), Gatsby, Nuxt.js

Frameworks: React (including v18), Vue, Angular 2+1, Meteor, Polymer, jQuery, Bootstrap, Backbone, and more.

Mobile Development: MeteorJS, React Native, NativeScript, Cordova, Native iOS.

Testing Frameworks: Mocha, AVA, Jest, Jasmine, Karma, Chai, Qunit, tape, Sinon.JS.

Automation: Puppeteer, Selenium, Nightwatch, NightmareJS, Browserstack/Saucelabs, Karma, Cypress.io.

Charting Engines: D3.js, Highcharts, Fusioncharts, Plot.ly, Chart.js, Grafana, Kibana.

Databases: MySQL, MsSQL, PostgreSQL, MongoDB, RethinkDB, Elasticsearch, Redis, Cassandra, CouchDB, PocketDB, SQLite, Amazon DynamoDB, MariaDB, BigQuery, InfluxDB, Firebase.

DevOps: Docker, AWS, Digital Ocean, Google Cloud Platform, Vagrant, Terraform, Ansible, Chef, Jenkins, Varnish.

Design: Photoshop, Illustrator, InDesign, Sketch, Adobe Premiere Pro, After Effects, SketchUP, Invision, Principle.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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PRINCIPLES AND DOCTRINE

- Strongly support modular and scalable systems.

- I believe in maximum dedication and constantly overcoming expectations.

- Strongly believe in clean, efficient, and highly maintainable code that preserves privacy and security.

- Jack of all trades, master of all. I strongly believe in learning and mastering as much as possible to the best of my abilities.

- I believe in powerful teams and in being a team player and in providing the upmost respect and care to both superiors and *positional* inferiors.

- Quality is always my top priority; I never sacrifice on quality nor do I settle for mediocre solutions.

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WORK EXPERIENCE

SENIOR SOFTWARE ENGINEER	JUN - 2024	**Basis:**
American Express	DEC - 2024	Short term contract

SENIOR SOFTWARE ENGINEER	DEC - 2023	**Basis:**
Etsy	JUN - 2024	Short term contract

PRINCIPAL SOFTWARE ENGINEER	JUL - 2022	**Primary Tech:** NextJS, Gatsby, React 18
EdX/2U Inc.	DEC - 2023	**Secondary Tech:** GraphQL, Cypress

- Developed and enforced comprehensive code standards and testing protocols for a high-traffic customer-facing educational technology app, ensuring code quality and reliability.
- Authored in-depth technical documentation that served as a guiding resource for both management and individual contributors, facilitating informed decision-making.
- Conducted thorough research on emerging and existing technologies, producing detailed research documents to aid in strategic technology adoption and implementation.
- Played a pivotal role in architectural improvements, overseeing the implementation of large-scale changes to the codebase and organizational structure for enhanced scalability and maintainability.
- Collaborated closely with cross-functional teams, ensuring seamless coordination between teams with distinct responsibilities within the same app to optimize overall performance.
- Facilitated communication with leadership by summarizing complex topics into easily understandable formats, streamlining decision-making processes.
- Led a major initiative to reorganize a sprawling codebase originally developed by junior engineers, resulting in increased scalability, codebase manageability, and developer efficiency.
- Conducted extensive performance analysis and optimizations, significantly reducing the average build time from 2 hours to an efficient 25min.
- Provided mentorship and guidance to engineers across all experience levels, fostering skill development and problem-solving capabilities.
- Collaborated closely with management to formulate precise, sustainable short-term and long-term plans to drive project success.
- Researched and implemented cutting-edge technologies to boost developer productivity, further reduce build times, and expand the team's capabilities.

SENIOR SOFTWARE ENGINEER	DEC - 2021	**Primary Tech:** Ruby, Rails, React, Postgres, ElasticSearch, TypeScript.
Reverb (Short-term contract)	JUL - 2022	**Secondary Tech:** GraphQL, Redis, memcached, ChartIO.

- Joined a team that has some of the largest and most difficult responsibilities in the company.
- The team I was a part of was responsible for all transactions-related matters in the company.
- Consistently met all deadlines without a single fault.
- Started providing value and taking tasks 2 days after joining the team.
- Went through a difficult onboarding process relating to the company's huge monolith architecture that is written in a way that makes it difficult to comprehend, yet was able to claim advanced understanding of the project within a few short months.
- Became one of the team's top performers within 1-2 months.
- Was tasked with highly sensitive credit-card-processing related tasks that contained plenty of financial-related risks.
- Had to apply a quick recovery plan multiple times when one of the team members broke production.
- Quickly obtained advanced knowledge of Ruby, the company's main language, after joining the team with only rudimentary knowledge of Ruby.
- Had highly-collaborative pair-programming sessions with each member of the 8-person team.

MORE WORK EXPERIENCE LISTED ON THE NEXT PAGE ➡

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WORK EXPERIENCE (CONTINUED)

LEAD SOFTWARE ENGINEER | DEC - 2020 | **Primary Tech:** AWS, Go-lang, Python, JS/TS, React, Vue, Postgres, MySQL.
Signify Health | DEC - 2021 | **Secondary Tech:** Kotlin, Rust, Terraform, Atlassian product suite, Redis.

- Fully responsible for the success of two vital and complex projects.

- Successfully managed a 5-member team of varying skill levels and backgrounds.

- Consistently met all deadlines without a single fault.

- Committed many additional unpaid hours during high-stress periods in order to ensure the project's success.

- Leveraged each team member's unique talents to the fullest and mitigated each member's faults as much as possible.

- Helped team members grow at their own individual pace; helped several members under my wing to get promoted.

- Leveraged agile techniques and worked closely with scrum masters to the team's benefit.

- Mentored specific team members who were troubled and needed assistance to get back on the right track.

- Worked with Release & Automation team and SRE team to resolve complex issues in our CI/CD pipelines.

- Helped ensure that each team member's tasks were all completed on time via collaborative sessions.

- Provided educational presentations to colleagues and superiors.

- Helped bring to light major-impact changes to the company's technology department as a whole.

- Provided simple presentations for complex topics in front of a company-wide audience.

- Composed and applied an effective action plan to course-correct the team on inherited problems.

- Provided assistance to other teams to ensure they met all of their deadlines.

SENIOR SOFTWARE ENGINEER | JUL - 2020 | **Primary Tech:** Same as next (lead) position.
Signify Health | **Promoted to lead** | DEC - 2020 | **Secondary Tech:** Same as next (lead) position.

- Fully onboarded with a very complex product within two weeks; started taking heavy tasks within one week.

- Started in a severely under-resourced team that had the responsibilities of an over-resourced team.

- Was responsible for starting a complex project from scratch that has failed to launch over 3 times in the company's historical timeline.

- Outperformed and surpassed expectations immediately after joining the company.

- Outperformed all bonus objectives.

- Frequently took on temporary team-lead status as needed to compensate for team lead's frequent absence.

- Never missed a single deadline; performed all the necessary efforts to ensure the project's success and delivery time.

- Frequently volunteered to assume responsibilities that the company had trouble allocating resources for.

- Was tasked with leading the UX design of the project I was responsible for as a developer due to lacking resources.

- Worked tightly with the UX department to ensure full synchronization between the company's UX and developer worlds.

- Responsible for making hard and sensitive decisions in a highly vulnerable project.

- Learned all PHI guidelines and abided by them strictly.

- Quickly learned and applied a new programming language necessary for our production application.

- Assisted leaders and other teams with critical brainstorming.

- Acted as a highly productive member of almost every meeting I attended.

- Received highly positive reviews from my colleagues, managers, and superiors.

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WORK EXPERIENCE (CONTINUED)

LEAD SOFTWARE ENGINEER	OCT - 2015	**Primary Tech:** JavaScript, PHP, React, Angular 1.0, ELK stack, Docker, WordPress.
Bizmedia Central (SaasList/GetVoIP)	JUL - 2020	**Secondary Tech:** C++, Backbone, React Native, Mongo, Dynamo, Grafana, jQuery.

- Provided onboarding, training, and leadership for senior and junior engineers.

- Crafted unique training methods and programs befitting our needs and infrastructure.

- Responsible for making crucial quick decisions under heavy stress.

- Responsible for monitoring system health and security and for dispatching an immediate reaction force for any incoming threat.

- Responsible for constant system analysis for security vulnerabilities and the necessary patch work.

- Responsible for quality assurance and code reviews.

- Presented myself available for 24 hours a day.

- Worked in collaboration with developers from partner and external companies to connect our infrastructures and share sensitive data.

- Constructed custom analytics software and dashboards to display data as the company needs.

- Developed custom-tailored A/B testing software for internal company use.

- Constructed custom data collection software to collect the data our company requires in the most efficient way possible.

- Assisted leadership with making important decisions related to marketing, design, and overall business.

- Composed solutions to work around browser limitations to help us achieve 100% cross-browser operations.

- Created front-end apps capable of great computational power by leveraging web workers to simulate the concept of threads.

- Constantly operated under tight deadlines.

- Developed hybrid mobile apps for internal use.

- Set up and maintained complex routing/network interfaces.

- Constructed health check dashboards from scratch allowing non-developers to control the stack and manage infrastructure and application health.

- Developed highly functional and powerful tables and table UIs.

- Extended and modified popular software to fit our needs.

- Constructed complex automatic selenium test routines.

- Responsible for continually finding new software that will improve our existing stack.

- Constructed highly functional and complex conversion forms.

- Constructed CI and CD pipelines.

- "Juggled" many tasks relating to separate fields/industries; Had to constantly jump between frontend tasks, backend tasks, design tasks, and leadership tasks in a very short time frame.

- Constructed highly-reliable automatic lead verification systems.

- Developed software that automatically creates and populates detailed reports in Excel and Google Sheets documents.

- Interviewed and reviewed new and existing staff members.

- Constructed automatic Google AMP page conversion software.

- Created Slack bots and integrations for reporting and internal company use.

- Created real-time apps using real-time tools and live-data-binding.

- Constructed an automatic backup and backup management software for internal use.

- Developed interactive web infographics.

- Provided marketing consultancy to help design unparalleled highly-converting forms for lead capture.

- Created robust search APIs and search interfaces.

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WORK EXPERIENCE (CONTINUED)

SENIOR SOFTWARE ENGINEER | APR - 2014 | **Primary Tech:** Same as next (lead) position.
Bizmedia Central | **Promoted to lead** | OCT - 2015 | **Secondary Tech:** Same as next (lead) position.

- Replaced ad-hoc processes with Git-flow, CI, and testing.

- Instrumented fragile code for testability and robustness.

- Created and documented rich APIs.

- Responsible for deploying and managing infrastructures in highly sensitive production environments.

- Adopted to old-school software and helped introduce modern software without the needing to remove of old software.

- Worked in deep collaboration with dev team to compose efficient solutions.

- Implemented entire designs as fully-operational and efficient websites.

- Developed custom themes & plugins for Drupal and Wordpress.

- Tasked with refactoring and modernizing outdated areas of our system.

- Responsible for most DevOps operations.

- Helped improve site UX which in turn increased conversion rates.

- Provided marketing consultation to increase click-through rates.

- Was constantly on the lookout for ways to improve the performance and efficiency of our software.

SOFTWARE ENGINEER, UX/UI | JAN - 2011
Freelance Career | APR - 2014

- Worked in collaboration with other freelance developers to build large-scale apps.

- Provided software development services to companies ranging from small-scale (1, 2 employees) to large-scale (thousands of employees).

- Dealt with and managed very difficult customers with great success.

- Built sites and platforms for a variety of industries including e-commerce, match making, lead generation, advertising, beauty, and more.

- Built robust systems with clean and maintainable code allowing future developers to take over with ease.

- Leveraged external software and APIs to the maximum in order to build simple codebases for complex projects.

- Audited and analyzed complex software and created optimization/refactoring plans.

- Helped refactor and optimize existing software that was built using "ancient" technologies.

- Set up robust servers and deployments that still operate until this date with minimal to no maintenance.

- Ensured that even the smallest of projects operated at optimal performance and had received uppermost care.

- Constantly built my projects with the latest and most efficient technologies.

- Constantly built my software to the highest of standards; never sacrificed on quality or settled for mediocre solutions.

- Built hybrid mobile apps using MeteorJS and Cordova.

- Developed monitoring solutions to allow clients to monitor and manage the health of their systems.

- Ensured consistent organization by leveraging the latest and highest-grade project management software available in the market.

- Helped write highly targeted copywriting content.

- Constructed algorithms and code plans as solutions for other developers to implement.

- Maintained a solid and consistent communication line with clients for progress reports, consultation, and brainstorming.

- Prepared thorough presentations for clients.

- Created thorough documentation and software graphs.

- Leveraged real-time software such as socket.io, uws, and RethinkDB to create real-time apps.

- Created highly functional administration panels from scratch.

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OPEN SOURCE CONTRIBUTIONS

Note: All of the packages listed below are available on NPM and my GitHub profile. Please note that some packages are private as they aren't ready for release yet (pre alpha).

inspector-on-demand

RELEASED

Launch v8 inspector/devtools on demand for long-running apps.

template-resolver

RELEASED

Resolves env variables and inline shell commands within any file or string.

icon.font

RELEASED

Generates web fonts from individual SVG icons with persistent configurations and mapping previews.

loadtime

RELEASED

Measure how long it takes to load a given NPM module.

foreach-cli

RELEASED

Command-line utility to execute a shell command for each file matching a glob pattern.

package-install

RELEASED

Install NPM packages from within node. Auto-install any missing package for a given dir and install all packages from a given package.json

module-timing

RELEASED

Measures how long it takes to load modules and outputs a breakdown tree allowing you to spot your slowest/heaviest modules/files.

mountenv

RELEASED

Mounts/loads environment variables from .env files and auto-loads env-specific files (.env.dev, .env.prod, .env.test)

string-pos

RELEASED

Fastest implementation to find line/column num of a given index within a string.

actionbuffer

RELEASED

Push items into a queue and invoke a callback with the queued elements after a given delay.

proper-compose

BETA

A command line wrapper of docker-compose that provides powerful unofficial functionality with support for your custom commands.

coffee-register

RELEASED

Registers Coffeescript compiler with the module-loading system to allow loading coffee files without pre-compilation. Up to 2000% faster than the official package.

QuickCSS

RELEASED

Tiny CSS Management tool that greatly simplifies writing, reading, and registering CSS styles.

QuickDOM

ALPHA

Modern alternative to jQuery to interact with the DOM with a much less forgiving API with template and state-based styling support.

QuickField

ALPHA

Fast and light individual form fields supporting real-time bindings, custom styling, custom fields, IE9+, and more.

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OPEN SOURCE CONTRIBUTIONS (CONTINUED)

Note: All of the packages listed below are available on NPM and my GitHub profile. Please note that some packages are private as they aren't ready for release yet (pre alpha).

QuickPopup

BETA

Fast and light modal popups with rich configuration and minimal intrusiveness; mobile first.

QuickTable

PREALPHA

Create powerful lightweight tables that are easy to customize and perform extremely well across all browsers.

createcert-mac

BETA

A command line tool that creates self-signed certificates and loads it into Keychain Access (macOS only).

smart-extend

RELEASED

Extend/copy objects with fine grain control

what-is-it

PREALPHA

The only type testing library designed for extension and custom type-checking functions

SimplyRecord

PREALPHA

Records user sessions in the browser and plays back sessions in a plugin-less player with heatmap and advanced analysis support.

SimplyThread

RELEASED

Execute arbitrary functions in immediately spawned browser threads with an async workflow.

SimplyImport

BETA

A promise-based module bundler focusing on providing unparalleled ways to import files into parent files. Drop-in replacement for browserify with full support for all its existing plugins/transformers.

SimplyWatch

BETA

A tool that watches files and its imported children for changes and executes your commands for each file individually.

SimplyBind

PREALPHA

Create live bindings between objects and functions so that when one changes the other automatically gets updated.

timeunits

RELEASED

Get the number of milliseconds in any given time unit (day, minute, hour).

Routing.js

ALPHA

Simple, lightweight, promise-based client side routing supporting IE8+

feathers-commands

RELEASED

Extends Feathers.js API capabilities by allowing you to expose custom commands/endpoints for your services.

soft-nginx

ALPHA

A preconfigured docker image that accepts simple yaml configuration files to setup and launch NGINX that automatically links all docker containers within a project and automatically restarts on changes to the your docker project.

docker-promise

BETA

A promise-based wrapper for the Docker API to help you control and manage your Docker engine from within node.

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OPEN SOURCE CONTRIBUTIONS (CONTINUED)

Note: All of the packages listed below are available on NPM and my GitHub profile. Please note that some packages are private as they aren't ready for release yet (pre alpha).

eventful-promise

BETA

Create a promise object that can emit events even after being resolved.

exit-intent

ALPHA

Detect when a user is displaying intention to leave your page and trigger an action like a modal popup in reaction.

Taglist

BETA

Library to help create dynamic filtering UI with custom field support for each filter.

timers-engine

ALPHA

Create named timers which allow you to execute callbacks at multiple time points.

notices-engine

ALPHA

Create modal notices with support for custom actions and custom stylings.

subnotices-engine

ALPHA

Create unobtrusive notifications that stack unlimitedly.

menu-popover

ALPHA

Creates a floating menu of custom actions to attach over any element in the DOM.

badge-gen

RELEASED

Generates a badge (png and svg) for any coverage report.

benchmarks-dashboard

ALPHA

Generate a benchmarks dashboard to run your benchmarks and display results in pretty charts.

gsap-as-promised

RELEASED

A wrapper around Greensock's TweenLite/ TweenMax animation library that returns promises that resolve when animations finish.

mass-request

BETA

Performs an HTTP request X times every Y seconds with automatic error handling, reporting, and recovery.

npm-reserve

PREALPHA

A command-line tool that reserves any given name in the NPM registry to your account (for fair use only)

coin-track

PREALPHA

A bot that tracks any given crypto currency and notifies you when the price changes past a given threshold.

phone-id

PREALPHA

Returns detailed caller identification for any given number (self-hosted server)

analytics-dashboard

PREALPHA

Beautiful analytics dashboard and charts with an intuitive API and JSON-based configuration.