

Christopher Seckler

Senior Front-End Engineer · 15+ Years · React / TypeScript / Next.js / Design Systems

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SUMMARY

Senior Front-End Engineer with 15+ years of experience architecting scalable web applications and high-quality user interfaces. Specialist in React, TypeScript, and Next.js with a strong track record building design systems, driving measurable performance gains, and mentoring engineers. Helped scale products to 1M+ users and 13M+ page views. Actively expanding into AI engineering: LLM systems, RAG pipelines, embeddings, and prompt engineering.

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Frontend: React, TypeScript, Next.js, JavaScript, HTML5, CSS3, Tailwind, Material UI

State & Data: GraphQL, Redux, Zustand, REST APIs

Testing: Vitest, Playwright, Jest

Infrastructure: Docker, AWS, Google Cloud Platform, Git, Webpack

AI / ML: LLM systems, RAG pipelines, embeddings, pgvector, prompt engineering, Hugging Face

Other: Node.js, MySQL, PHP, WordPress, Stripe, SendGrid, Segment, Amplitude, A/B Testing

EXPERIENCE

Independent | Freelance Engineer / AI-Assisted Product Development | *Aug 2025 – Present*

- Took on independent product development work alongside my career, designing and shipping two production applications end-to-end while serving as technical director, product owner, and architect across the full stack.
- Built HuntCalm, a LinkedIn recruiter management Chrome extension, and Exact Recall, an AI-powered personal memory app with semantic search powered by pgvector and OpenAI embeddings. Additional projects at chriseckler.com.

Aerospike | Senior Front-End Engineer, Cloud Team | *Sep 2024 – Jan 2026*

- Owned the front-end architecture of Aerospike's Cloud console, the flagship UI for enterprise customers managing high-performance distributed databases at scale.
- Rebuilt and fully integrated the ACMS console into the main Cloud platform under tight deadlines, directly enabling critical customer migrations and accelerating overall Cloud product adoption.
- Eliminated significant technical debt across the Cloud UI and introduced reusable component patterns that measurably improved development velocity and long-term maintainability.
- Led and mentored 2 front-end engineers, raising code quality, delivery consistency, and team autonomy across multiple major feature initiatives.
- Implemented comprehensive unit testing with Vitest and end-to-end testing with Playwright, significantly reducing UI regressions during periods of rapid backend API change.
- Streamlined cross-team workflows across distributed teams, resulting in faster iteration cycles and smoother feature launches.
- Leveraged AI-assisted development workflows using LLM-powered IDE tooling to accelerate feature delivery, explore implementation strategies, and improve engineering productivity.

Adim | Senior Front-End Engineer | *May 2023 – Mar 2024*

- Architected and led development of a scalable design system in Next.js and TypeScript, establishing reusable component libraries and UI standards that improved development velocity and product consistency across the platform.
- Enhanced the Storybook implementation to set rigorous UI standards, significantly boosting the team's ability to build polished and consistent interfaces.
- Streamlined and unified the Tailwind CSS implementation, producing a cohesive styling framework that was adopted across the full platform.
- Spearheaded the marketing website redesign, modernizing the brand presence and improving user engagement through a more intuitive interface.
- Proactively tackled documentation gaps by working directly with stakeholders, keeping projects moving in a fast-paced startup environment.

Toucan | Senior Software Engineer II | *Dec 2019 – Mar 2023*

- Joined as employee number one and helped build a language-learning browser extension and web platform from the ground up, scaling it to over 1 million active users and 13 million lifetime page views.
- Owned the Next.js architecture for the homepage, dashboard, subscription flow, and login and signup pages, which were the core acquisition and retention surfaces driving subscription growth.
- Improved Core Web Vitals from a score of 35 to 98 by refactoring rendering patterns, optimizing bundle size, and applying modern performance best practices, directly enabling SEO-driven user growth.
- Built and maintained the design system from scratch, improving team productivity and enforcing consistent UI standards across all product surfaces.
- Developed the core browser extension features used by over one million people, including a contextual sidebar, in-context learning moments, games, and the mobile Safari launch, each contributing to measurable gains in user engagement and retention.
- Spearheaded the A/B testing strategy to improve user acquisition and retention, delivering data directly to the product team that drove subscription growth.
- Wrote RFCs that identified technical bottlenecks across the stack, mentored junior engineers, and conducted over 50 employment interviews.

Dave.com | Senior Full-Stack Engineer | *Mar 2018 – Oct 2019*

- Helped scale Dave from an early-stage startup to a \$1 billion-plus unicorn with over 4 million users, working as a core engineer on the banking platform and internal customer support dashboard.
- Developed a suite of internal customer support tools that gave the support team fast access to and real-time analysis of bank data, directly reducing resolution time.
- Designed an account pause and unpause system that reduced user churn and improved overall retention metrics.
- Wrote automated scripts to resolve common customer tickets, cutting response times and measurably improving customer satisfaction scores.
- Built modular screens and components in React Native that enabled rapid mobile feature development and increased customer engagement.
- Added unit and integration tests throughout the codebase to reduce error rates and improve release confidence, and conducted over 50 employment interviews.

Chrome River Technologies | Front-End Software Engineer | *Dec 2015 – Mar 2018*

- Built modular, functional JavaScript views interfacing with REST API endpoints in a large-scale Backbone.js fintech application.
- Partnered with product managers and designers to translate Figma specifications into pixel-accurate, component-driven UI across the platform.
- Identified and resolved complex bugs consistently, delivering quality software on time within an agile team environment.

AutoMD | Front-End Web Developer | *Nov 2014 – Oct 2015*

- Revamped existing pages and integrated mobile-responsive design strategies using PHP, CSS3, jQuery, and Smarty templates, increasing user engagement.
- Collaborated with designers and stakeholders to transform outdated pages into modern designs with intuitive user flows.

Trailer Park Inc. | Web Developer | *Nov 2010 – Oct 2014*

- Delivered interactive websites for prominent entertainment brands using HTML, CSS, JavaScript, WordPress, jQuery, and PHP MVC frameworks.
- Created mobile-responsive and HTML5-compliant sites, consistently delivering projects on time and within budget across teams of up to eight.

U.S. Army Reserve, Sergeant | OIF Veteran (Operation Iraqi Freedom, Mar 2003 – Jul 2004) | Jun 2002 – Jun 2010

EDUCATION & TRAINING

B.S., Web Design and Interactive Media — Art Institute of California, Orange County

NewlineAI Engineering Bootcamp — *Currently completing (active)*. Advanced AI engineering for experienced software engineers covering LLM architecture and inference pipelines, prompt engineering and structured output evaluation, embeddings and vector similarity search, retrieval-augmented generation, multimodal AI systems, and building LLM applications using Hugging Face and open-source models.