

# Ben St John

bensinjin@gmail.com ◇ <https://benstjohn.com>

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I'm a full-stack developer with over a decade experience building high traffic web and mobile applications. A good day for me is when I can say I made some code easier to understand, change, or scale. AI is transforming my workflow, and I increasingly rely on AI assistants to gain deeper insights and efficiency. I encourage a culture of learning, collaboration, and integrity. I enjoy a joke, understanding how things works, and that moment you learn something new.

Some kind words from my colleagues:

*I want to thank Ben for being such an awesome dev, being so dedicated, and always doing the right thing. He has been my crutch over the busy holiday season.*

*Ben has great code style it's very clear and makes code review easy.*

*Ben recently joined the Mobile 4 team and right off the bat has promoted cross-team collaboration to address our accessibility issues. Although a simple request this collaboration has lead to greater synergy and efficiency across the board.*

## Experience

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### Apply Digital

#### Staff Software Engineer

Oct 2024 - Present

At Apply Digital I've worked exclusively with our world-renowned American sports entertainment partners on their flagship applications. We deliver live and on-demand sporting experiences to millions daily.

- Migrating to Next JS, leveraging React Server Components and SSR to improve performance metrics by up to 65%
- Resolved memory issues in server side Next application code
- Helped develop the fan experience for one of the world's largest and most anticipated annual sporting events
- Engineered a library of reusable components and hooks enabling our team to move quickly when developing new experiences

- Collaborated across teams with top developers, designers, and managers to deliver the highest-quality products
- Delivered a variety of technical talks related to optimizing React and React Server Components
- Helped select and interview developers that would thrive on our high performing and fast paced team

## **Senior Software Engineer**

Jun 2023 - Oct 2024

Our partners offer applications for mobile, TV, and web, and I began my journey with Apply Digital on the Mobile 3 team. My contributions led to a swift move to Mobile 4 where I helped rebuild and launch their new mobile app currently available through the App Store and Google Play.

- Played a critical role in developing the live draft experience
- Took charge of becoming a React Native accessibility expert and helped the team pass a high stakes accessibility audit
- Developed a more standardized process for mobile releases
- Developed the live audio stream feature allowing fans to tune in to out-of-market game streams

## **Affinity Bridge**

### **Senior Software Engineer**

Apr 2013 - Jun 2023

Affinity Bridge was my first primarily back-end developer role, where a smaller team allowed me to wear many hats and gain a wide range of experience. I stayed engaged by actively contributing to decisions on the technology and architecture we used to build client applications.

- Relied upon to engineer clean software solutions, supply estimates, and provide technical expertise on agile teams in over fifty different projects
- Provided mentorship and thoughtful code review to team members and assisted in hiring new developers
- Filled the role of lead JavaScript developer on a complete rebuild and migration of a popular vessel management system with a focus on building React user interfaces, complex form widgets, dashboards, and back-end APIs
- Engineered, maintained, and launched, on Google Play and the App Store, multiple successful React Native applications alongside their server side APIs

## Technical Details

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I have deep experience with TypeScript, React, Next.js, React Native, and Tailwind. I'm also comfortable with server-side Python and PHP frameworks including Django, Drupal, and Laravel. I prefer working on the command line with Unix-based operation systems and have a soft spot for Vim.

## Education

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**British Columbia Institute of Technology**

Sep 2017 - Apr 2018

Wireless and Mobile Application Development 1 & 2

**British Columbia Institute of Technology**

Sep 2011 - Apr 2013

Diploma, Computer Systems Technology, Information Systems