

Simon.Fish

 Ruby on  Rails developer with four years of industry experience.

Experienced with  Hotwire,  ViewComponent, and more.

I am a full-stack Ruby on Rails engineer with four years of industry experience and a 2.1 degree in Computer Science at the University of Sheffield. I am a maintainer on GitHub's ViewComponent project and have used Hotwire (Turbo & Stimulus) since its release in December 2020.

Sharing knowledge, open source software, and making a positive difference all motivate me to do what I do best. Through these things, I aim to enable myself and others to see the best versions of ourselves.

Work Experience

Senior Software Engineer // FreeAgent // April 2023-present

Since my promotion to Senior Software Engineer almost exactly a year since joining the company, I have:

- **directed technical work** on infrastructure for new subscription add-ons while onboarding new members to the team
- **promptly gathered input** from product managers and designers, and planned out work to enable us to deliver ahead of schedule
- supported the resolution of **production incidents** through investigating and providing context
- represented and maintained information about **project state** in a way that enabled us to **resolve unknowns** quickly and accurately

Software Engineer // FreeAgent // April 2022-March 2023

I joined FreeAgent as a mid-level software engineer in 2022, forming part of the Core Services team alongside a staff and principal engineer. As a team, we have been responsible for the security, upkeep, and architectural direction of the app, in addition to common features such as subscriptions and billing.

In this role, I have:

- conducted a **major Rails version upgrade**, which required pre-production testing **across the engineering department** and cooperation with teams that were affected by changed upstream functionality
- implemented **tools for monitoring deprecation warnings** that arise with version upgrades
- led **investigation and discussion** around **high-level architectural direction**, which has kickstarted an effort to use Rails engines to break up the monolith
- developed a Slack bot adopted by **seven engineering teams** as part of their daily workflow

In addition, I have been a strong contributor to the internal culture. I have regularly led sessions and given talks at the weekly Engineering Forum and Dev Development meetings, and have been part of the hosting rota for both.

Lead Software Engineer // Raise.dev // June 2020-March 2021

I worked as the **lead contributor** for this early-stage startup's product offering from the inception of its Rails app. The platform allowed users to schedule and attend meetings with coaches, and integrated with several external APIs to assist with that. Ruby on Rails, Sidekiq, Hotwire, ViewComponent, and Tailwind.css drove the platform. I was personally responsible for:

- keeping a service with **over 75% test coverage** live for over **150 active users**
- making **key architectural decisions**, and defining, upholding, and evolving **internal code standards**
- working closely with the founders and product lead, from **specification** down to **implementation**
- **integrating with external platforms** including SendGrid, Mailjet, and Timekit
- enabling team members to contribute through **effective documentation** and **mentorship**
- maintaining **deployment** and **continuous integration platforms**, and developer tooling such as **Webpack**
- **improving dependencies**, and **extracting** and **maintaining open source libraries**

Software Development Undergraduate // UKCloud // July 2018-August 2019

As part of a **Scrum team of six**, I was responsible for the company's software built with **Ruby on Rails**. This includes the customer portal, which faced over a hundred public sector companies including Genomics England. I was responsible for:

- building our **Identity and Access Management API (IDAM)**, which was backed by a **Single Sign-On (Red Hat SSO)** system
- **defending a proposal I devised** that influenced a **critical part** of the design, which ensured SSO would be securely multi-tenanted through IDAM
- developing and spreading **understanding** of RHSSO through my team and the wider organisation
- integrating IDAM with the monolith
- developing **Jenkins pipelines using Groovy and bash** that interfaced with SSO
- **collaborating with infrastructure and network teams** to deploy new services and maintain the health of existing ones

Other

I have a BSc in Computer Science with a Year in Industry (2:1) at the University of Sheffield, where I studied from 2016-2020.

I help to maintain ViewComponent alongside other developers inside and outside GitHub. I aim to support other ViewComponent users quickly and efficiently, and I am regularly consulted on its use internally at FreeAgent. I have also contributed code to Rails, Grouparoo, and ruby-jwt. I want to make an ongoing effort throughout my career to support the tools and communities that enable me to make a difference.

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