

David M. Stephens

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Summary

Principal Software Architect & Engineer with 25+ years of full-stack development experience, specializing in cloud-native application design using C#, .NET Core, and Microsoft Azure. Proven ability to design, develop, and modernize scalable, reliable web applications while upholding stringent standards for secure application architecture and regulatory compliance. Over a decade of hands-on experience driving technical innovation, optimizing performance, and building high-performance systems on Azure. Exceptional communicator and former manager, adept at leading architectural discussions, mentoring teams, and fostering collaborative engineering environments.

Technical Skills

Languages: C#, Java, JavaScript, SQL, HTML, CSS, JSON

Cloud Platforms: Microsoft Azure (10+ years experience)

Frameworks & Libraries: React, Angular, jQuery, .NET, .NET Core, JSP, Java Servlets, Node.js

Databases: SQL Server, Oracle, MySQL, DB2, CosmosDB (NoSQL)

APIs: RESTful API Design & Implementation, Microservices Architecture

Tools & Methodologies: Git, Unit Testing, Dependency Injection, Agile/Scrum, Monitoring/Logging

Operating Systems: Windows, Linux

Other: Object-Oriented Design (OOD), System Architecture, Data Modeling

Recent Experience

Pixel Refraction Studio - Fairfield, CT

August 2024 — Present

Principal Software Engineer

C# | Godot Engine | UX | Art and Audio

- Developing a procedurally generated metroidvania game using the Godot engine and C#.
- Specific focus on high-performance code, complex state management, and efficient resource handling.
- Creating the full UX as well as art and audio.

Cogstate Limited - New Haven, CT

February 2016 — August 2024

Principal Software Engineer (Software Engineer Manager)

C# | Azure | JavaScript | APIs | SQL Server | CosmosDB

- Designed and implemented secure application architecture for multiple cloud-based platforms.
- Ensured data security and regulatory compliance (HIPAA, 21 CFR Part 11) through the implementation of encryption, tokenization, and secure data storage strategies across all services and databases.
- Drove architectural decisions for complex system integrations, focusing on RESTful API design to ensure scalability, security, and maintainability across platforms.
- Spearheaded the implementation of observability standards utilizing Application Insights to proactively identify, investigate, and resolve performance and reliability bottlenecks.
- Contributed to CI/CD pipeline development within Azure DevOps, automating builds, testing, and multi-environment deployments to improve release reliability and reduce manual deployment steps.
- Engineered and implemented a resilient, event-driven transmission system using CosmosDB, ensuring fault tolerance and eventual consistency for critical inter-system communication.
- Oversaw code reviews, mentored engineers, and maintained architectural oversight across multiple cross-functional teams, fostering a culture of high-quality, testable, and maintainable code.
- Led and managed multiple cross-functional engineering teams, fostering a culture of high performance and collaboration while working closely with QA and Project Management.
- Conducted technical interviews and participated in the hiring process, strategically building and expanding the engineering team with top talent.

Housing Systems Solutions - Cheshire, CT

September 2013 — January 2016

Senior Software Engineer

C# | Azure | TypeScript | APIs | SQL Server

- Directed the refactoring and modernization of a monolithic server codebase to an asynchronous architecture, resulting in significant improvements in application performance and scalability.
- Enhanced logging and diagnostics mechanisms across the production environment, dramatically improving the ability of development operations to swiftly identify and resolve critical production issues.
- Implemented dependency injection to enable robust unit testing and improve code maintainability, promoting a high-quality codebase.

Older Experience

Allscripts Corporation - Farmington, CT

August 2008 — August 2013

Senior Software Engineer

C# | IIS | SQL Server | ASP.NET | jQuery

- Developed a dynamic, database-driven web form generation tool that managed both form definitions and data persistence, significantly streamlining content management.
- Engineered a jQuery-based web service system that achieved near-instantaneous page loads by dynamically loading content on demand (scroll/click), drastically improving user experience for large data sets.
- Designed and implemented custom ASP control tags for displaying multi-level, related information with customizable details, enhancing data visualization flexibility.
- Created an automated page data filter system that generated filter queries based on web form fields, supporting multiple, user-specific filter sets stored in XML within the database.
- Designed and implemented a sophisticated time zone handling system, allowing servers to operate in UTC while providing flexible, accurate time displays for global clients, eliminating inter-server clock synchronization issues.
- Optimized numerous database stored procedures and reduced database round trips, leading to notable performance enhancements.

IPT, LLC - Hartford, CT

July 2005 — August 2008

Senior Software Engineer

Java | JSP | JavaScript | Oracle | ISS

- Executed a comprehensive refactoring of the entire codebase, implementing a robust security model that significantly reduced special value visibility and injection vulnerabilities.
- Developed a powerful Java-based reverse auction platform that substantially improved business profitability and enabled identification of higher-priced vendor services for re-bidding.
- Engineered and deployed a new source control system (CVS on FreeBSD) with scheduled automated backups, replacing an inefficient shared drive approach and improving code management.

Hunt, Leibert, Chester & Jacobson, PC. - Hartford, CT

November 2003 — June 2005

Software Engineer

Java | PHP | ASP.NET | C# | MySQL | SQL Server

- Developed several full-stack, database-driven web applications and essential stand-alone utility applications.
- Created a phone audit system leveraging database replication to reduce load on the phone system and accelerate request processing, identifying phone misuse.
- Implemented a system for tracking file barcode scanner usage, improving asset management and reducing search time for the device.
- Built a comprehensive vacation calendar system for HR, streamlining vacation requests, approvals, and company-wide display with hierarchical viewing permissions.

Computer Sciences Corporation - East Hartford, CT

April 2001 — July 2003

Computer Scientist / Programmer Analyst

Java | JSP | Java Servlets | JavaScript | DB2 | Tomcat

- Performed full-stack engineering work on large-scale insurance/financial web applications, including the design, creation, and maintenance of several DB2 databases.
- Developed a utility application that automated image creation for rebranding efforts, reducing a multi-week manual task to approximately one minute, saving hundreds of hours of work.
- Collaborated on the creation of an XML-based design document system, enabling business analysts to generate both human-readable documentation and functional new web pages from a single source.
- Conducted rigorous code reviews and refactoring for an off-shore development team, ensuring code quality and adherence to best practices.

Genaissance Pharmaceuticals - New Haven, CT

November 2000 — March 2001

Associate Software Engineer

Java | Oracle

- Developed and enhanced Java applications utilizing Oracle databases for genetic analysis and detecting gene-based drug interactions.
- Created a visual tool to link sections of sequenced DNA, facilitating easy identification of gaps and the sorting of relevant segments.

Circle.com Incorporated - Wilton, CT

May 2000 — November 2000

Associate Software Engineer

Perl | JavaScript | Oracle | Solaris

- Developed a client-specific web interface providing secure access to a CVS version control repository, supporting file listing, directory traversal, checkout, and commit functionalities.
- Contributed to the development of shopping cart systems and bulk email platforms with integrated click tracking and comprehensive statistics viewing for corporate clients.
- Developed database-backed software on Sun workstations running Solaris.

IBM Corporation - Poughkeepsie, NY

May 1999 — May 2000

Software Developer

Java | DB2 | BASIC

- Migrated critical mainframe documentation from GML to HTML for web accessibility, developing a standalone tool to automate the conversion process and generate both frame-based and index-based navigation.
- Developed DB2 database tools.

Education

Post University

2013

Degree: Bachelor of Science (B.S.) in Computer Science

Focus: Game Development

Certifications

Google - Google AI Essentials ([Verify](#))

June 2025