

Ben Arblaster BSc

York

North Yorkshire

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Profile

I am hardworking, motivated and committed and can work well independently and also within a team. I enjoy keeping up with new technologies, learning new skills and facing challenges that further my experience.

Education

BSc (Hons) Computer Science

2004–2007

Durham University

My dissertation involved research on Information Retrieval on the World Wide Web for which I developed a medium scale, cross platform, distributable search engine in Python based on the Boolean model for IR. My studies also included modules in Artificial Intelligence, Language and Compiler Design, Distributed and Parallel Computing, Computer Graphics, Theory of Computation and Software Engineering.

A Levels

2002–2004

Selby College

AA in AVCE ICT (Double), A in Computing, Key Skills.

GCSE

1997–2002

Selby High School

A* in Chemistry and Maths, A in Biology, Physics, English, English Lit, Electronics, Geography and Information Technology, B in German.

Employment

Developer

2007–Present

Data Media and Research Ltd

Sheffield

Managing and developing in-house applications and high volume dynamic websites utilizing technologies including Oracle, PHP, Python and C#.

Administrator

2007

Bishops Move

Sherburn-in-Elmet, Leeds

Dealing with customer queries over the phone, quoting, invoicing.

Freelance Web Developer

2006–Present

Archaeoscope

Cawood, York

Developing dynamic websites using XHTML, PHP, Javascript, MySQL and Flash.

Bar Attendant

2006–2007

The Jolly Sailor

Cawood, York

Bar and cellar management, ordering and checking stock, customer interaction.

Bar Attendant

2004–2006

The Ferry Inn

Cawood, York

Bar and cellar management, ordering and checking stock, customer interaction.

Voluntary Work

I have worked as part of a team organising a program at Durham University with the aim of introducing school children to computer science, helping them understand problem solving exercises and introducing them to basic programming constructs via the use of LEGO Robots.

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Skills

I have experience of computer systems and programming in both a commercial and non-commercial setting. I have setup and maintained a number of servers providing services such as HTTP, Mail, DNS, LDAP, Active Directory and Databases in both Windows Server and UNIX environments and also have a solid grounding in TCP/IP networking. I have worked to setup and maintain a number of medium scale Ethernet and Wireless networks. I am familiar with UNIX environments, mostly through the use of GNU/Linux and FreeBSD, which I use daily.

I have been programming in a non-commercial environment for over 5 years. From this I have built a sound knowledge of Object Orientated Programming, Procedural programming and am also familiar with the Functional Programming paradigm. Through work in Software Engineering at university I have been exposed to the full software development life cycle and have learnt the importance of good design and team work.

I have worked in a team at work as well as to develop software projects in both academic and non-academic environments. The software Engineering module of my degree involved working in a team of five to build a Java Mobile application that ran on mobile phones. Through this I learnt the importance of communication, teamwork and the requirement for high quality documentation and design. A further part of this module included giving a presentation to members of IBM. I have also worked as a member of a team developing commercial, interactive websites.

Languages

Competent in Python, Java, C, C++, PHP, XHTML, CCS, XML, SQL, L^AT_EX, Bash.

Knowledge of VB.NET, C#, ASP, Haskell, Fortran, Javascript.

Operating Systems

Experienced with GNU/Linux, FreeBSD, OpenSolaris, Microsoft Windows 95/98/2000/XP desktop operating systems and Microsoft Windows Server 2000 and 2003 with some experience of MS Exchange.

I use a mixture of Debian GNU/Linux, MS Windows and FreeBSD for everyday desktop use and development.

Software Packages

Experienced with Subversion, CVS, Eclipse, Apache, IIS, Postfix, MySQL, MSSQL, VMWare, Xen, Microsoft Office, Open Office, L^AT_EX, Adobe Photoshop, CuBase.

Experience of AutoCAD, Blender, Zope, TurboGears, Rails, Macromedia Flash, Microsoft Visual Studio, Matlab.

Interests

I am a keen musician and play the Bass Guitar, Guitar and Trumpet, I enjoy listening to music and I currently play in two bands. I also enjoy reading both fiction and non-fiction and keeping track of current affairs, especially in computing. In my spare time I enjoy following the free software movement and contributing to free software projects in as many ways as I can, when not in front of a computer I enjoy cycling and walking.

Referees

I can provide these on request.