Elsabé Lessing

Frontend-Focused Full-Stack Developer | React | UI/UX

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Professional Summary

Full-stack web developer with 15+ years of experience designing, developing and maintaining web applications across a range of industries. Experienced in frontend development, UI/UX implementation, custom web applications, API integrations and e-commerce solutions.

Combining a technical background with formal graphic design training, I enjoy translating complex requirements into intuitive, visually engaging digital experiences. Experienced in freelance project delivery, client collaboration and working with designers and developers to bring projects from concept to launch.

Particularly interested in frontend development, modern React applications, creative problem-solving and sharing technical knowledge with others.

Technical Skills

Frontend Development

- React, JavaScript, TypeScript
- HTML5, CSS3, Tailwind CSS
- Responsive and cross-browser development
- UI/UX design implementation and accessibility

Backend & Integrations

- PHP, Laravel, Livewire
- RESTful and SOAP APIs
- MySQL, Apache, LAMP stack
- Third-party service and payment integrations

Platforms & Tools

- WordPress, WooCommerce
- Git and collaborative development tools

Professional Skills

- Client and project management
- Requirements analysis and technical specification
- Collaborative development and problem-solving
- Technical mentoring and knowledge sharing

Experience

Lessink Development | *Freelance Web Developer*

Remote | February 2011 - Present

- Design and develop responsive, interactive websites and web applications, with a focus on user experience, usability and cross-device compatibility.
- Build custom business applications using Laravel, Livewire and MySQL to support operational workflows, event management and e-commerce.
- Develop custom WordPress themes and plugins, including extensive WooCommerce customisation.
- Collaborate with clients, designers and developers to translate business requirements into technical specifications, deliverables and project timelines.
- Integrate third-party services and systems, including payment gateways, Zoom and Sage.
- Maintain, upgrade and modernise legacy applications, improving functionality and supporting ongoing business requirements.
- Develop and maintain data-driven applications and manage large datasets using MySQL.
- Contribute to projects involving Python and embedded systems.

Projects

National Arts Festival – Website & Ticketing Portal

Role: Frontend Developer

Technologies: WordPress, Laravel, TailwindCSS, Git

Contributed to the ongoing development of the National Arts Festival website and ticketing portal over four years, working as part of a two-person development team.

- Primarily responsible for the ticketing system frontend and WordPress website.
- Collaborated on the development and maintenance of the digital platforms supporting the festival's events and ticket sales.

2026 Festival: Supported 250+ festival events and 10,000+ tickets sold.

SleepOver | Hospitality Website Platform

Role: Frontend Developer

Technologies: React, TypeScript, CSS3, Strapi, Git

Took over development of an existing React website and implemented updated frontend designs across 13 accommodation properties.

- Implemented new frontend designs and property-specific content.
- Developed reusable React components and shared page templates across 13 properties.
- Integrated Strapi Cloud as the content management system.
- Developed functionality to display and manage promotional offers.
- Integrated the website with a third-party booking system.

Student Management Application

Role: Full-Stack Developer & Team Lead

Technologies: CodeIgniter, jQuery, CSS3, Git, Jira, Agile, REST APIs

Contributed 2013 - 2019. Developed a custom student management application to support the operational management of student residences.

- Developed a white-label solution integrating with Sage, Wi-Fi access and biometric access systems.
- Adapted the application for an Australian accommodation company, implementing custom third-party integrations.
- Led a five-person development team.
- Managed the project's systems administration and infrastructure.

Project scale: Deployed across six student residences, with individual capacities ranging from 200 to 1,000 beds. Subsequently licensed for use in two additional Australian student residences.

Slipstream | Mobile Racing Prediction Game

Role: UI/UX Designer & Frontend Developer

Technologies: Figma, React Native, Git

Contributed to the development of a free-to-play mobile racing prediction game where players predict race results to earn experience points and win prizes.

- Designed the user experience and interface designs in Figma.
- Created a custom icon set, brand identity and colour system.
- Designed 10 screens using reusable components to support future app development.
- Implemented the designs in React Native as part of a two-person team.

Earlier Experience

Virtuosa | *Intermediate Web developer*

Johannesburg | August 2009 - February 2011

- Developed responsive, cross-browser websites from design files using HTML, CSS and JavaScript.
- Built web applications, API integrations and data visualisation solutions.
- Worked with large datasets, multi-server environments and web server administration.
- Developed Python scripts for web crawling and data processing.

Iceblue Infotech | *Junior Web developer*

Johannesburg | December 2008 - August 2009

- Development with PHP / HTML / CSS
- Customizations of multiple platforms (SugarCRM, Ensight, Concrete5)
- Web applications using CodeIgniter framework (precursor to Laravel).

Education

UNISA, Correspondence - *BSc Computer Science Specialisation in Computational Intelligence*

January 2008 - January 2013

Art Attitude, Germiston - *Practical Graphic Design Certificate*

January 2005 - December 2005