

Sara Stephens

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Skills

Process	
Methodologies	Scrum, Kanban, XP, Waterfall
Tools	JIRA, Teamcity
Implementation & Test	
Primary Languages	C#, VB.NET, JAVA
Technologies	.NET framework (3.5 and previous), JAVA
Frameworks & IOC	Castle Windsor, MEF
Testing	TDD, BDD and continuous integration, NUnit, mSpec, RhinoMocks
UI	ASP.NET MVC 2, JQuery, CSS, JavaScript, Spark, WinForms, HTML
Tools	Visual Studio .NET TeamSuite, Adobe creative suite, ReSharper, Netbeans, nCover, TestDriven.Net
Data & Integration	
Access	ADO.NET, NHibernate
Data Repositories	MS SQL Server 2005/2008
Other	Subversion, TFS, Microsoft project

Employment History

Feb 10 – Present **Developer – Progressive Digital Media**

In my current role I have been working towards creating a modular framework and building web applications that implement components of the framework. For these projects I have been working with Sharp Architecture using C# 3.5 with ASP.NET MVC (Spark), SQL server 2008, NHibernate, Castle Windsor and MEF. The projects are managed through a blend of agile methodologies (Scrum/Kanban/XP). I thoroughly enjoy this process and have found iterative development cycles to work well. I find the agile approach to be more communicative and feel this enables the team to understand the project goals and highlights any issues as they arise. I am an active member of the agile process and have recently led the team retrospective. We practice pair programming which has helped improve code quality, developer understanding and the reduction of bugs. I have also been able to gain an understanding of BDD style unit tests using MSpec and Rhinomocks.

July 08 – Feb 10 **Junior Developer - R & D Department - JobServe**

I developed a product that is used by clients to implement job board functionality within their organisations. My involvement with this product was multidisciplinary including software development, marketing and project management.

My role required me to project manage new application features, including development and maintenance (built using VB.NET, ASP.NET & JQuery). I managed the quality assessment of the product and was also occasionally required to manage other developers. I have been instrumental in the construction and implementation of the new product structure. I was also responsible for the design and completion of new marketing campaigns, exploring innovative approaches and utilising existing tools such as Google Adwords.

I designed and implemented new testing processes to ensure efficiency, whilst refining existing testing procedures where appropriate. As part of this I researched and developed a set of automated UI tests. I found my approach to be extremely beneficial so presented my findings to the rest of the team in the form of an information forum.

Within the company I was a vocal advocate for the use of new technologies and tools which helped increase productivity e.g. ReSharper. As a result of this I helped to introduce unit testing within the company.

This role brought extra responsibility and so allowed me to introduce new technologies and procedures to the team. I was able to develop my current skill set whilst also acquiring new less technical skills such as marketing and management.

Dec 06 - July 08 Junior Designer and Front End Developer - JobServe

I was responsible for the creation and development of marketing media for various projects within the company. My role involved elements of project management, including the creation and monitoring of project plans.

The role exposed me to project management and allowed me to gain a firm understanding of the fundamentals.

July 06 – Dec 06 Junior Web Designer/Designer – Prime Impact Events

In this role I designed and produced events programmes, events advertisements, banners and posters for the company events. I was also responsible for the design of a number of the company websites to coincide with print material, using Adobe Creative Suite.

Feb 06 – July 06 Freelance Junior Web Designer/Designer

I worked as a freelance designer and my roles included website design, creation and development, logo creation, branding projects and asset manipulation for a variety of websites. I used tools such as Adobe Photoshop, Adobe Illustrator, Homesite+ and Adobe ImageReady.

The work enabled me to gain a firm and thorough understanding of branding, stock photography, image concepts and applying them correctly, lateral thinking and the creative process.

Qualifications

Qualification	Year	Grade
BSc (Hons) Computing Solutions	2012	Currently Studying
FdSc Computing Solutions	2010	Distinction
CertHE Computing Solutions	2008	Distinction

Memberships and Committees

- British Computer Society Student Member
- British Computer Society Young Professionals Group Executive Committee

Interest and Activities

In my spare time I enjoy attending tech events because I get to view the latest technologies and share my experiences with other likeminded people. I also enjoy attending Hack Days and particularly enjoyed Lauch48 where I was able to gain experience in producing a start-up in a high pressure environment.

I am an active member of the .Net community and enjoy attending events such as alt.net beers which enables me to keep abreast of the latest advances in the .Net arena. I am also on the BCS Young Professionals Group Executive Committee which enables me to organise events and create products to aid its members.

I am a keen blogger and regularly update my personal blog www.developerdame.com. I feel blogging is an important way to introduce and discuss my experiences and ideas with a wide audience. If interested, I have blogged my thoughts on blogging www.developerdame.com/?p=68.

Travelling is a passion of mine and I try to set myself a goal of visiting four new cities each year. It gives me the chance to embrace new cultures and discover different perspectives.

I also enjoy being active and am a keen horse rider and snowboarder. I try to hit the slopes with my friends once a year and thoroughly enjoy doing so.