Contact

gkimpson@gmail.com

www.linkedin.com/in/gavin-kimpson (LinkedIn)

github.com/gkimpson (Portfolio)

Top Skills

Amazon Web Services (AWS)

Nginx

Unit Testing

Languages

French (Limited Working)

English (Native or Bilingual)

Certifications

Laravel Testing 101

Gavin Kimpson

Senior Software Engineer | Fullstack Developer & Mentor

West Midlands, England, United Kingdom

Summary

I'm a passionate full-stack web developer with 20+ years of commercial experience building scalable, reliable, and user-friendly web applications across diverse sectors - from agile startups to large national companies.

Specialising in the PHP ecosystem with a strong belief in the power of web frameworks and object-oriented programming, I take pride in writing clean, efficient code that solves complex problems and drives business value.

I am well versed in modern technologies and methodologies, thrive in collaborative Agile environments focused on continuous improvement, and am highly adaptable in learning and integrating emerging technologies - including the latest advancements in artificial intelligence.

Beyond development, I'm deeply committed to giving back to the tech community. As a mentor at BlackValley, an immersive programme dedicated to improving access to tech careers for Black talent, I guide aspiring developers and help interview candidates for upcoming cohorts alongside programme leadership.

Let's connect if you're looking for a developer who combines technical expertise with AI, leadership, mentoring, adaptability, and a genuine passion for fostering diversity and inclusion in tech.

_____

Experience

Ebuyer

Senior Software Engineer

September 2022 - Present (3 years)

Howden, England, United Kingdom

Full Stack Developer:

- Developed and maintained high-performance web applications using PHP Zend Framework, Laminas/Mezzio, and Laravel, delivering scalable and secure solutions.
- Built and enhanced multiple features within the company-wide CRM platform, improving efficiency and supporting workflows across departments.
- Integrated multiple payment gateways (Stripe, Klarna, Novuna), reducing checkout friction and supporting diverse customer payment preferences.
- Engineered and optimised API integrations, enabling seamless data exchange between internal systems and critical third-party platforms.
- Configured and managed containerised environments with Docker and Vagrant, ensuring consistent development and deployment processes.
- Implemented Elasticsearch/OpenSearch to provide high-speed, scalable search capabilities for large datasets.
- Delivered complex projects in Agile/SCRUM sprints, utilising Jira, Confluence, and Stack Overflow Teams for tracking, documentation, and collaboration.
- Mentored junior developers, improving code quality and accelerating onboarding for new team members.
- Continuous integration with GitLab & Jenkins

Black Valley
Mentor
January 2021 - August 2025 (4 years 8 months)

Mentoring aspiring software developers as part of an eight-week intensive program. Helping to provide real-world experience, code reviews, and interview coaching to enhance diversity in the Tech industry aiming to bring more people of colour into the IT sector. Involved in both mentoring and conducting interviews for ongoing cohorts from people all over the globe.

SoCrowd
Senior Software Engineer
July 2016 - September 2022 (6 years 3 months)
Birmingham, United Kingdom

Full Stack Developer
- Continuous integrations with the major social networks including Facebook, Twitter, Linkedin, Instagram & YouTube API's
- PHP Backend development using Zend & Laravel frameworks
- NodeJS & NestJS development
- Frontend development using AngularJS & Angular frameworks

- Driving sprint planning, daily scrum, as well as running sprint retrospectives
- Prioritising product backlog and maintaining scrum board (using Trello & Jira)
- Managing and monitoring Cloud servers and standalone servers on Rackspace & Digital Ocean
- Ongoing bug-fixing for our social media compliance web application
- Building hybrid mobile apps using the Cordova framework for both Android and iOS platforms
- Rotating scrum master using an Agile Methodology
- Amazon Web Services (AWS) S3 integration
- Continuous integration with Beanstalk & Jenkins
- Elasticsearch integration
- Modern agile methodologies used such as Scrum & Kanban

School Stickers
PHP Web Developer
January 2014 - January 2016 (2 years 1 month)
Birmingham, United Kingdom

PHP development using Yii MVC Framework.

Magento eCommerce development.

Using subversion & Git to keep projects in sync with other members of the team.

Adding new functionality to existing Carrot Rewards & MyStickers web applications (aimed at schools).

Royal Mail Shipping API development (PHP/XML via SOAP).

Android & iOS mobile app development for our MyStickers mobile app using the Ionic HTML5 hybrid mobile framework.

SellCell.com
Senior PHP Web Developer
May 2013 - December 2013 (8 months)
Burntwood, United Kingdom

I worked on both SellMyMobile.co.uk, the UK's number one mobile recycling website and SellCell.co.uk (the US equivalent).

I would regularly keep in contact with resellers from UK and the US to provide them with the tools to display their recycler prices on the website using XML and CSV files.

Adding new core functionality to the existing sites and day-to-day code optimisation using primarily PHP/MySQL with the CodeIgniter framework.

Cybacat Ltd
Lead Developer
May 2011 - May 2013 (2 years 1 month)

I was the lead developer for a small web design agency. I conducted interviews and created technical tests. The role primarily consisted of building websites and applications for numerous clients based both in the UK and abroad.

Provided support for the junior staff and implemented project management strategies to streamline all aspects of day to day planning.

Developed 'Check In' - a multi-national bespoke Hotel Management CMS System for the Bespoke Hotels chain. The website currently powers almost 100 hotels all over the world from Grenada to Australia.

Used version control tools such as Mercurial with both internal & external freelance developers. All of our projects were built using the popular PHP Codeigniter framework with MySQL databases.

Highly involved in the HR process, producing technical tests for potential candidates and directly involved with the hiring of junior web developers and web designers.

Creative Insight (Web Design Agency)
Senior PHP Developer
April 2009 - July 2010 (1 year 4 months)

Worked on a multitude of projects, built one of the first available OOP classes for the Sagepay Form (eCommerce gateway) using PHP5. This PHP class has since been used in a number of projects by a number of people that is freely available on github.

I would attend meetings with clients to attain their requirements and create a list of requirements that would be collated within the project specification.

Entanet International Ltd
Systems Developer
April 2008 - April 2009 (1 year 1 month)
Telford, United Kingdom

Developed and maintained parts of both internal and external facing systems in PHP with MySQL Databases. These included business critical billing and

CRM systems. Used the TRAC ticketing system for tracking issues and getting them resolved. OOP practices applied building elements using MVC and ORM methods.

Worked in a large team (10+) and used source control tools like SVN to ensure that all members of the team had the latest codebase for each projects.

Essentiallogic
PHP Web Developer
August 2005 - March 2008 (2 years 8 months)
Birmingham

Worked on the 'Jikini' Content Management System, this was deployed to a number of well known clients such as Lion Capital & Toyo Tires. This CMS was all built using PHP and MySQL using OOP practices.

I would regularly liaise with clients to help determine their requirements. Day to day tasks including bug fixing and code optimisation. I also worked on a number of eCommerce platforms including Sagepay and Realex payment gateways.

———

Education

The University of Wolverhampton
PGCE in Post Compulsory Education (ICT) · (2010 - 2011)

The University of Wolverhampton
BA (Hons) Multimedia Studies · (2000 - 2004)