

# Alexander Karan

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A technical leader with more than twelve years of programming experience designing and building versatile APIs, growing teams and delivering products with a fantastic user experience.

## Work Experience

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### Senior Software Engineer

Atlassian

Jun 2023 - Current

- Worked on projects inside the Cloud FinOps team and across the company to reduce cloud bills by seven figures.
- Helped to speed up and automate tasks within the Cloud FinOps team by building backend services in Kotlin and Spring Boot with front-facing portals in React.
- Reduce cloud costs through critical bug fixing and improving architecture and code quality across teams.
- Built a system to report on emissions of services running in the cloud and provide insights on solutions engineers can take to reduce emissions.
- Grew other engineer's skills through pair programming, reviews and fostering collaboration across engineers in the Cloud FinOps team.

### Chief Technology Officer

Climateclever

Jun 2019 - Apr 2023

- Grew development team mentoring front-end and back-end teams to deliver emission reporting tracking for businesses and schools. Created clear pathways and learning resources to empower developers across all experience levels.
- Created a transparent carbon calculator API using Node and Python, allowing for accurate carbon emission reporting and automated data collection through web scraping, email parsing and AI image recognition.
- Built an API and data models to meet scientific standards but also allow for consumption and understanding by everyday users.
- Created an internal framework for generating dynamic PDFs for demonstrating carbon footprint and climate action being taken and built directly into the API using serverless functions.
- Scaled and grew an internal API using Node, AWS, Docker and MongoDB with an API-first development approach delivering integration into a significant industry partner with 80,000 businesses submitting for tenders and projects.
- Completed a project for Lottery West to deliver a home version of the product built in React Native to help low-income households.
- Reduced front-end failures by more than 50% with the introduction of TypeScript, Storybook and custom-built pipelines using GitHub Actions.
- Rebuilt the initial MVP from scratch using Node and React. Achieving an early release helped Australian schools save over 2 million dollars and reduce emissions by 30%.

### Lead Mentor for Javascript and React

She Codes Australia

Mar 2022 - Current

- Created course content for teaching JavaScript fundamentals, Web Standards and React to SheCodes students.
- Currently teaching the JavaScript and React modules for the SheCodes six-month-long software development course.
- Provide one-on-one support outside of classes and mentoring.
- Run in-depth workshops on different deep-dive topics.
- Provide support and help with job applications, personal projects and getting industry experience.

## Mug Leader Perth Chapter

Mongodb

Jan 2021 - Mar 2022

- Led MongoDB Perth meetup group, organising events and speakers.
- Created workshops and presentations on how MongoDB works and how to use it to build applications.

## Javascript and React Mentor

She Codes Australia

Sep 2020 - Nov 2020

- Assisted Plus program lead teacher in delivering and teaching students JavaScript and React content.
- Facilitated the learning of students in the program by answering questions in person and online via the Slack community.
- Shared stories on my journey in tech and experiences in the industry.
- Engaged with students to ensure they felt welcomed, supported and part of a group.

## Chief Technology Officer

Apps People

Apr 2017 - Apr 2019

- Grew development team from five to over 30 across Australia and Europe across backend, front-end web and mobile development.
- Helped mobile teams migrate the current Java and Objective-C tech stack to Kotlin and Swift from state government projects to advertising analytics tracking ads on cars.
- Introduced and coached the team on React Native for some mobile applications. Used React Native and Node to help deliver an app for high-traffic food procurement in bulk.
- Initiated automated testing and releases of systems using Jenkins, Docker and AWS automated pipelines.
- Improved architecture and design of backend systems across AWS and Google to reduce costs by 25%.

## Lead iOS Developer

Useverb

Aug 2016 - Apr 2017

- Led the mobile app team to deliver a video-based job app across Android and iOS.
- Worked with the backend team on Node to help improve video streaming and reduce video storage costs.
- Complex auto-playing video requirements with continuous scrolling made 60 frames per second video almost impossible on iOS. Developed a system that allowed UI rendering to be moved off the main thread to achieve 60 fps scrolling.

## Talks

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### NDC OSLO 2023

Giving a talk covering a technical deep dive into edge computing, how it works and providing practical examples of when to use it.

### DDD Perth 2022

Gave a talk on the pitfalls and scams of Web3 and Crypto. Technical overview of the technology and how it is being used to cause harm.

### Latency 2022

Provided a talk on microservices, when it's a great time to use them and when to stick with a monolith.

### TedX 2021

Delivered a talk on data collection, privacy and how data can be misused.

## Education

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### Bachelors Electronics

De Montfort University

2009 - 2012