

Matthew Mincher

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Personal Statement

A conscientious developer with over 10 years experience. During a multi-faceted role with Code Fanatics, responsible for the entire development lifecycle ranging from strategy, ideation, development, testing, and support (incident management and helpdesk)

Possesses strong time management skills with the ability to efficiently handle multiple tasks or priorities. Has a proven track record of ably implementing new technologies as required to complete projects.

Skills

Mobile

- Cross Platform (Apache Cordova)
- Native iOS (Swift / Objective C)
- Native Android (Java)
- App Store guidelines and submission (Apple, Google, Amazon)

Frontend

- HTML/CSS
- Javascript
- jQuery
- Wordpress
- Gatsby

Backend

- PHP (OO + MVC)
- MySQL

Experience

Code Fanatics, July 2011 - Present

Technical Director - 2014

Developer - 2011

Working as part of a small team to develop multiplayer cross-platform online games, projects were also undertaken for external companies. Personal focus was the backend API and client architecture.

Gangster Paradise App

<https://www.gangsterparadiseapp.com>

2011 - 2021

The web games Gangster Paradise 1 & 2 were reimagined and taken to the next level as a mobile app. GP is a complex multiplayer online game with a huge range of functionality - including social features such as a forum, leaderboards, and direct/group messaging. Originally built with jQuery mobile, since heavily modified to meet requirements.

During early development, browser issues were common and problematic. Found and tested workarounds for WebView touch delays on Android + iOS. Improved performance due to a growing DOM by loading and temporarily caching fragments as necessary, and applied the same to the CSS and JS bindings those fragments required. Enabled us to continue to run on the extremely RAM constrained Blackberry platform as the game grew.

Responsible for the native clients (iOS, Android, and Blackberry). Originally Apache Cordova, with additional custom plugins. Updated app over time to match changes in platform guidelines and requirements, and to take advantage of new web standards and native capabilities.

Championed and implemented support for the brand new Blackberry 10 platform, which resulted in good ROI with GP reaching the top apps list of their storefront.

HTML/CSS Javascript / jQuery Apache Cordova iOS (Objective-C, then Swift) Android (Java)
Game Design

Recent Major Projects for GP

iOS client rebuild (released Early 2021)

Rewrote iOS version of the game from Objective-C to Swift, and moved from Apache Cordova to WKWebView, supplemented by our own native components.

"OCs" (released summer 2020, updated autumn 2021)

Websockets and were used to allow players to collaborate in real time, a departure from our usual REST methodology.

XPERMIT®

2019 - 2021 (DBT Software Ltd)

Creation of native apps for Android and iOS to protect files from unauthorised viewing. Each app interacts with the XPERMIT API and the device OS to make managing files and permissions easy.

Responsible for the implementation of both mobile apps. Key areas of work included protecting documents from unauthorised viewing via screenshots or recordings, and preventing access to decrypted files.

iOS (Swift) Android (Java) API Integration Security / Robustness Encryption Authentication Agile

Chop Shop

2016 - 2021

A native mobile game available on iOS and Android in which the player takes photos of cars which are identified and valued in game. Vehicles can be sold, upgraded, and raced. Includes leaderboards, a timeline, and profiles.

Responsible for the implementation of the mobile apps, as well as backend architecture and a large portion of the API.

Particular attention was paid to minimising the number of HTTP requests done by a client (to reduce battery and network impact on mobile devices). Client components observe a global state store, allowing them to update even if the HTTP request was unrelated. Both client and server can queue state changes to be exchanged next time a request is made.

Implemented Google Play Games support on Android, and Apple GameCenter on iOS, including authentication and achievements.

iOS (Swift) Android (Java) REST API Integration In App Billing Push Notifications Game Design

Unreleased Project

2014 - 2016

A mobile game using Cordova. Elements of this project were taken forward into future work. Novel contributions included creating 3D scenes using Three.js.

HTML/CSS Javascript Three.js Apache Cordova Game Design

Eden Interactive, Sept 2010 - June 2011

PHP/MySQL Developer

Varied work for a large Christian eCommerce retailer. This included building features for the customer facing website as well as improving and maintaining internal infrastructure. IT support also undertaken.

PHP MySQL jQuery HTML/CSS A/B Testing

Stuart Web Enterprises, Sept 2008 - May 2009

Software Developer

Part time work on the second version of web game Gangster Paradise. Key contributions included a mission system, casinos, and gameplay achievements.

PHP MySQL jQuery HTML/CSS Game Design

Education

University of Chester, 2007 - 2010

BSc Computer Science - first-class honors

St Joseph's College, 2005 - 2007

A-Levels AAB

St Joseph's College, 2003 - 2005

GCSEs 5A* 5A