

Tonderai Matanga

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SUMMARY

Front-End Generalist Developer with 8+ years of experience delivering CMS-driven and modern component-based web experiences. Strong hands-on expertise in Drupal (Twig theming) and WordPress (custom theme development, hooks/filters), alongside JavaScript (ES6+), jQuery, and modern frameworks (React, Next.js, Vue, Svelte). Proven track record building responsive, accessible (WCAG 2.1) and cross-browser compatible UIs, integrating with REST APIs, GraphQL, and AJAX, and shipping through Git-based workflows with CI/CD and robust debugging practices. Fluent English communicator with strong collaboration across designers, backend teams, and stakeholders.

CORE SKILLS

- CMS & Templating: Drupal 8/9/10 (Twig theming, theme layer), WordPress (custom themes, hooks/filters, Gutenberg/blocks, ACF), PHP
- Front-End: JavaScript (ES6+), TypeScript, jQuery, React, Next.js, Vue, Svelte, HTML5, CSS3/SASS, Bootstrap, TailwindCSS
- Integration: REST APIs, GraphQL, AJAX, JSON, Postman
- Quality & Delivery: Accessibility (WCAG 2.1), responsive design, cross-browser compatibility, performance optimisation (Lighthouse/Core Web Vitals)
- Tooling: Git (GitHub/GitLab), CI/CD (GitHub Actions, Circle CI, Vercel; exposure to Jenkins-style pipelines), Chrome DevTools debugging, Storybook
- Testing: Jest, React Testing Library, Cypress, Playwright

EXPERIENCE

SENIOR FRONT-END DEVELOPER | Retail Capital (TymeBank) | Jul 2021 - Present

- Build and maintain customer-facing web apps using React, Next.js and TypeScript with SSR/SSG, dynamic routing and SEO-driven delivery.
- Integrate UI with REST and GraphQL services; implemented robust data-fetching patterns and error handling for complex workflows.
- Improve performance and Core Web Vitals via code-splitting, lazy loading, bundle analysis and Lighthouse-driven optimisation (40%+ faster load times).
- Deliver accessible, responsive UI (WCAG 2.1) with cross-browser testing and strong debugging practices using Chrome DevTools.
- Collaborate closely with designers and backend engineers; shipped reusable component libraries (TailwindCSS/Storybook) to standardise UI.
- Set up and maintain automated tests (Jest/RTL/Cypress) and CI pipelines (GitHub Actions) to reduce QA cycles and improve release confidence.

FRONT-END DEVELOPER | Bet.co.za | Sep 2019 - Jun 2021

- Revamped key betting platform surfaces using React + TypeScript, improving engagement and reducing feature delivery time through reusable components.

- Built JavaScript-driven UI features and interactive widgets with jQuery/AJAX where appropriate, ensuring cross-browser compatibility under high traffic.
- Integrated front-end components with internal Bet-Tech services via REST APIs and AJAX; implemented analytics instrumentation and A/B testing support.
- Developed and maintained a custom WordPress theme for the betting platform blog (central.bet.co.za): PHP templates, WordPress hooks/filters, custom post types/taxonomies and performance-focused front-end.
- Optimised blog templates for SEO and page speed (caching, asset optimisation, image and script loading strategies) and ensured responsive, mobile-first layouts.

FRONT-END DEVELOPER INTERN | Webaholics Digital Agency | Sep 2017 - Aug 2019

- Delivered pixel-perfect, responsive marketing sites and landing pages for multiple clients across industries under tight sprint timelines.
- Built and customised WordPress themes/plugins, implementing clean PHP templating and reusable UI components with JavaScript, CSS/SASS and Bootstrap.
- Supported Drupal site builds and enhancements: contributed to Drupal 8/9 theming using Twig templates, theme preprocessing, and front-end component integration.
- Worked on CMS content presentation improvements (menus, blocks/regions, Views output styling) while maintaining accessibility and cross-browser quality.
- Used Git-based workflows and collaborated directly with designers and stakeholders to translate wireframes into functional, performant interfaces.

EDUCATION & CERTIFICATIONS

- BComm Honours in Business Administration (Logistics & Retail Management) | Midlands State University - Zimbabwe
- Google UX Design Professional Certificate
- Meta Front-End Developer Certificate
- Scrum Master Certification
- Additional coursework: React, Next.js, TypeScript, Accessibility, Performance, CI/CD (LinkedIn Learning)

SELECTED HIGHLIGHTS

- CMS delivery: WordPress custom theme for central.bet.co.za (custom templates, hooks/filters, SEO, performance).
- Platform migration: Retail Capital portal into TymeBank ecosystem with API integration and UI standardisation.
- Quality culture: introduced automated testing and CI practices to improve release reliability and reduce QA cycles.