Benjamin Nelson

Full-Stack Engineer (Frontend-Leaning) · Seattle, WA ben.volatic@gmail.com · ben-nelson.dev · GitHub: benvolatic

PROFILE

Self-taught full-stack engineer with strong frontend fundamentals and hands-on infrastructure experience. Experienced in React, TypeScript, Ruby on Rails, and PostgreSQL. Comfortable owning projects end-to-end—from UX and data modeling to deployment, monitoring, and iteration. Solid grounding in computer science fundamentals, data structures, algorithmic thinking, and pragmatic system design.

EXPERIENCE

Software Developer — Freelance (2021-Present)

Built and deployed production web applications using React, TypeScript, Ruby on Rails, and PostgreSQL. Designed secure infrastructure with Cloudflare (DNS, SSL/TLS, WAF, tunnels). Operate a personal homelab with virtualized Linux systems, VPN segmentation via pfSense, and self-hosted services. pnwpoolsandconcrete.com is a production React + Rails app generating real customer leads.

Full-Stack Engineer — Pixel Apps (2024-2025)

Developed React and Next.js interfaces for small and mid-sized businesses. Built reusable UI components, design-system-aligned features, and production e-commerce and CMS workflows using Shopify, Hydrogen, and modern frontend tooling. Collaborated closely with designers and stakeholders.

Software Engineering Intern — Semi (2018)

Architected a React Native application with Redux and immutable state patterns. Integrated Stripe subscriptions and Amplitude analytics. Built backend services with Node.js, Express, MongoDB, and Next.js. Deployed to Heroku and coordinated mobile releases via Apple TestFlight.

PROJECTS

pnwpoolsandconcrete.com — Production marketing and lead-generation platform (React, TypeScript, Rails, Cloudflare). harrysrecipes.com — Production recipe management system used in a commercial kitchen.

Ingredi.app — Full-stack menu, recipe, allergen, and inventory platform (PostgreSQL + Prisma).

WebRTC Demo — Peer-to-peer video calling with signaling, encryption, NAT traversal, and real-time state management.

SKILLS

Frontend: TypeScript, JavaScript, React, React Native, Expo, Astro

Backend: Ruby on Rails, Node.js, Express

Infrastructure: Cloudflare, Linux, Proxmox VE, pfSense, VPNs, DNS, SSL/TLS

Databases: PostgreSQL, Supabase, MongoDB

Foundations: Data structures, algorithms, networking fundamentals

EDUCATION

University of Redlands — B.S. Biochemistry. Harvard CS50, freeCodeCamp, and independent computer science study.