**Martin Burford - Front-End Developer**

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**Useful links**

* [My online portfolio](https://www.martinburford.co.uk/)
* [View recommendations of my work from past colleagues](https://www.martinburford.co.uk/recommendations)
* [View a large collection of code samples from previous projects](https://github.com/martinburford/code-samples)

**About Me**

I started coding professionally in 1999, and have a deep passion for beautifully crafted web interfaces. My approach to work is always the same. I am driven by working with nice, smart people. I’m incredibly passionate about how the mechanics and visuals of a website work together in harmony, resulting in a stunning user experience. Yes, I code React, HTML, JavaScript (ES6), Node, React, SASS, Typescript etc in every contract, but my true passion is in building the very best UI a website can have, with whatever technologies are required to do the job. Couple this with an obsessive side to my personality where I continually strive for the cleanest, most extendable and robust code possible. I work hard to ensure I only ever leave companies with code that I myself would be happy to inherit. If you wish to discuss potential contract roles with me, then please do get in touch.

**Currently coding with (as of April 2025)**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| HTML: *26 years* | JSON: *22 years* | Redux: *6 years* |
| CSS: *26 years* | Responsive: *20 years* | Storybook: *6 years* |
| JavaScript: *25 years* | Sass: *12 years* | TypeScript: *5 years* |
| AJAX / XHR: *22 years* | Node JS: *10 years* | NextJS: *4 years 1 month* |
| RESTful API: *22 years* | React:  *6 years* |  |

I have of course been exposed to countless other technologies, many very recently, and others going back a few years:

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| .net Core | Chai | Grunt | Mermaid JS | Rollup |
| AG Grid | Chromatic | Gulp | Mocha | Sharepoint |
| AM charts | Cypress | Heatmaps | Next Auth | Sinon |
| Ant Design | Enzyme | Icomoon | NPM | Snapshot testing |
| Apollo | ES6 | Jade | Phantom JS | SPFX |
| Async / Await | Escenic | Jasmine | PHP | Styled components |
| Axios | Express JS | Jest | Post CSS | Styleguidist |
| Azure Devops | Fetch | JQuery | Pug | Vercel |
| Babel | Flexbox | Karma | Puppeteer | Webpack |
| BEM | Github | Less | Pusher JS | Websockets |
| Bootstrap | Google Maps | Lottie JS | React Hook Form | Yarn |
| Browserify | GraphQL | Lo-dash | Redux Toolkit |  |

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**Lead React Developer: Frieze**

April 2024 - April 2025

**Role responsibilities**

* I was hired to lead the re-architecture and subsequent re-building of the front-end of 3x Frieze sites.
* Due to the nature of shared (along with site-specific) components, Turborepo was the perfect tool for the job.
* An extremely comprehensive component library was created, consisting of around 100 React / TypeScript / Sass front-end components.
* The front-end pulled data from 3x unique Drupal instances, in order to allow a fully headless set of websites to be created.
* The websites were built in such a way whereby components, scripts, styles along with general configuration could be globally shared, along with local overrides wherever required.
* The sites were also coded to work with i18n, as 1x of the 3x sites had to support multi-lingual translations

**Technologies used**

Async / Await, CSS, Contentful, Cypress, Drupal, ES6, Flexbox, Github, Google Maps, Heroku, HTML, i18n, JavaScript, JSON, Lo-dash, Next JS, NPM, React, React Context, React Hook Form, React hooks, Responsive, Sass (modules), Storybook, SwiperJS, Turborepo, TypeScript

**Recommendation from Kaveri Khaneja, Software Developer @ Frieze**

I had the pleasure of working closely with Martin during the development of three brand new content based websites at Frieze, and I can confidently say that he is one of the most skilled Frontend Developers I’ve worked with. As a Lead Frontend Developer, Martin bought a depth of knowledge and expertise in HTML, CSS and React to the team. His approach in building clean, scalable and reusable components became the foundation for our shared component library across the three sites and a maintainable codebase. He approached problems with a proactive mindset, always thinking ahead and suggesting thoughtful improvements. He also brought a collaborative spirit to the table with his willingness to mentor others on the team, and sharing knowledge generously. Martin is a highly capable and detail-oriented Frontend Developer and any team would be lucky to have him. Highly recommended!

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**Lead React Developer: Alex Howard Group**

July 2024 - September 2024

**Role responsibilities**

* Alex Howard were wanting to bring the development of their suite of websites in-house, having out-sourced the work for the past few years.
* The long-term wishes of the business were to have permanent team members to work on this.
* I however had a past working relationship with one of the members of the leadership team, and was asked to build the foundations of a project re-platform whilst the permanent hires were sourced.
* I therefore spent 3 full months (albeit on a part-time basis) working on building a completely new front-end design system, with extensive documentation for the (yet to be hired) team members.
* As part of this work, a comprehensive mechanism was built to support light and dark modes across all sites in the Alex Howard group.

**Technologies used**

CSS, ES6, Flexbox, Github, HTML, JavaScript, JSON, Next JS, NPM, React, React hooks, Responsive, Sass (modules), Storybook, SwiperJS, TypeScript

**Recommendation from Danny Bull, Chief Technical Officer @ Alex Howard Group**

Martin is one of those rare developers who know and love their craft and is very, very good at it. He built us a front-end framework (from scratch) that is truly mobile friendly, incredibly performant, adaptable, and which will take us in to the next stages of our growth and beyond. One of the best developers I’ve worked with in 25 years. He also happens to be easy to work with and can lead a team with grace and ease. If you get a chance to hire Martin, you should hire Martin.

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**Lead React Developer: Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer**

December 2023 - April 2024

**Role responsibilities**

* I led all aspects of the front-end development of a project which required an existing Sharepoint instance (consisting of over 1,500 sites) to be completely re-skinned.
* I built a comprehensive set of React components, using Sass and TypeScript, which were then published as a component library to a privately scoped NPM package.
* This was then imported into Sharepoint, and via SPFX, was used to create custom Sharepoint Webparts, which ultimately led to having a largely headless Sharepoint instance to play with.
* The project was a huge success, as it allowed what had become an ageing (Sharepoint) intranet from the past few years to be given a new lease of life.

**Technologies used**

Azure DevOps, Babel, CSS, ES6, Flexbox, HTML, JavaScript, NPM, React, React hooks, Responsive, Rollup, Sass (modules), Sharepoint, SPFX, Storybook, TypeScript, Yarn

**Recommendation from John O’ Grady, M365 & Sharepoint Architect @ Freshfields**

Martin is an exceptional Developer - I had the pleasure of working alongside him on an Intranet project, where we aimed to create a highly customized user interface for a client using React & SharePoint. Martins ingenious approach allowed us to seamlessly integrate custom React components with SharePoint graph data. Throughout the project, Martins attention to detail, professionalism and deep knowledge of Web Development played a pivotal role. Working with Martin was an enjoyable and rewarding experience.

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**Front-End Developer: Personal portfolio**

September 2023 - December 2023

**Role responsibilities**

* Whilst I was looking for work in late 2023, I decided to be productive alongside job-hunting, by re-writing my portfolio for the first time in 7 years. It's often the case that a Developers (particularly a Front-End Developers) website is never that representative of what they do for work. So I thought it was the perfect time to give things a refresh and a complete overhaul.

**Technologies used**

AM Charts, Async / Await, ES6, Fetch, Flexbox, JSON, Lo-dash, Next JS, NPM, React, React Context, React hooks, Responsive, Sass (modules), Storybook, TypeScript, Vercel

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**Other roles**

Besides my most recent 4 roles (as above), I have worked in many other companies, on a contract basis more recently, but also in permanent positions at the start of my career:

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Company** | **Role** | **From** | **To** | **Url** |
| Aigence | Senior React Developer | Sep 2022 | Aug 2023 | [View](https://www.martinburford.co.uk/portfolio/2022-09-2023-08-aigence) |
| Deals Plus | Senior React Developer | Feb 2022 | Sep 2022 | [View](http://www.martinburford.co.uk/portfolio/2022-02-2022-09-deals-plus/tracker) |
| Live Area | Front-End Architect | Mar 2021 | Feb 2022 | [View](https://www.martinburford.co.uk/portfolio/2021-03-2022-02-live-area/alyasra) |
| Zellar | Senior React / Redux Developer | Feb 2020 | Mar 2021 | [View](https://www.martinburford.co.uk/portfolio/2020-02-2021-03-zellar/app) |
| Hi Mum Said Dad | Senior React Developer | Nov 2020 | Dec 2020 | [View](https://www.martinburford.co.uk/portfolio/2020-11-2020-12-hi-mum-said-dad/sony-gastronomy) |
| Somo Global | React Developer | Dec 2019 | Feb 2020 | [View](https://www.martinburford.co.uk/portfolio/2019-12-2020-02-somo-global/mettrr) |
| Rehab | React / Redux Developer | Sep 2019 | Sep 2019 | [View](https://www.martinburford.co.uk/portfolio/2019-09-2019-09-rehab/ripple) |
| Lloyds Bank | Creative Technologist / React Developer | Jan 2019 | Jul 2019 | [View](https://www.martinburford.co.uk/portfolio/2019-01-2019-07-lloyds-bank/lloyds) |
| Biglight | Senior Front-End Developer | May 2018 | Oct 2018 | [View](https://www.martinburford.co.uk/portfolio/2018-05-2018-10-biglight/cxodb) |
| Tangent | Senior Front-End Developer | Jan 2018 | Mar 2018 | [View](https://www.martinburford.co.uk/portfolio/2018-01-2018-03-tangent/ukpn) |
| Bond and Coyne | Senior Front-End Developer | Aug 2017 | Nov 2017 | [View](https://www.martinburford.co.uk/portfolio/2017-08-2017-11-bond-and-coyne/pearson) |
| HSBC | Lead Web Developer | Jan 2017 | Feb 2017 | [View](https://www.martinburford.co.uk/portfolio/2017-01-2017-02-hsbc/connect) |
| Sapient Nitro | Senior Front-End Developer | Dec 2016 | Dec 2016 | [View](https://www.martinburford.co.uk/portfolio/2016-12-2016-12-sapient-nitro/good-news-feed) |
| Trinity Mirror | Senior Front-End Developer | Aug 2015 | Nov 2016 | [View](https://www.martinburford.co.uk/portfolio/2015-08-2016-11-trinity-mirror/chameleon) |
| Barclays | Lead UI Developer | Aug 2014 | Aug 2015 | [View](https://www.martinburford.co.uk/portfolio/2014-08-2015-08-barclays/account-opening) |
| Trinity Mirror | Senior Front-End Developer | Jul 2013 | Aug 2014 | [View](https://www.martinburford.co.uk/portfolio/2013-07-2014-08-trinity-mirror/match-centre) |
| VML | Senior Interactive Developer | Mar 2013 | July 2013 | [View](https://www.martinburford.co.uk/portfolio/2013-03-2013-07-vml/whitbread) |
| Profero | Senior Front-End Developer | Dec 2012 | Mar 2013 | [View](https://www.martinburford.co.uk/portfolio/2012-12-2013-03-profero/accenture) |
| Engine Group | Senior Front-End Developer | Oct 2012 | Nov 2012 | [View](https://www.martinburford.co.uk/portfolio/2012-10-2012-11-engine-group/sky) |
| Ogilvy | Senior Front-End Developer | Sep 2012 | Oct 2012 | [View](https://www.martinburford.co.uk/portfolio/2012-09-2012-10-ogilvy/astellas-edetail) |
| The Mill | Front-End Technical Lead | May 2012 | Jul 2012 | [View](https://www.martinburford.co.uk/portfolio/2012-05-2012-07-the-mill/acer) |
| Digitas LBi | Lead Internet Engineer | Dec 2011 | Mar 2012 | [View](https://www.martinburford.co.uk/portfolio/2011-12-2012-03-lbi/gp2) |
| AKQA | Senior Web Developer | Oct 2011 | Dec 2011 | [View](https://www.martinburford.co.uk/portfolio/2011-10-2011-12-akqa/nike) |
| Timeout | Lead Front-End Engineer | Jul 2011 | Oct 2011 | [View](https://www.martinburford.co.uk/portfolio/2011-07-2011-10-timeout/dot-com) |
| Tribal DDB | Senior JavaScript Engineer | May 2011 | Jun 2011 | [View](https://www.martinburford.co.uk/portfolio/2011-05-2011-06-tribal-ddb/vw) |
| Publicis | Senior JavaScript Engineer | Jan 2011 | May 2011 | [View](https://www.martinburford.co.uk/portfolio/2011-01-2011-05-publicis-modem/beefeater) |
| Wunderman | Senior JavaScript Engineer | Dec 2010 | Jan 2011 | N/a |
| RGA | Senior Developer | Oct 2010 | Dec 2010 | [View](https://www.martinburford.co.uk/portfolio/2010-10-2010-12-rga/nokia) |
| Digitas LBi | Senior JavaScript Engineer | Aug 2010 | Sep 2010 | [View](https://www.martinburford.co.uk/portfolio/2010-08-2010-09-digitas/tesco) |
| Sapient Nitro | Lead Internet Engineer | May 2010 | Jun 2010 | [View](https://www.martinburford.co.uk/portfolio/2010-05-2010-06-sapient-nitro/lebara) |
| Digitas LBi | Lead Internet Engineer | Dec 2009 | May 2010 | [View](https://www.martinburford.co.uk/portfolio/2009-12-2010-05-lbi/parliament-internet) |
| VML | Senior Interactive Developer | Nov 2009 | Dec 2009 | N/a |
| Autoquake | Lead Client-side Developer | Aug 2009 | Nob 2009 | [View](https://www.martinburford.co.uk/portfolio/2009-08-2009-11-autoquake/dot-com) |
| Euro RSCG | Chief Technical Architect | Feb 2009 | April 2009 | N/a |
| Futurebrand | PHP Developer | Jan 2009 | Feb 2009 | N/a |
| Full Six | Technical Director | Sep 2008 | Jan 2009 | N/a |
| Digitas LBi | Principle Software Engineer | Sep 2004 | Aug 2008 | [View](https://www.martinburford.co.uk/portfolio/2004-09-2008-08-digitas/nakheel-intranet) |
| Volt Europe | Trainee Developer | Jun 2001 | Jun 2002 | N/a |

**Higher Education**

BSc Hons (2:1) in Internet Technology - Staffordshire University, September 1997 - June 2001

**A typical work day**

Whilst every role I work in varies hugely in how I spend my time from one day to the next, there are a number of things I do which broadly are expected of me wherever I work. This diagram shows how these

may typically be spread across a working day.



Please note that in addition to these, I am also often found working on all of the below when required:

* Building prototypes / concepts
* Documentation
* Mentoring Junior Developers
* Spiking new technologies / solutions
* Upskilling / cross-training
* Working closely with Visual Designers and UX to help fine tune project specifics
* Working with management to help plan projects