

Martin Burford - Front-End Developer

martin@martinburford.co.uk | [View my LinkedIn profile](#) (135+ recommendations)

Useful links

- [My online portfolio](#)
- [View recommendations of my work from past colleagues](#)
- [View a large collection of code samples from previous projects](#)

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 May 2024)

HTML: *25 years*

JSON: *21 years*

Redux: *5 years*

CSS: *25 years*

Responsive: *19 years*

Storybook: *5 years*

JavaScript: *24 years*

Sass: *11 years*

TypeScript: *4 years 5 months*

AJAX / XHR: *21 years*

Node JS: *9 years*

NextJS: *3 years 2 months*

RESTful API: *21 years*

React: *5 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	

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.

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

Senior React Developer: Aigence

September 2022 - August 2023

Role responsibilities

- I led a team of 3x Front-End Developers, working on a greenfield HR platform.
- It aims to provide the features of solutions such as Workday, in terms of Leave Requests, Payroll, Timesheets etc, but in a way whereby the control is put in the fingers of the users.
- The need to depend on a HR team can therefore be removed, resulting in increases to the speed and efficiency of the tasks needing to be done.

Technologies used

Apollo, Async / Await, Axios, Chromatic, ES6, Flexbox, GraphQL, HTML, Lo-dash, Next Auth, Next JS, React, React Hook Form, React hooks, Redux Toolkit, Responsive, Sass (modules), Storybook, TypeScript, Vercel, Yarn

Recommendation from Ian Shaw, CEO @ Aigence

I had the pleasure of working with Martin on our SaaS application involving Next.js and React, and I must say his expertise in these areas is exceptional. Martin possesses a deep knowledge of both Next.js and React, and his natural understanding of CSS is evident in the results he achieves. What impressed me the most was his systematic and structured approach to work. He meticulously plans and executes each task, which greatly contributed to the overall success of the project. Moreover, Martin has an intuitive ability to solve nasty bugs, which proved to be invaluable on many occasions. His dedication and passion for coding are evident in the quality of his work. I would be more than happy to work with Martin again and highly recommend him to anyone seeking a talented and professional developer.

Senior React Developer: Deals Plus

February 2022 - September 2022

Role responsibilities

- I was the sole Front-End Developer, working on a complete re-write of a platform, which focused on offering a dashboard-style set of screens showing complex datasets for investment portfolios for both individuals and companies.
- The nature of the data involved was often complex, as a result leaning on comprehensive use of AG Grid for tabular data, along with close to 100 bespoke written React components, utilising both Sass and TypeScript.
- Also of note within this project was the inclusion of react-hook-form, since there were around 50 forms, enabling authenticated users to add, edit and delete a whole host of data attached to their individual investments.

Technologies used

AG Grid, Async / Await, Axios, Chromatic, ES6, Flexbox, HTML, Lo-dash, Mermaid JS, Next JS, NPM, React, React Hook Form, React hooks, Redux, Responsive, Sass (modules), Storybook, TypeScript

Recommendation from Ben Stockton, Chief Product Officer @ Deals Plus

Martin worked with us for around 9 months on a new user interface for our software product. We are a start-up, most of us having never worked in a software business before. Martin is a highly skilled front-end developer. We had many challenges on the interface design and development, but demonstrated his adaptability and experience in dealing with those challenges very well. He provides constant updates on his work, and tailors them to the needs of his clients. I would highly recommend Martin for any business (including smaller businesses like ours) who are in need of an experienced front end developer.

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:

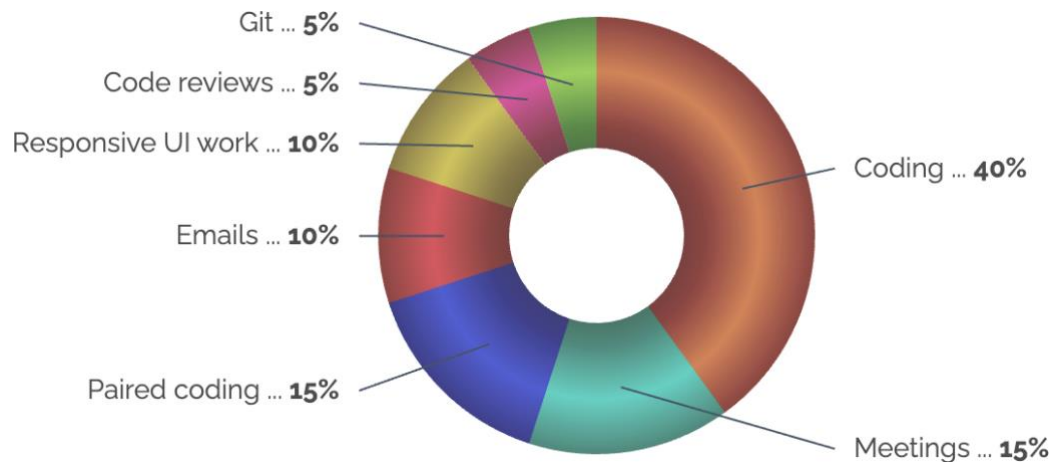
Company	Role	From	To
Live Area	Front-End Architect	Mar 2021	Feb 2022
Zellar	Senior React / Redux Developer	Feb 2020	Mar 2021
Hi Mum Said Dad	Senior React Developer	Nov 2020	Dec 2020
Somo Global	React Developer	Dec 2019	Feb 2020
Rehab	React / Redux Developer	Sep 2019	Sep 2019
Lloyds Bank	Creative Technologist / React Developer	Jan 2019	Jul 2019
Biglight	Senior Front-End Developer	May 2018	Oct 2018
Tangent	Senior Front-End Developer	Jan 2018	Mar 2018
Bond and Coyne	Senior Front-End Developer	Aug 2017	Nov 2017
HSBC	Lead Web Developer	Jan 2017	Feb 2017
Sapient Nitro	Senior Front-End Developer	Dec 2016	Dec 2016
Trinity Mirror	Senior Front-End Developer	Aug 2015	Nov 2016
Barclays	Lead UI Developer	Aug 2014	Aug 2015
Trinity Mirror	Senior Front-End Developer	Jul 2013	Aug 2014
VML	Senior Interactive Developer	Mar 2013	July 2013
Profero	Senior Front-End Developer	Dec 2012	Mar 2013
Engine Group	Senior Front-End Developer	Oct 2012	Nov 2012
Ogilvy	Senior Front-End Developer	Sep 2012	Oct 2012
The Mill	Front-End Technical Lead	May 2012	Jul 2012
Digitas LBi	Lead Internet Engineer	Dec 2011	Mar 2012
AKQA	Senior Web Developer	Oct 2011	Dec 2011
Timeout	Lead Front-End Engineer	Jul 2011	Oct 2011
Tribal DDB	Senior JavaScript Engineer	May 2011	Jun 2011
Publicis	Senior JavaScript Engineer	Jan 2011	May 2011
Wunderman	Senior JavaScript Engineer	Dec 2010	Jan 2011
RGA	Senior Developer	Oct 2010	Dec 2010
Digitas LBi	Senior JavaScript Engineer	Aug 2010	Sep 2010
Sapient Nitro	Lead Internet Engineer	May 2010	Jun 2010
Digitas LBi	Lead Internet Engineer	Dec 2009	May 2010
VML	Senior Interactive Developer	Nov 2009	Dec 2009
Autoquake	Lead Client-side Developer	Aug 2009	Nob 2009
Euro RSCG	Chief Technical Architect	Feb 2009	April 2009
Futurebrand	PHP Developer	Jan 2009	Feb 2009
Full Six	Technical Director	Sep 2008	Jan 2009
Digitas LBi	Principle Software Engineer	Sep 2004	Aug 2008
Volt Europe	Trainee Developer	Jun 2001	Jun 2002

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