

Benjamin Dickman BSc (Hons) First Class

Senior Software Engineer

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PROFILE

Senior Software Engineer with 13+ years' experience designing, building and modernising .NET, Azure and Umbraco-based platforms. Strong background in backend development, API design, cloud infrastructure, CI/CD, automated testing and performance optimisation. Proven record delivering scalable business-critical systems, mentoring engineers and improving release speed, reliability and operational efficiency.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

- Architected a customised Umbraco CMS platform supporting 20+ branded websites in a load-balanced Azure environment, reducing average page response times by 60%.
- Led technical design and end-to-end delivery of a Customer Portal, delivered ahead of schedule and increasing feature adoption by 40% within the first quarter.
- Reduced release time by 80% by configuring CI/CD pipelines and automated deployments.
- Increased automated test coverage from 20% to 80%+ and reduced production defects by 70%.

SKILLS SUMMARY

Backend: C#, .NET Framework, .NET Core, .NET 6/8/10, ASP.NET MVC, Web API, RESTful APIs, Entity Framework Core, SQL Server, Dapper

Frontend: React, TypeScript, JavaScript, HTML, CSS, jQuery, Bootstrap

Azure Cloud & DevOps: App Services, Function Apps, Cognitive Search, Service Bus, Blob Storage, Key Vault, Azure SQL Database, SQL Server, Azure DevOps, Octopus Deploy, GitHub Actions

Testing & Quality: Unit testing, integration testing, performance profiling, logging, monitoring, BDD, TDD

CMS & Workflow: Umbraco CMS, Certified Umbraco Master, Agile methodology, Scrum, Kanban, Git

Currently Developing: React, IaC with Terraform, TDD, system design and software architecture

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Connells Group | *August 2016 - Present*

Senior Software Engineer | Aug 2024 - Present

Previous roles: Senior Web Developer (May 2018 - Aug 2024) | Web Developer (Aug 2016 - May 2018)

- Architected and delivered a highly customised Umbraco CMS platform supporting 20+ branded websites within a load-balanced Azure environment. Configured dedicated Content Delivery and Content Management instances, improving site scalability and reducing average page response times by 60%.
- Led the end-to-end delivery of the Customer Portal platform, owning architectural direction and technical decision-making. Mentored 2 Junior Engineers, introduced structured design reviews, and partnered closely with Product Owners and Engineers - delivering the project ahead of schedule and increasing feature adoption by 40% within the first quarter.
- Introduced custom process automation to improve operational efficiency, including syncing over 1,500 high street branches with Google Places, reducing manual workload by 95%.
- Configured CI/CD pipelines and automated deployments, reducing release time by 80%.
- Drove adoption of automated testing across the development lifecycle, implementing unit and integration test frameworks that increased code coverage from 20% to 80%+. Reduced production defects by 70% and shortened regression testing time by 90%, improving software reliability and team velocity.

Dynamic Business Intelligence | *June 2013 - August 2016*

Software Developer

- Designed and implemented a hierarchical drill-down feature enabling users to explore data across multiple metrics for enhanced analytical insights.
- Developed a Calculation Manager utilising jQuery UI, delivering an intuitive interface to efficiently manage and configure complex rule sets.

EDUCATION & QUALIFICATIONS

BSc (Hons) Computer Science, First Class - University of Bedfordshire | *Oct 2010 - Jul 2013*
Certified Umbraco Master (Umbraco 8)