GAVIN KEMP
Frontend Developer & Engineer

CV

Hello.

My name is Gavin Kemp. I'm a **Frontend Developer** with experience in working on multi-lingual large scale web applications across a variety of stacks.

I'm currently living and working in **central London** at Zoopla.

I would appreciate it if you could take the time to look at my CV attached and my portfolio on gavin-kemp.com. I'm always open to hearing about **new opportunities** as well as connecting with like-minded people. I look forward to hearing from you.

Regards,
Gavin Kemp

Experience

Zoopla
June 2022 - present (notice of possible redundancy served due to restructuring)
Frontend Developer
Next.js (React) / TypeScript / NX / GraphQL

During my time at Zoopla I have had the opportunity to help develop several experiments around housing data updates and how to surface them to users. In my third week I built out a proof of concept on how a notifications page could work, with no designer on the team I used my own initiative to develop this quickly and get it in front of the PM. The work was well received and was used in discussions for how we could develop the experiments that would follow. I worked within our component library and developed new components for the final notification feature. I also worked in our GraphQL project to return the data to our frontend Next.js app for the notification data, interacting with several different APIs to fetch and collate the data across different services.

carwow
October 2017 - May 2022
Frontend Developer
Rails / JavaScript / Elm / SCSS / Webpack / HAML / Prismic

A sizeable chunk of my time at carwow was spent on advancing the frontend architecture across carwow's browser facing applications with a particular focus on performance. For example, initiating and helping to migrate away from a monolithic assets structure via the Rails Assets Pipeline and moving to use Webpack so only the assets needed were loaded on each page. Other performance focused tech initiatives that I have lead are the replacement of our client side validation library and the removal of jQuery as a dependency.

In addition to this I worked with our design team to help advance our internal design system and develop our style guide website that underpins the majority of the UI you see on carwow today.

I led a team on improving our technical SEO health by improving our Core Web Vital scores and moving the amount of pages being marked as "Good" for page experience according to Google from 50% to 95%. At the time there were over 5,000 pages being indexed for page experience by Google on the UK site alone. This work involved deep diving into understanding how the browser loads assets, identifying the issues by using and understanding, in particular, the performance section of the browsers dev tools, applying fixes and measuring the effect of changes. Due to the success of this project, carwow's "Page experience" rating on Google is higher than any of our closest competitors (AutoTrader, Cazoo, Cinch) according to publicly available data supplied by

Google at the time. Due to this our pages maintained or in some cases increased their position on search engine result pages.

I get great joy when given the chance to use my own initiative to spot opportunity areas in products and pitch to improve them to the business. One example is improving the colour selection step in our car configurator to increase the amount of successful car configurations. Working alongside a designer from another team we ran an A/B test to measure the impact of the changes and saw a positive statistical significance in the changes we had introduced on this particular car configuration step. This was not core work related to either of our teams but we spotted an opportunity and together worked to successfully prove our theory that our changes made colour selection easier for the customer.

Aside from the day to coding and product work I frequently presented product demos to the company showing and describing new features or recent changes to carwow's apps. The audience is comprised of a mix of different job roles: marketing, commercial, technical, design and execs. In addition to this, I also educated others on frontend development or on new things I have learnt so that the entire engineering team has the power to do what I do and not just me or the other frontend developers.

AV Browne
June 2015 - June 2016
Junior Frontend Developer
Laravel / JavaScript / SCSS / Vue

One of the most notable projects that I was involved in with AV Browne was with Kerry Foods. We were developing a thirteen metre long interactive screen for presentational purposes. The entire length of the screen was a full screen browser window. The screen was then "connected" to a touchscreen screen built into the speakers podium which communicated with the bigger version of the screen via WebRTC. The screen involved a complex web of animations and transitions between each of the sections with high levels of interactivity. It was designed to be an educational showcase for those visiting the headquarters such as potential investors. The frontend was built on Vue.

References

I am more than happy to provide references upon request.