Gafar Aleshe

Software Engineer · Computer Science Student · Portsmouth, United Kingdom

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Software engineer and Computer Science student in Portsmouth, UK, working across full-stack and frontend development. I build accessible, type-safe web apps with TypeScript, React, Next.js and Node.js — 25+ shipped at FrontToBack — and I'm building Hermite Labs, software for creative businesses, starting with the HermiteFlow CRM and invoicing app.

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Language	TypeScript, JavaScript, Python
Frontend	React, Next.js, Vue, Redux, Tailwind CSS, Vite, HTML5, CSS3, TanStack Query, React Hook Form
Backend	Node.js, Express, REST APIs, JWT, OAuth 2.0, WebAuthn
Data	PostgreSQL, MySQL, SQLite, MongoDB, SQL, Drizzle ORM, Zod
DevOps & Testing	AWS, Docker, Git, GitHub Actions, CI/CD, Jest, Cypress, TDD
Accessibility	Semantic HTML, WCAG, ARIA, Keyboard Accessibility, Screen Readers

EXPERIENCE

Frontend Developer & Creative Director · FrontToBack

Portsmouth, UK | Dec 2022 – Present

- Built and deployed 25+ production web applications end to end, from requirements gathering through deployment, delivering responsive, accessible, mobile-first interfaces.
- Turned ambiguous, loosely defined client briefs into clear technical requirements and scoped tasks, explaining technical trade-offs to non-technical clients.
- Implemented e-commerce functionality and SEO integrations using WooCommerce and Yoast, contributing to 3.2× lead growth while maintaining 98% client retention.
- Coordinated work with clients and team members through Slack and Trello, communicating progress in writing and verbally and delivering against deadlines.
- Led digital content and web strategy across client projects, contributing to growth of 13K+ Instagram and 70K+ TikTok followers and generating 10M+ views.

Founder & Creative Director · SHOTBYGAFAR

Portsmouth, UK | Aug 2024 – Present

- Professional photography and videography services for brands, events, and businesses — 25+ clients, five-figure revenue.
- Managed end-to-end client workflow from briefs to delivery, handling scheduling, contracts, and revisions.

PROJECTS

Hermite Labs — Full-stack SaaS platform for creative businesses

hermitelabs.com | flow.hermitelabs.com

TypeScript · Next.js · Node.js · PostgreSQL · Docker

- Architected a multi-tier SaaS platform (Next.js/React client, Node.js API services, PostgreSQL data layer) in a TypeScript monorepo, defining the system design from an open-ended product idea.
- Developed HermiteFlow, a CRM and invoicing application supporting client management, invoice generation, business workflows and automated UK VAT calculations.
- Designed type-safe API workflows backed by PostgreSQL, implementing authentication, role-based access control and validated data handling.
- Containerised services with Docker and implemented automated testing and CI/CD workflows using Jest and GitHub Actions, with version control in Git.

Compound — Secure studio booking system University coursework

React · Node.js · Express · SQLite

- Built a three-tier booking application for studio rooms and equipment: React client, Express REST API and SQLite database, supporting full CRUD workflows.
- Designed the database schema in SQL DDL and applied secure-by-design practices, evaluating multi-factor authentication approaches for user login.
- Audited the application against the OWASP Top 10 (2021), articulating risks and mitigations in a Harvard-referenced technical report and recorded demo.

University Library Management System — Relational database design University coursework

MySQL · SQL

- Modelled a university library's books, copies, members, staff, loans and fines as a 9-table ERD, normalised step by step from UNF to Third Normal Form.
- Implemented the schema in MySQL with primary/foreign key constraints, triggers and indexes; wrote queries using joins, set operations, grouping and aggregates, analysing performance with EXPLAIN.
- Used AI-assisted development (Claude) under the module's declared-AI policy, testing every query and presenting the design decisions in a written report and live demo.

EDUCATION

University of Essex Online — BSc Computer Science, graduating 2028

Relevant modules: Data Structures & Algorithms, Object-Oriented Programming, Web Application Development, Data Modelling

Havant and South Downs College — A Levels in Computer Science, Maths & Further Maths, 2023–25

CERTIFICATIONS

CS50x — Introduction to Computer Science, HarvardX

Full-Stack & Python Pro — Bootcamps by Dr Angela Yu

AWS Cloud Practitioner — Essentials, AWS on edX

AWS Educate — Introduction to Generative AI