Career overview: Life as a Web developer

Web development is the process of building websites and applications. It's not necessarily about the design of a website, but rather, the coding and programming that powers the website's functionality.

You'll find a detailed explanation of what web development is in this article. For now, though, let's look at what a web developer actually does.

What does a web developer do?

Web developers build and maintain websites, apps, software, and systems. Web developers can work on the frontend, the backend, or across the full technology stack. You can learn more about the differences between the first two in our guide to frontend vs

backend development.
As a web developer, you might find yourself responsible for the following tasks:

- Bringing the UX and UI designers' designs to life using HTML, CSS, and JavaScript
- Ensuring optimal display across different browsers and devices
- Building and maintaining the technology needed to power the frontend (the elements of a website that the user sees)
- Creating and managing databases
- Carrying out usability tests and fixing bugs

- Building server-side software using backend frameworks
- Developing and deploying content management systems (for a blog, for example)
- Liaising with product owners to determine the needs and specifications of the product
- Advising on strategy and best practices

Ultimately, web developers are responsible for building a product that meets the client or business owner's needs, as well as those of the customer or end user. In addition to getting hands-on with code and fixing bugs, web developers spend

time collaborating with stakeholders, clients, and designers in order to understand how the final website (or product) should look and function.

What are the key traits of a web developer?

Believe it or not, you don't need loads of formal qualifications to become a web developer. If you're thinking about a career in web development, consider whether you possess the following:

- A passion for problem-solving. Whether you're writing code from scratch or fixing bugs and errors, you'll find that much of your work as a web developer is an exercise in problem-solving—so make sure this is something you enjoy.
- A knack for building things. Web developers use languages, libraries, frameworks, and a whole host of other tools to build things from scratch—from websites and apps to software and databases. Web developers therefore tend to be good at (and passionate about) understanding how different components fit together to

form a functional end product.

- Patience, perseverance, and a desire for constant learning. When programming, you'll constantly hit obstacles—it's all part and parcel of being a web developer. For some, this is a challenge that motivates them. For others, it's a source of major frustration and dissatisfaction. If you're considering a career in web development, you'll need a certain degree of patience and perseverance.

It's important to note that a career in web development is not just about sitting behind a screen and hacking away at code. Become a web developer if…

- A career in web development will put you right at the forefront of technology.
- If you like the idea of mastering different programming languages and web technologies, building products from scratch, identifying and solving problems, and being part of a field that requires constant learning

Apply for the Global IT Scholarship Program

Global Information Technology is proud to provide the GIT Scholarship Program. Every month, this scholarship will be awarded to highly driven individuals wanting to begin or advance their IT career. Exclusively, the scholarship will provide a grant of $2,500.00 towards any certification course or remote live training at GIT. GIT created this opportunity to give back to the community and spread our desire to help those in need. We believe that learning is essential and we will continue to help and develop individuals to help them succeed in their personal development goals. Apply here:

https://www.global-itech.com/the-global-it-cholarship/

Quick and to the point Career Advice

Question: *"Andrei, I have a hard time explaining who I am, and what I am able to do. Why is this so important – can't people just read my resume??"*
– Kimberly Debroski

Answer: Think of the job search as the market and yourself as the product. You have to sell yourself to the market and hope an employer buys in. The proper way of selling your skills, your expertise and yourself is through branding. Creating a branded career story differentiates you from the competition by showing off your personality through your resume and cover letter, AND what you say. Clearly indicate your previous experience and accomplishments as well as the impact they left. Give specific details if necessary. Doing this showcases your unique value proposition, creating a more personally effective brand.

You got this ….. I can't wait to hear how things work out for you.

- Andrei

GIT thought Provoking corner

"Progress is impossible without change, and those who cannot change their minds cannot change anything."
– George Bernard Shaw

Interesting and creepy fact about voiceprint recognition systems

Voiceprint recognition has moved out of the sci-fi movie realm and into commercial reality, with some banks and credit unions using voiceprints to improve customer service. Since a voiceprint is a unique way to identify a customer, voiceprints can avoid answering security questions or remembering passcodes.

But that introduces a new creepy concern: criminals cloning your voice. It's not a 10-year-from-now proposition. AI startup Lyrebird has already demonstrated the ability to convincingly clone voices.

2 Tips on how to respond to "Walk me through your resume"

To properly respond to a request to go over your resume, follow these steps:

1. Concentrate on your most relevant experiences.
Spend the most of your time explaining the most important aspects of your resume. It's not essential to go over every item of your resume. Instead, consider which experiences helped you prepare for the position you're seeking. You might even inquire about a particular portion of your resume that the employer is interested in learning more about.

2. Demonstrate how you can bring value
When discussing each job, aim to stress the value you brought to the organization. Working on large projects, raising income, or anything else that helped your prior company might be examples of this. Demonstrate that you have been in charge of a variety of duties that have helped you develop as a professional.

VETERNS, GET READY TO POWER YOUR TECH FUTURE AT GLOBAL IT

Global Information Technology (Global IT) is approved by the Department of Veteran Affairs to receive Veterans benefits. We accept Chapter 33 Post 9/11 GI Bill®, Chapter 30 Montgomery GI Bill® for Active Duty, Ch 31 Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment (VR&E), and VRRAP. Whether you are serving or have already served, Global Information Technology is here to work with you to start your IT career. These benefits may cover up to 100% of tuition and fees and housing allowance, courseware, and other training related costs as well.

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is accepting new training program enrollments for veterans wishing to use their GI Bill benefits. These training programs help veterans get the technology skills they need to join some of the fastest-growing industries in the United States. Global Information Technology (Global IT) is approved by the Department of Veteran Affairs to receive benefits under the GI Bill - Chapter 31 and Post-911 programs. Participating veterans will receive high-tech training, tuition, and housing allowance assistance).

For more information about your specific benefits in regards to your service, call 248-557-2480 to set up an appointment with one of our School Certified Officers (SCO, career advisors) or complete the inquiry form at https://www.globalitech.com/va-p

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10 Tips for preparing for your next job interview

In the days before your job interview, set aside time to do the following:

1. Research the company and interviewers
Understanding key information about the company you're interviewing with can help you go into your interview with confidence. The company's website, social media posts and recent press releases will provide a solid understanding of the company's goals and culture and how your background makes you a great fit.

2. Practice your answers
Prepare your answer to the common question: "Tell me about yourself, and why are you interested in this role with our company?" The idea is to quickly communicate who you are and what value you'll bring to the company and the role—this is your elevator pitch.

3. Reread the job description
You may want to print it out and begin underlining specific skills the employer desires. Think about examples from your past and current work that align with these requirements.

4. Use the STAR method
Prepare to be asked about times in the past when you used a specific skill and answer with a story using the STAR method—situation, task, action and result.

5. Practice with someone
Practicing your answers out loud is an incredibly effective way to prepare. Say them to yourself or ask a friend to help run through common questions and your answers. You'll find yourself gaining confidence as you repeat the words.

6. Prepare a list of references
Your interviewers might require you to submit a list of references before or after your interview. Preparing a reference list can help you quickly complete this step to move forward in the hiring process.

7. Be prepared with examples of your work
During the interview, you'll likely be asked about relevant work you've done in the past. After reviewing the job description, think of previous jobs or volunteer positions that show you have experience and success doing the type of work they require.

8. Prepare smart questions for your interviewers
Interviews are a two-way street. Employers expect you to ask questions: They want to know that you're thinking seriously about what it would be like to work there. Here are some questions you may want to consider asking your interviewers:

• Can you explain some of the

day-to-day responsibilities of this job?

- How would you describe the characteristics of someone who would succeed in this role?
- If I were in this position, how would my performance be measured? How often?

9. Plan your interview attire the night before

If you speak to a recruiter before the interview, ask them about the dress code in the workplace and choose your outfit accordingly. If you don't have someone to ask, research the company to learn what's appropriate.

10. Bring resume copies, a notebook and a pen

Take at least five copies of your printed resume on clean paper in case of multiple interviewers. Highlight specific accomplishments on your copy that you can easily refer to and discuss. Bring a pen and a small notebook to take notes. Don't take notes on your smartphone or another electronic device. Write down details you can reference later in your follow-up thank-you notes.

July 2024 Career Services Workshops: GIT's Lunch and Learn Events

Message from Jennifer Bowden, GITs Career Services Manager

Hello Global IT community! We are already on our 7th month into 2024 - see GIT's online calendar for July 2024 on information about our upcoming workshops, including:

Using AI in Your Job Search
Wednesday, July 10, 12 p.m. ET
Lunch and Learn: AI is showing up everywhere; how can you use it as part of your job search? Learn what tools are available and how to make the most of this technology in planning, preparing, and executing your job search strategy.

Getting Results from Your Resume
Tuesday, July 23, 4 p.m. ET
Lunch and Learn: Everyone knows you need a resume as part of your job search – but how can you get it past the screening software? This workshop will show you how to create a resume that gets noticed by employers.

GIT's Lunch and Learn events are short workshops with the information you need to get a jump-start on your job search. Not able to attend in person? Contact placement.services@global-itech.com for recordings of selected topics.

Why Use TikTok for Personal Branding?

TikTok's short form video content format is highly engaging, leading people to spend hours discovering useful and entertaining content. This content format paired with TikTok's content discovery algorithm lends itself well for personal branding, as individuals can use the platform's content creation and distribution tools to increase engagement and establish a following.

"How-to" style content, videos sharing advice, and behind the scenes content are content types that TikTok is known for. These popular TikTok content styles also happen to present a plethora of potential personal branding content ideas for creators.
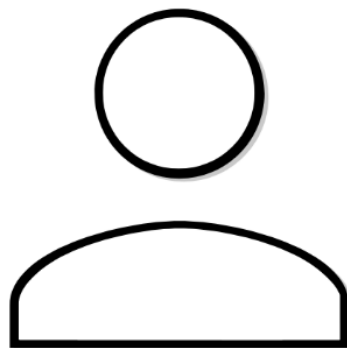
Similar to the way in which influencers utilize platforms like Instagram and LinkedIn to develop their personal brands, entrepreneurs and business professionals from various fields are telling their stories on TikTok, raising awareness for themselves and their businesses, and monetizing their personal brands.

Whether you are trying to build a personal brand in order to grow a business, or are looking to establish yourself as a thought leader in your industry, TikTok is a great place to start. TikTok has emerged as a platform for personal brand development that presents users with engaging content options to create and share with followers. Take advantage of any TikTok personal branding content ideas for building your own brand on the platform.

More women are needed in technology careers

Think about the top bosses at all the biggest tech companies. Zuckerberg, Gates, Cook, Dorsey. They're all men and all look pretty similar. There's a big diversity problem in tech and we're only really becoming aware of it now. The need for an increased number of women in tech is not just a technology trend. It's an urgent need which needs to see increased involvement and investment from role players at every stage of the education and employment pipeline.

LinkedIn recently analyzed how women in tech fared among the top 100 highest paying jobs in America. Their findings? Not good. Among the highest paying jobs, women were on average in just 30% of these roles.

Women in tech are highly underrepresented Industries where women were "highly underrepresented" were technology, engineering, and information security. On the other hand, industries

where women were well represented included HR, marketing, and healthcare. The study concludes: "Overall, there is work to be done to encourage women to enter historically male-dominated professions like healthcare and technology."

Early in April, on Equal Pay Day, Facebook COO Sheryl Sandberg, possibly the best-known woman in tech, shared an important message. She pointed to the very real disparity between the salaries paid to men versus women. Women of color are paid even less than that. Part of this is due to disparities in pay for different industries. But the reality of why women in tech are paid less than men can't be fully explained.

"The consequences are real and painful. If the pay gap were closed, the average working woman would earn over half a million dollars more in her lifetime. The number of working women living in poverty would be cut in half," said Sandberg on her Facebook account.

"Every woman deserves to get paid what she's worth. When women are paid less than men, it doesn't just hurt women. It hurts our families, our businesses, and our communities. Equal pay affects all of us - and it will take all of us to fix it."

Research has been conducted which shows that men and women working the same jobs earn different salaries. In one memorable Yale University study, two almost identical student job applications were sent out – with one major difference. The applications were sent from two different names – John and Jennifer. Results showed that both male and female faculty members were biased toward hiring male students over female students. So, we need more women in tech. And we need those women to be paid the same

salaries as their male counterparts.

A recent McKinsey study points to problems taking place early on in women's schooling and studies. "The technology sector typifies these challenges. Women hold 37 percent of entry-level roles, versus 45 percent for our overall sample, and underrepresentation continues at each stage of the pipeline. Not surprisingly, 38 percent of women in technology feel that their gender will make it difficult for them to advance in the future. These figures are among the highest across all sectors surveyed."

The study concludes with a call for problems throughout the pipeline to be addressed consistently with significant investment rather than jumping yearly from one issue to the next. Technology trends come and go. But this is one issue which is not going away.