

# RICHARD FORBES-SIMPSON

Front-end Developer

☎ 07932915515

✉ hello@graftstudio.com

📍 82 Bosworth Gardens, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, NE6 5UP

🌐 graftstudio.com

## PROFILE

Accomplished and hard-working Senior Developer with 12+ years experience working with established companies, start-ups and agencies creating smart, cutting-edge user interfaces and successful production-ready web development code.

## SKILLS

### HTML/CSS

HTML5, CSS3, SASS, LESS, Responsive web design (RWD), Frameworks (Skeleton, Bootstrap, Foundation), Animations, Web fonts, Graceful degradation, Organic SEO.

### JavaScript

Native JavaScript (Object-oriented), jQuery, jQueryUI, React.js, Angular, Meteor, AJAX, APIs, JSON, Speed & size optimisation.

### Content Management Systems

Wordpress, ExpressionEngine, Craft, Harmony, Statamic.

### eCommerce Platforms

Shopify, WooCommerce, Magento.

### Design

Photoshop, User-Interface (UI) design, Wireframing, Prototyping.

### Marketing

White Hat SEO, Adwords/PPC, Social Media, Google Analytics.

### Miscellaneous

Git, Subversion, Project planning, Timings, Documentation, Familiarity with PHP, MySQL, Ruby on Rails, ASP, ASP.NET, Scrum + Agile Methodologies, Selenium cross-browser testing.

## EXPERIENCE

### 2011 - Present

#### Graftstudio - Freelance/Sole Trader

- Creating the highest quality work for a diverse range of clients which include start-ups and their MVPs to SMEs to big companies and consumer brands.
- Primarily focused on front-end development, Javascript development, website performance, scalability architecture and maintainability.
- UI design using a methodical approach involving research, client Q/A, wireframing and prototyping.
- Over 80 eCommerce websites created, which has helped some clients create a turnover of over £2 million in 2015.
- Liase with clients throughout the process of each project from start to finish, managing expectations, deadlines and budgets.
- Worked as part of a team, both in-house and remotely on projects for high profile clients such as Toyota, Cafepod, Kano, University of Plymouth, DODOcase, Pebble watches and many more.

### October 2010 - March 2011

#### Origin Partners, Belfast - Senior Developer/Designer

- Responsible for design and development of all website projects. I transformed user requirements (from client sessions and feedback) into wireframes, interaction designs, technical specs and coordinated client deliverables.
- Led a 4-person team to iteratively improve the onsite user experience.
- Restructured the company's project planning to improve workflow, reduce scope creep, maintain deadlines and budgets.
- Integrated code standards building proficiency of development, debugging techniques.

## February 2010 - October 2010

**EyeKiller, Bangor** - Web Developer

- Solely responsible for all Flash/Actionscript development for one of the leading digital agencies in Northern Ireland.
- Worked in a high-pressured environment creating highest-quality work on large-scale, complex projects.
- As part of a team, I developed websites that won 'Eircom Spider Awards' for 'Best Travel & Tourism Website'.

## April 2009 - January 2010

**Rehab Studio, Belfast** - Interactive Developer

- Flash/Actionscript Developer for award-winning digital agency based in Belfast office.
- Worked as part of a team on flash websites/microsites for large consumer and retail brands such as Doritos, Toyota, T-Mobile for advertising agencies Saatchi & Saatchi, AMV BBDO and DraftFCB.
- Part of a team that developed a flash microsite that won multiple awards including 'FWA Site of the Month'.
- Developed strong knowledge of Object-Oriented programming via Actionscript 2/3.

## April 2005 - April 2009

**Zirkus, Belfast** - Web Designer/Developer

- Solely responsible for output of design and front-end development of all websites.
- Progressed in all aspects of my role to help the company gain a positive web design reputation in Belfast and Northern Ireland.
- Developed excellent working relationships with clients and liaised with clients on all aspects of their projects.
- Integrated several processes to improve work flow, such as moving away from table-based code to clean, web-standards semantic markup.
- The changes I made to improve work flow and quality of websites afforded us opportunities to establish new client relationships with companies such as Emo Oil, Green Party NI, George Best Signature Range, Belfast City Council, Eircom and many others.

## EDUCATION

### 2002 -2004

**University of Plymouth** - BSc (hons) Surf Science & Technology (2:2)

### 2000 -2002

**Cornwall College** - HND Surf Science & Technology