Craig Hellinger

Design Engineer | UX, Front-End and Design Systems

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Summary

Design engineer with 15+ years across UX design and front-end development. I design in Figma and ship production code in TypeScript. At Mortgage Advice Bureau I built and maintained a design system supporting a product used by about 35,000 people a month, with 50 million+ documents uploaded. I helped grow the design team from one to eight and I mentor designers and developers. I ship early and iterate on real user feedback. I use AI tools combined with MCP to speed up my workflow and get prototyped code into the hands of users fast.

Skills

- **Front-end:** TypeScript (5 years), Angular, Next.js, React, Vue.js, semantic HTML5, CSS3, SASS, Tailwind, Bootstrap, vanilla JavaScript, unit testing, Storybook
- **Design and research:** Figma, design systems, atomic design, UX/UI, information architecture, WCAG 2.2 accessibility, card sorting, tree testing, ContentSquare, Lyssna, Survicate
- **Back-end and data:** Node.js, GraphQL (WPGraphQL), PHP, MySQL
- **Tooling:** Git, Azure DevOps, Jira, Bitbucket, Webpack, npm, Claude, Copilot, MCP, MS Teams, Slack, Confluence

Experience

Lead UX Developer, Mortgage Advice Bureau

January 2025 – Present

- Lead the 150+ component design system across multiple products and platforms, including third-party integrations, keeping the experience consistent.
- Mentor a team of designers and advocate for design with senior stakeholders.
- Lead customer-facing design work: prototype, gather feedback through focus groups and UX research, iterate, then ship.
- Onboarded product and service designers to the design team and brought 165 people in the organisation onto Figma.
- Designed an AI bank statement reader projected to flag about 46,000 potential fraud risks a year.

UX Web Designer, Mortgage Advice Bureau

April 2021 – January 2025

- Worked as part designer, part front-end developer on a fintech product with about 35,000 monthly users and 50 million+ documents uploaded.
- Learned Angular quickly and delivered progressive web app features; 1,800+ non-merge squashed commits.
- Contributed to a TypeScript Angular component library in an Nx monorepo, built from Figma designs. Components and accessible form library managed in Storybook.
- Worked day to day with product owners, business analysts, developers, QA and external stakeholders.
- Cut the mortgage advice process time by approx 1hr 45mins per case.

User Interaction Designer, Jadu Creative (formerly Spacecraft)

May 2016 – April 2021

- Owned and developed the company's proprietary front-end framework, delivering accessible, high-quality services for higher education, public sector and third-sector clients in the UK, US and Australia.
- Mentored colleagues, led code reviews and critiqued design work as a senior member of the UX team.
- Estimated and scoped custom functionality, and ran client-site development training and eye-tracking sessions.

Senior Web Designer, Splendid Apple
April 2015 – May 2016

- Designed and built conversion-focused WordPress and Magento sites, working with SEO specialists to improve performance and security.
- Introduced Git workflows for working with external freelancers.

Senior Digital Developer and Digital Team Leader, Tribe
March 2012 – April 2015

- Built responsive WordPress, Drupal and Magento sites and data-driven HTML email campaigns.
- As Digital Team Leader, took client briefs, estimated and managed projects, recruited and managed the team, and delivered seminars internally and at industry events.

Graphic Designer and Web Developer, CAME UK
October 2005 – March 2012

- Designed print and web marketing material, handled in-house web design, development and SEO, and supported roadshows at UK and Irish superbike events.

My Portfolio

craighellinger.co.uk

- Designed and built in React, TypeScript and Next.js using Faust.js with a headless WordPress back end and WPGraphQL. The site has Lighthouse performance and accessibility scores optimized for best practices.
- To view the full-resolution portfolio images, use the password: **`view-craigs-work`**

Education

BA (Hons) Graphic Design, 2:1, University of Teesside, 2001–2004

A Levels: Art (A), Communication Studies (B), Computing (C)