

Fernando Hickman

Software Developer | React Native · TypeScript · Full-Stack · AI-Assisted Development

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PROFILE

Software developer with a BSc (Hons) in Software Engineering (2:1) who designs, builds and ships production software end to end. Sole developer of two mobile apps live on the App Store and Google Play (SneakersBook and Kibun), plus the backend services and Shopify apps around them, built with React Native, TypeScript, Node.js, Convex, Supabase and Postgres. Highly proficient with AI-assisted engineering: I use Claude Code daily as a structured part of my workflow for planning, implementation, code review, testing and server set-up, delivering features faster while keeping quality high. An earlier background in IT support and infrastructure gives me practical depth in servers, networking and diagnosing real users' problems.

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Languages: TypeScript, JavaScript, SQL, HTML, CSS; C# (Unity), Java, Python

Mobile & Frontend: React Native, Expo (Router, EAS), React, Next.js, Tailwind CSS / NativeWind, Reanimated, i18next

Backend & Data: Node.js, Express, Convex, Supabase (Postgres, Edge Functions), PostgreSQL, Prisma, Redis, REST APIs

Platforms & Services: Shopify (Admin API, Polaris, App Bridge, React Router), Clerk, RevenueCat, Sentry, OpenAI API

Infrastructure & DevOps: Linux, Nginx, Docker, PM2, AWS EC2, Cloudflare Tunnels, QEMU/KVM, Vercel, Git, EAS Build & Submit

Testing & Quality: Vitest, convex-test, ESLint, TypeScript strict mode, automated pre-release checks

AI-Assisted Development: Claude Code (agentic coding, custom skills and sub-agents, MCP tool integrations), prompt engineering, LLM features in production, AI-assisted review, debugging and server set-up

EXPERIENCE

Independent Software Developer — Mobile apps, backend services & Shopify apps Nov 2024 – Present

- Design, build and operate a portfolio of products as sole developer, from market research to store release, monitoring and iteration. Two apps are live on both stores (see Projects).
- SneakersBook** (flagship): sneaker collection and portfolio app, live on the **App Store and Google Play** since April 2026 (v1.3.0) with a companion Next.js website (sneakersbook.com); **600+ commits**.
- Built SneakersBook's real-time backend on Convex with **35+ modules**: collections, market-value pricing with fallback chains and caching, price alerts, leaderboards, push notifications, cron jobs and admin tools.
- Implemented freemium subscriptions with **RevenueCat** and **Clerk** authentication, using webhook-driven, server-side entitlement reconciliation to keep purchase state consistent across devices.
- Own the full release pipeline: EAS builds, over-the-air updates, store submissions via the Play Developer API, safe-deploy scripts, and listings localised into **5 App Store and 3 Google Play locales**.
- Use **Claude Code** as a core engineering tool across every project: feature planning, code generation and review, test writing, and custom agents/skills for recurring work such as database query audits, UI modernisation and store releases.
- Use AI-assisted workflows to provision and harden Linux servers, both local VMs and **AWS EC2**, with Nginx, Docker, PM2, TLS and Cloudflare tunnels, significantly speeding up product set-up.

IT Player Support (Players Advocate) — Pole To Win Jul 2022 – Nov 2024

- Diagnosed game performance and account issues for players, analysing system diagnostics (DxDiag, MSInfo32) to identify conflicting software and hardware bottlenecks.
- On my own initiative, **built an internal web tool** that parses DxDiag and MSInfo32 reports and flags applications known to interfere with game performance, cutting investigation time on complex tickets.
- Refined triage by identifying the key diagnostic indicators for common issues, reducing time to resolution.
- Investigated account anomalies and restored missing in-game items in line with client procedures.

Hospitality & Production roles — Various employers, Manchester 2018 – 2022

- Led end-of-line dispatch at a linen production facility (quality checks, invoice verification) and front-of-house service in high-standard hospitality venues.
- In my own time, built **Squadhunt** (2022): a full-stack React / Node.js team-building platform deployed on **AWS EC2** behind an Nginx reverse proxy.

IT Support Technician (Internship) — Counterpart Systems 2017

- Supported business customers with hosted Exchange email, configuring and troubleshooting accounts across Outlook, Apple Mail and Thunderbird, and wrote customer-facing set-up guides.
- Installed and configured servers in the company data centre to expand compute and storage capacity.
- Evaluated IT asset management software and wrote scripts to gather asset data across the network.

Software Development Placement (eLearning) — Liverpool John Moores University 2014 – 2015

- Developed a beta Android app (Java) that connects diabetes patients directly with their GP; the prototype supported a university funding proposal.
- Analysed and extended a mobile app for Liverpool Women's Hospital, integrating cloud-hosted guides for interns; worked in an agile process with regular subcontractor meetings.

PROJECTS

Kibun: Mood Tracker & Journal — React Native, Supabase, OpenAI Live · kibun-app.com

- Mood-tracking app with scheduled check-ins, an animated Shiba Inu mascot (Lottie) and **AI-generated insights**: daily insights, journal prompts and periodic reports produced by Supabase Edge Functions calling OpenAI GPT-4o-mini.
- RevenueCat subscriptions with webhook sync; localised into 4 languages; 126 commits since April 2026.

Sneaker Price Collection API — Node.js, Express, PostgreSQL, Redis Live · powers SneakersBook

- TypeScript API that collects sneaker prices daily from public marketplaces, calculates a weighted market value, stores price history and serves it to the app over an authenticated REST API (Convex JWT).
- Runs in production on **AWS EC2** (Linux) with an Nginx reverse proxy, rate limiting, PM2, Docker and Let's Encrypt TLS; a local QEMU/KVM VM mirrors it for development and testing.

Shopify Apps: Size Localizer & Switchback — React Router 7, Prisma, Polaris 2026 · early access

- **Size Localizer** (sizes.sneakersbook.com, early access): shows each market's shoppers shoe sizes in their own standard (UK, EU, US, cm) from the single size a store keeps, using Shopify's market-specific translations, so the labels reach product page, cart and checkout with no theme code. Tiered billing via Shopify App Pricing.
- **Switchback** (switchback.sneakersbook.com, preparing App Store submission): merchandising-experimentation tool that alternates two collection-sorting strategies on a live store, attributes sessions and reports which one earns more, with confidence intervals.
- Both share a pnpm-monorepo platform layer (auth, Postgres, compliance webhooks, billing), self-hosted behind a Cloudflare tunnel with nightly database backups.

Daily Anchor: Habit & Focus Tracker — React Native, Next.js, Turborepo In development

- Offline-first habit tracker in a Turborepo monorepo (Expo app, Next.js web, shared core package) with a custom cloud-sync server and RevenueCat subscriptions.

EDUCATION & CERTIFICATIONS

BSc (Hons) Software Engineering, 2:1 — Liverpool John Moores University 2012 – 2016

Modules include Data Structures & Algorithms, Object-Oriented Development, Database Design, Advanced Software Development, Computer Networks, Usability Engineering.

Foundation in IT (74%) · BTEC National Diploma in ICT (Distinction) — LJMU / Liverpool Community College 2010 – 2012

First Certification in Ethical Hacking (FCEH) 2017

LANGUAGES

English (C1, professional working proficiency) · Spanish (native)