

David Newkerk

(714) 356-7023 | contact@davidnewkerk.com | [linkedin.com/in/davidnewkerk](https://www.linkedin.com/in/davidnewkerk) | davidnewkerk.com | Murfreesboro, TN

SUMMARY

Senior Full Stack Engineer and Designer with 25+ years of experience owning end-to-end web applications from UI/UX design through production for companies in Video on Demand, Finance, and other domains. Hands-on expertise building reliable, secure full-stack solutions — most recently with Nuxt.js and Rust, with a strong foundation in Ruby on Rails. Actively leverages AI tools, including Claude Code and GitHub Copilot, to refactor code, strengthen test coverage, and accelerate feature delivery. Thrives on collaborative teams — passionate about sharing knowledge, elevating teammates, and shipping clean, performant, user-focused work.

SKILLS & TECHNOLOGIES

Frontend & UI/UX: Nuxt.js, Vue.js, TypeScript, JavaScript, Pinia, Vuex, Vite, SASS/SCSS, HTML5/CSS3, Responsive Design, UI/UX Design, Bootstrap, Tailwind CSS, Backbone.js, data visualization with Highcharts, amCharts, and Chart.js

Backend & Frameworks: Ruby on Rails, Rust, Node.js, PHP, RESTful APIs

Databases & Caching: PostgreSQL, MySQL, SQLite, Redis, Memcached

DevOps & Cloud: Docker, Git, GitHub CI/CD, SendGrid, AWS (Cognito, EC2, S3, RDS, OpsWorks), Google Cloud, Cloudflare, Netlify, Linode, DigitalOcean, Nginx, Ansible, Linux system administration

Testing & QA: Playwright, Cypress, Vitest, Checkly, RSpec, Minitest, Capybara, Mocha/Chai

Design & Productivity: Adobe, Affinity, Balsamiq, OmniGraffle, Linear, Slack, Basecamp, AI Tools (Claude Code, Copilot)

Platforms & CMS: WordPress, Drupal, Discourse, Hugo, Astro

EXPERIENCE

Full Stack Engineer

TagniFi

2018 – Present

- Owned full lifecycle development of web application features — from ideas and wireframes through UI/UX design, implementation, and production deployment — collaborating closely with domain experts in financial data.
- Designed and built a powerful search interface with Nuxt.js that enables customers to explore and analyze billions of financial data points, integrating seamlessly with a Rust/PostgreSQL/Snowflake backend.
- Translated direct user feedback into full-stack features, iterating closely with customers to refine how they search, organize, visualize, and work with financial data.
- Redesigned and rebuilt internal tools for staff analysts, replacing a slow, error-prone legacy system with a modern, user-friendly solution for processing SEC filings, mapping financial data, and managing customer accounts — significantly improving efficiency and team satisfaction.
- Engaged directly with customers on video calls to troubleshoot issues, while also owning DevOps responsibilities including API performance diagnosis, release rollbacks, and system reliability.

Full Stack Engineer

Filmhub

Santa Monica, California | 2012 – 2018

- Co-developed the core platform for a video distribution marketplace serving Netflix, Amazon, Hulu, Apple TV+, and dozens of other major Video on Demand services, enabling filmmakers to upload once and distribute everywhere.
- Built a high-performance, resumable, multi-threaded video ingestion pipeline that processed hundreds of terabytes of uncompressed video for cloud-based transcoding and delivery to streaming platforms.
- Designed and built tools that simplified complex workflows for filmmakers — including metadata submission, distribution rights management, legal documents, and international tax compliance.
- Studied and reverse-engineered subtitle tools written in other languages to design and build a Ruby-based solution that automatically validated and converted caption files across the format requirements of different streaming services.
- Built the initial Drupal-based MVP, then led the full platform migration to Ruby on Rails, including user data migration, to support the company's growth and scaling demands.

Full Stack Engineer

AnalystForum

2011 – 2025

- Sole engineer behind all technical design, development, and operations for the world's largest CFA candidate community — supporting over 40,000 users, 100,000+ discussions, and millions of posts.
- Designed a modern, responsive UI/UX theme that transformed the platform's look and feel — delivering a polished, intuitive experience that belied the utilitarian Drupal system underneath.
- Led the full platform migration from Drupal to Discourse, building a custom data migration tool and SQL queries to seamlessly transition over 100,000 discussions and millions of posts.
- Developed custom Discourse theme and plugins that enhanced the community experience and optimized ad placements that were a primary revenue driver for the site.
- Implemented advanced caching, Apache Solr search, and Linux server performance tuning that dramatically improved page load times, search speed, and overall uptime.

Web Developer

Klaus Badelt Studios & Labelzero

Santa Monica, California | 2010 – 2012

- Transformed high-fidelity design comps into a responsive Drupal theme and custom modules for award-winning film composer Klaus Badelt (known for Pirates of the Caribbean and other major Hollywood scores), managing multisite deployment and ongoing development across the studio and its independent music label.

Web Designer / Developer

Grip Media

2009 – 2020

- Converted Photoshop and Illustrator designs into responsive, fully functional websites and custom themes for WordPress, Drupal, and other CMS platforms as a core developer for a full-service web agency. Notable clients included VanderHouwen, Oregon Medical Association, San Mateo County Medical Association, The Art of Mike Mignola, GiGi's Café, and Green Giant Fresh.
- Managed multiple concurrent projects across an 11-year engagement, delivering consistently from design handoff through launch and ongoing maintenance.

Web Design Contractor

Big Time Media Inc.

San Clemente, California | 1998

- Contracted as a web designer for a web development agency while still in high school, building websites for the agency's clients during the early days of the commercial web.

PROJECTS

AbsoluteCross.com

1999 – Present

- Founded one of the leading independent resources for Adobe Photoshop tutorials and seamless textures in the early 2000s, publishing guides and design assets downloaded hundreds of thousands of times.
- Grew the site to 10,000 daily visitors through SEO and competitive keyword rankings, while owning all design, development, content strategy, and ad monetization.
- Recently migrated the site from legacy Drupal 6 to Hugo on Netlify using Claude Code, modernizing the stack and eliminating long-standing security vulnerabilities.

TutorialForums.com / Neverside.com

2001 – 2009

- Co-founded TutorialForums.com, which grew into a popular online community for web designers and developers during the early web design era, then led its redesign and rebranding to Neverside.com on a custom-built platform with new features for sharing and collaborating on artwork and photography.

EDUCATION

Associates in Music, Musician's Institute – Hollywood, CA

Fullerton College – Fullerton, CA