



Name:

Cris Thompson

Dob:

September 1968

Website:

www.fluster.co.uk

Favourite PHP statement:

lpush()

Skill Summary:

Cris is a confident **PHP Website Developer in the LAMP environment**, with over 15 years of **end-to-end** website and **web app development**, specialising in **PHP and MySQL**, Cris is adept with all the necessary tools to complete a project; Javascript, **jQuery**, ajax, CSS, Git, Adobe design tools. His background is one of **Software Engineering** with BT where he learned to design systems from the data layer up. Cris relishes the challenge of the new and enjoys speaking to clients as much as getting his head into the code. Equally accustomed to working by himself and as part of a team, Cris also enjoys supporting junior staff.

Cris has worked as a front-end developer, a back-end developer, but prefers to work **end-to-end...**

Availability:

Available with a month's notice period, Cris has parental responsibility for his young family 2 days a week and currently works from home on these days, working shorter days to collect them from school. The remaining 3 days are longer, office based days to make up the full working week.

Statement:

"At my current job, I am one of the longest serving developers, but there is little opportunity for me to grow and stretch any more so I am looking to move on. With current state of the financial climate, I want to get out of Financial industry and into something more ethical and fun. I have already had a career break; I took myself to art college and have a Fine Art Degree, so I have an innate creativity that seeps out one way or an other. For a bunch of years I called myself an artist, but then second child came along, shit got real, so I am breadwinner mostly.

"My 8yo has Dyslexia, and is getting lots of reading support at school, but I wanted to give him something else to feel proud of that was not reading based, so in April 2018 we ran a successful Kickstarter campaign for a game we are making together; Ethan the Explorer - check out our story here: **www.ethantheexplorer.co.uk**. With this I am learning C# and Unity, and totally loving converting from finance controllers to gaming controllers. But it's just the start of the journey, so I'm not specifically putting myself forward for these jobs at the moment.

"It would be simple enough for me to change to a different industry; indeed I turned down 2 interviews recent weeks, but I'm a bit of a keeper. I'm looking for somewhere where I can stay a while, embed myself in the company and grow, so I thought rather than just going anywhere, I would see if I can get myself into Gaming, even before my C# is fully developed... I have been coding for over 20 years, code is code, just different layouts and syntax, and I love learning new things."

Formal Education:

Cris has a Computer Science BTEC(ND) from Brighton University and a Fine Art BA(Hons) from Westminster University.



Employment History:

Cris has worked for many different clients and employers over the years and is used to drawing on his experience to satisfy a specific brief. Currently working as an application developer for a financial technology company as well as balancing occasional freelance projects. He has been coding in an **Agile** environment with a number of **PHP MVC Frameworks** and using the **GIT** repository system as version control for complex simultaneous developments. He is accomplished at weaving together technologies to form a solution; from incorporating social media and **APIs** to links with external databases and writing bespoke **Wordpress** modules.

Starting out:

Cris studied Software Engineering in Brighton and went to work for **Syntegra (BT's software house)** as a graduate recruit. For the next 4 years he learned the Tandem system quickly and enjoyed the challenge of working under the ISO9001 TickIT quality procedure. By the end of his time there he had completed many roles throughout the development life-cycle, was on 24 hour call to keep the main product running (BT Chargecard) and spent daytimes gathering requirements, defining and delivering new functionality as well as defining, writing and running unit tests.

In an early career break, Cris took himself to art college 1996 – 1999 (**University of Westminster**), but he worked as a Tandem analyst each summer on contract to pay for his studies. When his Fine art degree completed at the end of 1999, he disappeared off to the Panamanian Rain Forest for a couple of years. This is where he started to make websites on a freelance basis and discovered **PHP/MySQL** as well how to farm butterflies.

Career History in Detail:

September 2013 – to date Financial Sector (Prepaid Cards)

Software Engineer & Release Manager for **Tuxedo Money Solutions**

Returning to a formal work setting, Cris fitted in quickly with an existing team structure to deliver financial services products. Initially just as a front end developer, he quickly became familiar with the **API** systems and soon assumed responsibility for API development as well.

With the breath of knowledge gained of Tuxedo's systems, Cris spends most of his time implementing formal change requests which impact many parts of the system at once and was part of the team responsible for the migration to **Amazon Web Services** and php7.

Relying on his thoroughness, Cris was made **Release Manager** in August 2018. He is responsible for signing off releases for production, checking implications of changes and completeness of testing and release tickets.

2017 – 2018 – BigWaspSurvey.org (Freelance)

Cris is the website designer and Wordpress plugin builder for this annual Citizen Science project. In 2018 nearly 5000 people registered to take part.

May – August 2013 – Fixed Term Contract

PHP Developer for **Two Way Media**

Cris was responsible for re-making their **games portal**, this was in Java, but they had lost the source code, so Cris re-made it in PHP, making it clean, clear and future proof. Creating an API system as he went, Cris worked quickly and within timescales to produce the system that runs interactive games on the Virgin Media platform. This system PHP, MySQL...



January 2002 – May 2013

Freelance employed on many website projects. These ranged from single page websites for cafes, to membership sites and research tools. For each of these projects, Cris was responsible for finding the client, gathering their requirements (while assessing their technical experience and skills), documenting the initial solution, then designing front-ends and coding back-ends as necessary. Cris designed his own content management system for his clients over this period and was always interested to see where a new client's requirements would take it.

October 1999 – December 2001

When his Fine art degree completed at the end of 1999, he disappeared off to the Panamanian Rain Forest for a couple of years. This is where he started to make websites on a freelance basis and discovered **PHP/MySQL**.

Summer 1998 - Barclays Bank.

A summer in Poole working with an amazing, tight knit team to help make and test changes to a reporting function

Summer 1997 - Dell Computers.

Cris popped over to Limerick for the summer to work in the Dell factory. A very different environment where the systems he was coding for were on a conveyor belt the other side of the divider!

Summer 1996 - Back to BT Syntegra.

He returned to Syntegra as a contractor and managed a team of his former colleagues as they specified, coded, tested and delivered a batch of minor upgrades to the BT Chargecard.

Summer 1995 - Forte Hotels.

Based at Brentford, spent the summer debugging a new release of their global bookings system.

March 1990 – March 1995

Syntegra (BT's software house) where Cris was taken on as a graduate and trained in Software Engineering.