

Dan Collison

Web Designer / Front End Developer

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Personal Profile

I have always been *passionate about the things we can produce with our creativity*. From an early age, I was heavily influence by art, music, and photography. During my time at University, *I discovered Web Design as an artistic outlet that combines creativity with logic and structure*.

I have a over one year of professional experience as a **Web Designer/Front End Developer**. My main duties in this role have included producing:

- *Site maps, wire frames, and project summaries.*
- *Web site design concepts, and other promotional material (logos, letterheads etc).*
- *Fully functional, valid XHTML, CSS, Javascript, and Flash based web sites.*
- *SEO campaigns (Everything from Keyword Research to Google Analytics).*
- *Designing and building email templates, and setting up email marketing accounts in Campaign Monitor.*

The majority of the web sites that I have built during my employment have *content management systems* built into them. One of my duties has been to update web sites through their CMS.

I have an excellent knowledge of *web site design principles, XHTML, CSS, SEO, and development tools such as jQuery*. I also have enough knowledge of *PHP, MySQL, and Coldfusion* to work with Web Developers. I do most of my work in **Adobe Photoshop** and **Dreamweaver CS3/CS4**. I have a basic knowledge of *Adobe Flash and ActionScript 3.0*. I can work confidently on either Mac or Windows.

I have good communication skills, so I am able to *confidently and professionally converse with clients* via telephone, email, or in person. On several occasions during my last employment, I visited clients to help them with general I.T problems.

I am always building on top of my current skill set. *Web Design is something I find genuinely pleasing to do, so learning new tricks and techniques is something I like to regard as an interesting hobby*. I am currently *building on my knowledge of PHP, MySQL, and jQuery*. I tend to learn from Internet tutorials, magazines, and books. However, the best learning environment for me is actually in the work place, where I have *direct interaction with other team members*.

Work Experience

Front End Developer	v3 Media, Kendal	2009-2010
Cinema Front of House	Brewery Arts Centre, Kendal	2007-2009
Factory Assistant	English Lakes Ice Cream, Kendal	2005-2006
Commis Chef	The Lighthouse, Windermere	2002-2005

Throughout my education I held part time employments in product manufacturing, catering and hospitality. Having these jobs taught me about *responsibility, customer service, working to deadlines, and how to work well in a team*.

My time working as a professional Front End Developer at v3 Media has been a great learning experience. I now know how to produce *quality work whilst working to deadlines*. I also learnt to work along side Back End Developers (who in this case work with Coldfusion).

Interests

- I enjoy using CSS to turn a quality design concept into a working web site.
- I also enjoy photography, and although this isn't my profession, I do take a pride in my photography.
- Cycling is a fundamental part of my life. I also enjoy surfing, walking, and climbing.
- Music is my main passion; I have been in several bands and been on tours around the country and abroad. I have had DJ slots in clubs and on radio.

Education and Qualifications

University of Teesside 2006-2009

BA (Hons) Digital Music Creation: 2:1

Creative Arts Centre, Kendal College, Kendal 2001-2003

BTEC National Diploma in Popular Music: Pass with 2 Distinctions and 3 Merits

The Lakes School, Troutbeck Bridge, Windermere 1996-2001

GCSE:

Religious Studies	A	English Literature	B
Art	B	Information Technology	B
English Language	C	Science	CC
Mathematics	C	History	C

To see examples of my work, please visit my web site - <http://www.dancollison.co.uk>

Some other web sites that I built (but didn't design) include:

- <http://www.jamesellison.co.uk/>
- <http://www.fwdevelopments.com/>
- <http://www.linenstop.co.uk/>
- <http://www.wax-lyrical.co.uk/shop/>

Recommendations

"Dan was very easy to work with and showed a great deal of passion for his work and for learning new techniques. He learnt quickly and wasn't afraid to suggest a different approach to a project. I enjoyed working with him during his time at v3" Sean Connell - Creative Director, v3 Media.

"During Dan's time at v3 media he brought a huge amount into the office, not only his creativity and willingness to learn, but he had the work ethics of a seasoned professional. His designs were always unique and his planning skills were flawless, a real pleasure to work with." Dean Ellison - Sales & Marketing Director, v3 Media.

Referees

John Dixon - University Lecture
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Gavin Larwrence – MD, v3 Media
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