

## MATT WHITTAKER

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### MISSION

I'm passionate about transforming high-value business ideas into elegant, effective technical solutions. While I thrive on any challenge, my greatest fulfillment comes from the early stages of turning visions into reality. I aim to continuously grow my skills and collaborate with talented teams to drive meaningful advancements in how technology impacts the world.

### CAREER SUMMARY

Seasoned engineering leader with deep expertise in full-stack, mobile, and AI/ML technologies, experienced in guiding companies through all stages of growth. Recently founded and launched an engaging, React-based online word game. Previously led engineering teams at SiriusXM and Wayfair, driving strategic transformation from monolithic systems to scalable, distributed architectures leveraging serverless infrastructure, event-driven design, and actionable observability.

Proven track record of establishing foundational systems, coaching teams in software best practices, and cultivating environments that produce maintainable, high-quality code. My entrepreneurial experience—founding four companies and leading multiple startups to profitability—has given me a deep understanding of how to scale both technology and teams effectively.

### SKILLS

Obj-C, Swift, SwiftUI, Python, Django, FastAPI, Kotlin, Java, Distributed Systems, Micro-Services, JavaScript, Node, TypeScript, React, Redux, React Native, Next.js, Remix, Expo, GraphQL, AWS, Ansible, TDD, BDD, Agile, Seasoned UI/UX Experience, Database Design, GCP, Kubernetes, Docker, Kafka, Prompt Engineering, Agentic AI Workflows.

### EXPERIENCE

#### Spella Word Game

Creator

2024-present

- Delivered rapid iteration on game mechanics, product specifications, and UI/UX design, achieving a successful V1 launch in just six weeks by leveraging Next.js and advanced AI prompt engineering.
- Implemented modern TDD practices using Vitest and Playwright, ensuring robust unit and end-to-end testing for a high-quality product release.

#### SiriusXM

Technical Lead

2023-24

- Founded the SRE team as the inaugural technical hire, engineering solutions that enabled an event-driven system to launch without major outages and serve millions.
- Developed a framework for real-time end-to-end user journey monitoring, which identified complex race condition bugs and provided immediate front-line alerting for all production issues.
- Led the design and implementation of a chaos engineering program for a distributed, serverless system, ensuring a flawless dry launch to millions and driving teams to proactively mitigate turbulence.

## **Wayfair**

Technical Lead

2022-23

- Contributed to the planning and design of a new warehouse picking backend, leveraging cutting-edge asynchronous event-driven best practices in python.
- Developed the foundational architecture and workflows, then trained teams to execute the migration plan effectively.

## **Covalto**

Engineering Director, Credit Cards

2019-22

- Joined as the first technical hire for a corporate credit card with spend controls, collaborating with stakeholders to define core features, shape the product roadmap, and build and lead an 8-person engineering team.
- Successfully delivered a greenfield project from concept to production in just 18 months, launching a sophisticated, asynchronous event-driven backend alongside fully integrated Android and iOS apps.

## **NBCUniversal**

Mobile Technical Lead

2017-19

- Drove the strategic unification of multiple mobile apps into a cohesive cross-platform experience, aligning technical decisions with leadership vision, team capabilities, and dependencies. Led the creation of targeted proofs-of-concept to validate critical design patterns and technology choices, directly shaping the final mobile architecture.

## **SPAR!**

Founder

2014–17

- Architected, developed, and launched the entire tech stack—including custom group chat, optimized video recording, a proprietary payment rules engine, and scalable automated infrastructure—driving strong user retention and engagement. Successfully secured a \$1M seed round from Peter Thiel & Founders Fund based on product traction.

## **Independent Consultant**

Principal Software Developer | Advisor | Coach

2012–present

- Designed, built, and launched Leap Transit's V1 technology—including a robust API, React Native mobile apps, and a web dispatch system—positioning the company to secure \$2.2M in funding from a16z.
- Led Gain Fitness through a critical pivot, rebuilt the engineering team, extracted and re-engineered proprietary technology, and launched a streamlined API, enabling rapid product turnaround and renewed growth.
- Re-architected and launched FitOrbits' (now Kumu) mobile app, introducing industry-leading animation and performance best practices, significantly enhancing user experience and app responsiveness.

## **AFAR**

Technical Lead

2010–12

- Developed and launched an innovative social travel platform, implementing a sophisticated document-matching algorithm to connect travelers based on shared interests—enabling real-time, relevant interactions and recommendations.