

LEO RIDGWELL

PERSONAL PROFILE

MOTTO: CREATIVITY AND POSSIBILITIES WITH TECHNOLOGY

- I am a Senior Full Stack Engineer and Computer Science graduate from Coventry University (Upper Second-Class Honours), with over five years of commercial experience designing, building, and shipping production software across the full stack. My primary languages are Python, TypeScript, JavaScript, React, and Node.js, and I have strong experience with REST API design, microservices, relational databases, cloud infrastructure on AWS and Azure, CI/CD pipelines, Docker, and Kubernetes.
- I have built and operated production systems at scale, end-to-end, both commercially and as a sole engineer on live platforms since 2018, with a consistent track record of delivering reliable, well-tested, and observable software across both enterprise and startup environments. I bring a depth-first approach to engineering, prioritising clean code, automated testing, and long-term maintainability over short-term shortcuts.
- At DRE Digital I built AI-powered features commercially — LLM orchestration pipelines, agentic automation workflows, and MCP server integrations — owning these services from initial design through to production deployment on AWS, and I use Claude Code and Cursor as primary daily development tools. At CGI I delivered secure, high-assurance software on UK central government projects where reliability and correctness were non-negotiable, and I hold Active SC security clearance.
- I have mentored junior engineers at both companies, led code reviews, taken ownership of work end-to-end from architecture to production deployment, and am comfortable contributing to technical direction, hiring, and engineering standards. I am equally confident working in fast-paced startups and large enterprise environments, value clear documentation and observability, and consistently thrive when given genuine ownership of what I design, build, and ship.

SKILLS

OPERATING SYSTEMS / CLOUD SERVICES

- ✓ Installing and using various Windows & Linux based Operating Systems.
- ✓ Using cloud services (AWS, Azure, GCP)

PROGRAMMING / DATABASES

- ✓ Understanding & developing using various programming languages and databases.
- ✓ Python, TypeScript, JavaScript, React, Node.js, PHP, SQL, PostgreSQL,
- ✓ MySQL, HTML, CSS, Go, Java, C#, C++.
- ✓ REST API design, LLM integrations, agentic workflows,
- ✓ MCP, microservices, automated testing, code review, observability.

VERSION CONTROL / DEVOPS

- ✓ Git, GitHub, GitHub Actions, CI/CD, Docker, Kubernetes,
- ✓ AWS, Azure, GCP, Terraform. Observability, monitoring, security.
- ✓ Claude Code, Cursor, MCP server configuration.
- ✓ Active SC security clearance.

EDUCATION

COVENTRY UNIVERSITY, 2020-2023

BSc (Hons) Computer Science

- ❖ *Key Modules: Programming and Advanced Algorithms, Software Design & Engineering, Database Systems & Design, Computer Architecture & Networks, Computer Science Mathematics, Theory of Computation, Data Science, Intro to AI, Learning About Becoming a Student Researcher & Dissertation Project.*

BASINGSTOKE COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY, 2015-2017

Level 3 Extended Diploma in ICT: Triple Distinction Star

- ❖ *Key Modules: Advanced Networking, Advanced coding, PC Hardware/Software, Advanced C# Coding & Website Development.*

Level 2 BTEC Diploma in IT: Double Merit

- ❖ *Won an award from the college for being the only student to obtain a Double Merit in the entire college.*

EXPERIENCE

SOFTWARE ENGINEER II, DRE DIGITAL LTD, MAR 2026 - MAY 2026

- ✓ *I worked as a Software Engineer II at DRE Digital Ltd, building full-stack applications and backend services in Python, TypeScript, Node.js, and React.*
- ✓ *I designed and shipped REST APIs, built AI-powered features including LLM orchestration pipelines, agentic automation workflows, and MCP server integrations, owned services end-to-end from architecture to production deployment on AWS, mentored junior engineers through structured code reviews, and advocated for testing, documentation, and observability as core engineering practices.*

SOFTWARE ENGINEER, CGI IT UK LTD, SEPT 2023 - FEB 2026

- ✓ *I worked as a Software Engineer at CGI, a global IT consultancy, delivering software on UK central government projects where reliability, security, and correctness were non-negotiable.*
- ✓ *I obtained Active SC security clearance here, built strong foundations in clean code, API design, automated testing, and secure cloud deployments, worked in large distributed agile teams, mentored junior engineers, and completed a structured Go course reflecting a depth-first approach to learning new technologies.*

WEB DEVELOPER, PARTNERS WITH INDUSTRY, JUNE 2021-AUGUST 2021

- *Rebuilt a company website from scratch via the Employ Autism initiative, customising a Bootstrap theme & adding Dark Mode and pretty link routing.*

TRIAGE ANALYST, INTELISECURE, JAN 2018-MARCH 2020

- *I safeguarded confidential client data by monitoring user activity and identifying unauthorised data transmissions in a security operations environment, requiring strong analytical discipline, time management, and accurate assessment of large volumes of various client data. I also completed MTA / BCS certifications as required during this role.*
- *Alongside the role, I studied actively for the Cisco CCNA qualification, working through routing, switching, subnetting, and network security topics in my own time. This developed a solid grounding in networking fundamentals that has since underpinned my work on cloud infrastructure, distributed systems, and secure production deployments throughout my career.*

PERSONAL ACHIEVEMENTS & INTERESTS

BUILT MY OWN COMPUTER FROM INDIVIDUAL COMPONENTS AND SELF TAUGHT MYSELF VARIOUS PROGRAMMING LANGUAGES

- Self-taught across multiple languages from a young age, with a depth-first approach to learning and genuine curiosity about how systems work. I follow developments across the full engineering stack — AI and LLM systems, cloud-native infrastructure, frontend frameworks, and backend architecture — and was an early adopter of Claude Code, Cursor, and MCP architecture, having built agentic systems with these tools commercially. I care about building software that is maintainable, well-documented, observable, and that the teams who inherit it can work in confidently.

EARNED 3 MTA CERTIFICATIONS AND 1 BCS CERTIFICATION

- Earned three MTA certifications (Cloud, Mobility, & Networking Fundamentals) and a BCS in Coding and Logic at InteliSecure, deepening my technical grounding in infrastructure and networking.

BUILT AND LAUNCHED PRODUCTION WEB SERVICES FROM PROTOTYPE TO DEPLOYMENT

- In my own time I built and operate Sm.lol — a URL shortening, bio link, and QR code product live since 2020 with 2,000+ links and 183,000+ tracked pageviews. Built solo on PHP, Node.js, React, PostgreSQL, and AWS, with full CI/CD via GitHub Actions, monitoring, alerting, subscription billing, and GDPR-compliant analytics. Five years of end-to-end ownership of a live production app has given me the instinct and discipline commercial teams value.

BUILT AND OPERATED A LIVE MULTI-TENANT BOT SERVICE (ROBOSTUX)

- Since 2018 I have built and operated RoboStux (robo.st) — a multi-tenant real-time event processing and automation service across multiple large live communities, built on PHP and Node.js. Seven years of keeping a complex production system reliable while continuously shipping new capabilities, as a sole engineer, has given me the kind of sustained technical ownership and operational discipline that separates engineers who can build things from engineers who can keep them running.

REFERENCES

REFERENCES ARE AVAILABE UPON REQUEST