

Igor Shtein

Senior Backend Developer

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PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Senior Backend Developer with 12 years of experience building and scaling server-side systems, distributed architectures, and production infrastructure. Comfortable leading small teams, owning full technical strategy, and staying hands-on in code every day. Autodidact — picks up new technologies fast. Strong DevOps and security skills.

Specialties: Python, Dart, PostgreSQL, Redis, FastAPI, Django, RabbitMQ, Kafka, Docker, Kubernetes, Terraform, AWS, CI/CD.

Looking for: Infrastructural project, high load, Go or Rust.

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Languages: Python, Rust, PHP, Dart, JS, Java

Frameworks: FastAPI, Django, Flask, Symfony, Laravel

Databases: PostgreSQL, MariaDB, SQLite, Redis, Elasticsearch

Infrastructure: AWS, Azure, K8S, Docker/Podman, Terraform, Ansible

Messaging: RabbitMQ, Kafka, AWS SQS, GRPC, REST

Observability: Prometheus, Grafana, ELK, OpenTelemetry, Sentry

CI/CD: GitHub Actions, GitLab CI, Bitbucket Pipelines, Jenkins, ArgoCD

Security: ISO 27001, GDPR, SAST/DAST, load testing

AI / LLM: Claude Code, MCP server development, LLM workflow based features

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Sicknote OU *Estonia (Remote)*

CTO April 2025 – Present

Early-stage healthtech startup providing digital sick notes for the EU market.

- ▶ Took full technical ownership across backend, frontend, DevOps, and FinOps
- ▶ Replaced prior team; hired and onboarded 4 cross-functional engineers
- ▶ Introduced IaC, containerization, and proper server segmentation — reduced operational costs while scaling capacity
- ▶ Re-architected codebase to support multi-market expansion
- ▶ Designed security and data governance protocols for EU patient medical records (GDPR compliance)

Powtoon *Tel Aviv, Israel*

Backend Tech Lead January 2021 – April 2025

Visual communication SaaS platform with 40 million users worldwide, used by virtually all Fortune 500 companies.

- ▶ Led backend team of 5 developers
- ▶ Oversaw the full SDLC — from requirements gathering and cross-functional coordination through to production rollout, on-call rotations, incident response, and post-mortem analysis.
- ▶ Cut deployment times by 50% by optimizing CI/CD pipelines
- ▶ Reduced critical production bugs by 80% through strict code review, rollback, and release procedures,
- ▶ Scaled architecture with FastAPI microservices, K8s, RabbitMQ, Celery/Gevent, AWS Lambda, and Redis Pub/Sub
- ▶ Built an internal drop-in replacement for a third-party service, eliminating \$5K/month in costs
- ▶ Led ISO 27001 compliance efforts on the backend

- ▶ Conducted technical cooperation with Fortune 500 B2B clients
- ▶ Grew the backend team by 3 engineers; conducted 50+ technical interviews

Powtoon *Tel Aviv, Israel*

Python Developer *December 2019 – January 2021*

- ▶ Reduced production error noise by 70% by establishing monitoring, triage, and resolution protocols
- ▶ Accelerated CI/CD by migrating to unittest, parallelizing test runs, and enforcing automated coverage
- ▶ Introduced strict Python type hinting and Mypy integration into pipelines
- ▶ Migrated dependency management from requirements.txt to Poetry
- ▶ Migrated the project from version 2 of Python to version 3 without any service degradation
- ▶ Led end-to-end migration of the video player infrastructure to a new provider, patching multiple security vulnerabilities

Sentrium *Spain (Remote)*

Web Developer *July 2019 – December 2019*

- ▶ Developed backend features in a distributed Python RPC microservices architecture
- ▶ Implemented a custom PHP module for FreePBX

Firelink.Media *Kyiv, Ukraine*

PHP Developer *January 2019 – May 2019*

- ▶ Built scalable web services using PHP (Symfony 4, Laravel) in a microservice environment
- ▶ Optimized the project's CI/CD strategy

Mobilunity *Kyiv, Ukraine*

DevOps Team Lead *February 2017 – September 2018*

- ▶ Architected HA infrastructure with cross-region MariaDB replication and DNS-based failovers
- ▶ Designed CI/CD pipelines and permission matrices across multiple engineering teams using GitLab CI
- ▶ Migrated VPS monitoring from Nagios to Zabbix; formalized on-call schedule

Mobilunity *Kyiv, Ukraine*

PHP / Python Developer *November 2015 – September 2018*

- ▶ Decomposed a legacy monolith into scalable independent microservices
- ▶ Ported a critical database client library from .NET to Go
- ▶ Built backend services and web scrapers using Python (Flask, Scrapy) and PHP (Symfony, Laravel)
- ▶ Conducted 40+ technical interviews across Backend, QA, and DevOps hiring

ADPHONE International *Kyiv, Ukraine*

PHP Developer *May 2013 – October 2015*

- ▶ Led full rewrite of a legacy web application in PHP (Yii2); mentored a junior developer
- ▶ Integrated Google AdWords APIs and built custom Odoo modules for Asterisk PBX
- ▶ Administered multiple production CentOS servers and established on-premise CI/CD pipelines

EDUCATION

Kyiv Professional College of Mechanical Engineering and Technology *Kyiv, Ukraine*

Junior Specialist in Production Management (Associate degree) *September 2009 – February 2013*

- ▶ Specialization in industrial organization and process optimization.

CERTIFICATIONS

[AWS Certified Solutions Architect – Associate](#)

LANGUAGES

English — Full Professional (*IELTS 8.5, CEFR C2*), Hebrew — Basic, Russian — Native, Ukrainian — Native