



Kurt Nelson

📍 San Francisco, CA
Senior Android Engineer | @Pinterest
13 years of experience
kurt@nelson.fun
Portfolio: thisisnotajoke.com

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Skills: Android Java Kotlin Ruby on Rails Linux

Experience

- **Pinterest** [pinterest.com](#) Aug 2022 to Aug 2024

Senior Software Engineer San Francisco, CA

Worked on the Android Platform team. Projects included a brand new company-wide architecture "State Based Architecture" along with test tooling, wide framework work, and migrations to new technology.

 - State-Based Architecture
- **Self-employed** Feb 2021 to Aug 2022

Senior Software Engineer San Francisco, CA

Worked multiple contracts and short-term work on everything from Kotlin Multiplatform to Flutter to resolving technical debt for a major image editing Android application.

 - Kotlin Multiplatform
 - Flutter consulting for seed stage startup
- **Uber** [uber.com](#) Aug 2018 to Feb 2021

Senior Software Engineer San Francisco, CA

I was on the Mobile Foundations team working across our suite of apps, in both application code and infrastructure.
- **Google** [google.com](#) Dec 2015 to Apr 2018

Android Engineer San Francisco, CA

I started on the Google Glass/Wearables team and primarily worked on the companion app for a new class of consumer hardware products. I then worked on Android app foundations making cold-startup faster and shrinking APK size along with improving the internal developer experience.
- **The Iron Yard** Jun 2015 to Dec 2015

Ruby Instructor Nashville, TN

I taught two 3-month cohorts of backend engineering to complete beginners in Nashville, TN.
- **Self-employed** Dec 2014 to Jun 2015

Software Engineer Atlanta, GA

I decided to head out on my own and operate freelance.

 - Monsieur, an Android powered bartending machine
 - Scoutmob, a marketing and discount coupon app
- **Big Nerd Ranch** [bignerdranch.com](#) Aug 2012 to Dec 2014

Android Engineer & Instructor Atlanta, GA

I have done both Ruby and Ruby on Rails backend and Android development for consulting clients varying from multi-nationals to one-person startups. Additionally, I taught the Android Bootcamp for corporate clients and am highly knowledgeable in the project process, from Pivotal Tracker to keeping your Git history readable. I continued teaching the Android Bootcamp on a contract basis.

Georgia Tech Research Institute

May 2011 to Jul 2012

Signature Technology Lab Co-op Atlanta, GA

In addition to holding a US Department of Defense Secret clearance, I supported both a Windows Domain and a Linux enterprise environment. I was responsible for a data center's day-to-day operations and assisted users with support tickets.

Education

Georgia Institute of Technology

2009 to 2014

Bachelor's of Science, Computer Science

System architecture and information internetworks threads.

Winter Park High School

2005 to 2009

International Baccalaureate Diploma

Projects

simple-store

uber.github.io/simple-store/ github.com/uber/simple-store

Simple yet performant asynchronous file storage for Android

Java, Shell

SSHades

connectbot.org/ github.com/kurtisnelson/SSHades

SSHades is the first SSH client for Google Glass. Forked from ConnectBot

C++, Java

Certificates

Certified Beer Server

Cicerone Certification Program Jun 2021

badge.cicerone.org/13811662-2a6f-41d5-994f-00d20fef3caf

Certified Beer Servers satisfy three key learning objectives. They have:

Become conversant in the language of beer, knowing key flavors and common beer styles

Mastered the details of beer service, including glass preparation and proper pouring of both draft and bottled beers

Learned how to care for beer to prevent development of off flavors during storage and service

Publications

The Dangers of SharedPreferences: An API allegory

droidcon SF Nov 2018

www.youtube.com/watch?v=dyIqM-6CyXY

SharedPreferences has been in the framework and recommended since day 1. However, it has some hidden nuances and pitfalls that can lead to flakiness in production.

Learn when you should use it and how to write robust APIs with it.

Stricter StrictMode

Droidcon NYC Aug 2017

 www.droidcon.com/media-detail?video=329356537

Android O adds even more strict mode detectors. Learn why every developer should have strict mode turned on in their dev builds and how it can help improve the excellence of your app.

Storing app data reliably & performantly


Droidcon NYC Aug 2019

 www.droidcon.com/media-detail?video=362742094

Almost every single app needs to store important pieces of data such as a session token on disk. Learn about the pitfalls of SharedPreferences, what to do for data needed for app launch, when to use something like Room for relational data, and how storage impacts the user experience especially in emerging markets. Learn how Google and Uber approach storage to ensure their apps are reliable.

Putting a Jetpack on your legacy codebase

DroidconSF Jul 2023

 www.droidcon.com/2023/07/20/putting-a-jetpack-on-your-legacy-codebase/

At Pinterest, we are always working on using the latest technologies when possible in our 10+ year old codebase. Adding architecture components such as Hilt and Navigation without requiring everyone to rewrite their existing features can be quite a challenge. Hear about some of the techniques and challenges the platform team at Pinterest has had to use in order to adopt these new technologies under the hood.

Languages

English Fluent