

JUSTUS GITAU

Software Engineer | Graphic Designer

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SOFTWARE ENGINEER | GRAPHIC DESIGNER

I'm a Full Stack Developer and Graphic Designer with over 2 years of real-world experience creating practical, user-focused web applications and clean digital designs. I've worked with companies, clients, and university teams to develop solutions that solve everyday problems, improve workflows, and enhance user experience. With a solid understanding of both frontend and backend development, graphics design, UI/UX, and SEO, I approach each project with a balance of technical skill and design thinking. I'm confident in my ability to adapt quickly, collaborate well, and deliver results and I'm currently looking for opportunities to grow further while contributing to meaningful tech projects.

EDUCATION

2020 – 2024

UNIVERSITY OF EASTERN AFRICA, BARATON.

- Bachelor in Software Engineering
- Second Class Upper Division
- GPA: 3.4/4.0

2015 - 2019

KIMATHI HIGH SCHOOL

- Kenya Certificate of Secondary Education
- Grade: B plain

SKILLS

Technical Skills:

- | | | |
|--|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| • Full Stack Web Development | • RESTful API Development | • Graphic Design |
| • JavaScript, NextJS, React, Node.js, Express.js, Prisma | • Tech/IT Support | • Photoshop and Illustrator |
| • PostgreSQL, MongoDB | • Version Control (Git) | • InDesign |
| | • UI/UX Design | • Figma |
| | • SEO | • CMS (WordPress) |

Soft Skills:

- | | | |
|-------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|
| • Teamwork | • Critical Thinking | • Time Management |
| • Problem Solving | • Adaptability | • Effective Communication |

LANGUAGE

- | | | |
|--------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| • English (Fluent) | • Swahili (Fluent) | • French (Basics) |
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CAREER OBJECTIVES

- | | |
|--|--|
| • Craft dynamic, user-centred web applications and innovative solutions. | • Leverage design expertise for seamless user experiences. |
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- Continuously advance my skills in the fields of AI and machine learning.
- Seeking an ICT or software engineering positions to apply my full stack skills, support digital solutions, and grow through hands-on experience in a fast-paced environment.
- Use expertise to give back to the community through impactful projects and mentorship

WORK EXPERIENCE

Founder & Web Developer | J'ASTUTE (My Brand)

May 2023 – Present

- Developed Centri Closet, an e-commerce platform for university helping students easily sell and resell second-hand equipment, with a 99% success rate.
- Completed numerous web and graphic design projects for clients, delivering tailored solutions that increased engagement and brand visibility, achieving 100% client satisfaction.

Software Engineer (Intern) | Hilgan Innovations

Mar 2025 – June 2025

- ✓ Led a team of 5+ developers in building and refining client-facing features for web applications used by over 2,000 users across healthcare and business sectors.
- ✓ Collaborated with the DevOps team to streamline deployment processes, reducing downtime by 30% during releases.
- ✓ Contributed to full-stack development, resolving over 40 technical issues and optimizing key components for performance and scalability.
- ✓ Took part in code reviews, daily stand-ups, and sprint planning, helping improve team output and delivery timelines.

(Attachment) | Hilgan Innovations

May 2024 – Aug 2024

Developed the Hilgan Kazi Desk HR management system, converting Figma designs into a functional Next.js application and enhancing HR process efficiency.

- ✓ Created and optimized a dashboard for Hilgan SMS, improving performance and usability for internal data reporting.

IT & Digital Systems Assistant – Kibunja Supplies (Agribusiness)

Aug 2024 – Mar 2025

- ✓ Designed, developed, and maintained a poultry supply management website to support digital marketing, order tracking, and product visibility (launching soon).
- ✓ Managed the company's Google Business Profile, increasing local search engagement and contributing to over 50% of new customer inquiries through digital channels.
- ✓ Created and maintained data systems using Google Sheets to monitor daily orders, stock levels, and delivery schedules, improving operational accuracy.
- ✓ Collaborated with the sales team to digitize client onboarding and feedback collection, resulting in better retention and smoother communication.

Graphic Designer | UEAB - Yearbook and The Baratonian Newsletter

Sep 2023 – May 2024

- ✓ Designed our university's yearbook and newsletters, enhancing visual storytelling and preserving university memories.
- ✓ Collaborated with editorial teams to produce cohesive and compelling content, receiving praise for design consistency and creativity.

ICT Clerk | Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission (IEBC)

8th August 2022

- ✓ Assisted in voter identification and ballot paper issuance using the Kenya Integrated Election Management System (KIEMS), processing over 600 voters with a 99% accuracy rate.
- ✓ Managed voter flow and supported special needs voters, ensuring smooth operations and reducing wait times by 25%
- ✓ Assisted in ballot sorting and counting, maintaining a 100% accuracy rate in ballot handling.

PROJECTS

Justprenuer-Blogging Website (Next.js, Tailwind, Node.js, PostgreSQL) Sep 2023

- Developed a tech & entrepreneurship blog platform from scratch.
- Attracted 1,000+ monthly visitors by implementing SEO best practices.

UEAB Innovation Website (React.js, Tailwind, Node.js, MySQL) | Mar 2023

- Created a platform showcasing student innovations for our university.

Personal Portfolio Website (React.js, Tailwind, Node.js, MySQL) | Jan 2023

- Designed and developed a responsive portfolio website showcasing 10+ projects.
- Optimized for performance, accessibility, and clean UX. [View: gitaujustus.vercel.app]

Kenyan Labor Export System (KLES) (Next.js, Tailwind, Node.js, Postgres, Prisma) May 2024

Senior Project, University of Eastern Africa, Baraton

- Developed a labour export system for matching Kenyan workers with international job opportunities, focusing on skills alignment and secure data handling.
- Implemented modules for registration, job posting, application tracking, and feedback management, enhancing the overall user experience.

Explore more of my projects at gitaujustus.vercel.app

ACHIEVEMENTS AND CERTIFICATIONS

Academic Excellence:

- Dean's List, University of Eastern Africa, Baraton (2023)
 - Achieved a GPA of 3.8 out of 4.0
 - Awarded Certificate of Excellence
- *Certificate of Excellence, Murang'a East Sub-County Education Day (2020)*
 - Second Best Candidate with V.A.P of (+3) in Murang'a East Sub-County, scoring B in 2019 K.C.S.E Examination
 - Fifth Best Boy in Public Day Secondary School with B (65 points) in 2019 K.C.S.E Examination

Professional Certifications:

- **Introduction to SEO Fundamentals Training Course** - Simplilearn SkillUp (April 2024)
- Certificate of Successful Completion of Computer Packages (2020)