

KAREL KUTCHAN

Frontend React Engineer | React | TypeScript | React Query | Accessibility | CMS-integrated platform

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PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Senior Frontend Engineer with 8+ years of commercial experience building React/TypeScript user interfaces for product platforms, CMS-backed public websites, internal dashboards and reusable component systems. **Strong fit for React applications running inside CMS and multi-brand environments:** TanStack React Query, strict TypeScript, SCSS/CSS Modules, Storybook, accessibility, responsive layouts and API-driven frontend architecture. I have hands-on CMS/platform background across WordPress, Kentico, Payload CMS and PHP/Twig contexts, and I am comfortable working at the boundary between frontend contracts and backend/CMS data models.

TARGET-FIT HIGHLIGHTS

- **React + TypeScript delivery:** Lead and build React/Next.js applications using strict TypeScript, reusable UI patterns, Storybook, Vitest, Playwright and code-review standards.
- **Server-state and API contracts:** Use TanStack React Query, typed frontend models and API-first thinking to keep UI state, server data and component contracts predictable.
- **CMS and PHP-adjacent experience:** Worked with WordPress administration/templates earlier in career, PHP/Twig at LMC, Kentico CMS on Skype.com and Payload CMS in modern Next.js projects.
- **Accessibility and international products:** Delivered accessibility-focused work for Kontent.ai and multi-market/high-traffic web platforms, with strong CSS fundamentals for responsive and maintainable layouts.

CORE SKILLS

Frontend engineering	React 18/19, TypeScript, Next.js, JavaScript, HTML5, CSS3, functional React patterns
State and data	TanStack React Query, Zustand, Redux, MobX, URL-synced UI patterns, typed API integration
Validation and forms	Configuration-driven UI, reusable form fields, schema-aware validation mindset, sync/async validation patterns; ready to apply Zod in production codebases
CSS / UI systems	SCSS/Sass, CSS Modules, styled-components, LESS, specificity/cascade, responsive layouts, design systems, Storybook
CMS / platform integration	WordPress fundamentals, Gutenberg-ready React mindset, PHP/Twig, Kentico CMS, Payload CMS, Composer/monorepo-ready workflow
Quality and tooling	Vitest, Playwright, React Testing Library, Git, PNPM/NPM/Yarn, code reviews, CI/CD practices, AI-assisted development workflows
Accessibility / i18n	React Aria hooks, keyboard and screen-reader usability, WCAG-oriented implementation, internationalization-aware UI, RTL-aware CSS practices

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Lead Frontend Engineer | BlueGhost | 03/2025 - Present

Stack: Next.js, React, TypeScript, PNPM, TanStack React Query, Zustand, SCSS Modules, Storybook, React Aria, Vitest, Playwright, Git, AI-assisted developer tools

- Architected a reusable React/Next.js frontend foundation for web platforms by defining application structure, component boundaries and TypeScript conventions, improving long-term maintainability across current and future projects.
- Improved release confidence by combining Storybook-driven component workflows with Vitest/Playwright testing practices and stricter review standards instead of relying only on manual QA.
- Standardized server-state and client-state patterns with TanStack React Query and Zustand, making data loading, cache invalidation and UI state easier to reason about in feature development.
- Raised frontend quality by leading code reviews, mentoring engineers and enforcing conventions around strict TypeScript, SCSS Modules, reusable UI patterns, accessibility and performance.
- Introduced structured AI-assisted development workflows - Copilot, Gemini/Codex-style CLI workflows, system prompts, Figma-to-token/code assistance - while keeping architecture, code review and maintainability under engineering control.

Frontend Engineer | Kontent.ai - Contract/Freelance | 06/2024 - 02/2025

Stack: React, TypeScript, Next.js, styled-components, React Aria hooks, Storybook, Playwright, NPM, Git

- Improved accessibility of a complex React application by refactoring UI behavior with React Aria hooks and custom accessible interaction patterns for keyboard and screen-reader users.
- Reduced accessibility risk by reviewing landmarks, labels, focus behavior and component semantics against strict usability requirements instead of treating a11y as a final QA step.
- Kept refactoring safe by collaborating with the team on maintainable TypeScript components, Storybook workflows and Playwright-based checks in a contract environment with defined delivery scope.

Lead Frontend Engineer | TLDR;IT s.r.o. - Contract/Freelance | 04/2024 - 09/2024

Stack: Next.js, React, TypeScript, Sass, CSS Modules, Payload CMS, NPM

- Delivered frontend architecture for time-boxed web and mobile-oriented projects by selecting scalable React/Next.js patterns, reusable component structures and CSS Modules/Sass styling strategy.
- Connected modern React interfaces to CMS-driven content using Payload CMS and TypeScript models, strengthening my ability to work with editorial/admin data structures and frontend contracts.

Frontend Developer | eMan a.s. | 09/2021 - 04/2024

Stack: React, Next.js, TypeScript, MobX, Redux, Sass, CSS Modules, Storybook, NPM/Yarn, Git

- Built and evolved React/TypeScript interfaces for enterprise clients including E.ON, MND, CEZ and Bohemia Energy, increasing reuse and consistency through design systems and component libraries.
- Improved maintainability of client applications by refactoring legacy frontend code into modern React/TypeScript patterns, reusable components and clearer styling architecture.
- Supported performance, accessibility and responsive UX improvements by working closely with UX and backend teams on production web applications used by large customer bases.

Frontend Developer | LMC | 09/2020 - 09/2021

Stack: React, JavaScript, PHP/Twig, Less, Sass, NPM

- Delivered custom web solutions for corporate clients on the jobs.cz ecosystem by translating client and design requirements into responsive frontend implementations.
- Worked comfortably in a PHP/Twig and frontend hybrid environment, strengthening the same PHP-to-frontend collaboration mindset needed for React features embedded in CMS platforms.

Frontend Developer | Amp X | 09/2019 - 09/2020

Stack: React, TypeScript, Redux, JSS, Storybook, NPM/Yarn, Git

- Built React/TypeScript UI for a distributed-energy platform where data clarity and reliable interaction patterns were critical for market-facing workflows.
- Maintained readable and sustainable frontend code with Redux, Storybook and component-based UI practices in a product development team.

Frontend Developer | Skype.com | 04/2019 - 09/2019

Stack: JavaScript, jQuery, HTML5, CSS3, Sass, Kentico CMS, NPM, Git

- Contributed to a high-traffic public website serving more than 400,000 unique users daily across 30+ countries by improving responsive components, accessibility and performance.

- Worked inside a CMS-backed publishing environment with Kentico, aligning frontend components with editorial/content-management workflows on a global public site.

Frontend Coder | Foxconn DRC s.r.o. | 06/2018 - 03/2019

Stack: HTML5, CSS3, Sass, React, BEM, NPM, Git

- Built scalable UI foundations for data visualization, management and processing applications by applying modular HTML/CSS architecture, BEM and component-based React practices.
- Helped refine a custom design system, improving consistency and speed of frontend implementation across internal projects.

Frontend Coder | Mountfield, a.s. | 05/2017 - 05/2018

Stack: HTML5, CSS3, JavaScript, jQuery, Kentico CMS

- Maintained the main company website and marketing microsites by implementing responsive pages, newsletters and internal UI improvements in a CMS-driven environment.

Web Administrator / Graphic Designer / Junior Frontend Coder | BitWare CZ s.r.o. | 08/2014 - 05/2017

Stack: HTML5, CSS3, JavaScript, jQuery, PHP, WordPress

- Managed and built WordPress-based websites and responsive presentations using HTML/CSS/JavaScript and PHP, forming the foundation for later React and CMS-integrated platform work.

EDUCATION & CERTIFICATIONS

- COPTH, Prague - Electrical engineering, telecommunications and computer technologies (2002 - 2006)
- FreeCodeCamp - Full Stack Web Development Certification (2016 - 2018)
- Selected courses: performance optimization, CSS architecture, SVG, JavaScript principles, Sass preprocessors, web application programming

LANGUAGES

Czech: native | English: working professional / very good | Swedish: basic | German: beginner