

Dan Dobrick

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Backend engineer who goes deep in complex domains, from payments infrastructure to ed-tech systems. I take ambiguous, cross-service problems from vendor negotiation through architecture, rollout, and measurement, looping in the right people along the way.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Shopify

Senior Software Engineer

Jun. 2024 – Present

Backend engineer on the billing platform that invoices and collects payment from every Shopify merchant (~\$7B USD/yr), covering subscriptions, usage-based billing, tax, and payment collection across 15+ services, including PCI-scoped and internationally regulated payment flows.

- Led a cross-service rollout enabling on-session payments for Indian merchants, negotiating the integration approach directly with Razorpay. Cut time-to-pay from ~30 hours to ~30 seconds and meaningfully raised payment success rates; remain the team's primary point of contact for India payment issues.
- Technical lead on migrating Shopify's standalone credit card vault into the company-wide payment vault. With the build already underway, made the call to pause it, put the corrected plan in writing, and took the extra time to do it right instead of shipping the faster path in motion.
- Designed Billing's ownership model for payment methods and drove the resulting split of responsibilities with the team that owns the platform-wide vault, clearing the way for future payment-method projects that the old model would have blocked. Now the team's go-to for payment-method ownership questions.
- Migrated usage-based billing (~\$100M/month) from integer to decimal precision across two services. Zero revenue impact, and removed a micro-unit scaling workaround for API clients.
- Designed and shipped the billing platform's public GraphQL API across multiple codebases, replacing a legacy proxy for the majority of merchants and unlocking role-based billing permissions for multi-store enterprise accounts.
- Wrote the team's AI coding-agent guidance and PR workflow, now used across the team for verified agent-assisted changes.

brightwheel

Staff Software Engineer

Feb. 2020 – Jun. 2024

Promoted from Senior Software Engineer, Jan. 2023

- Led a small engineering team through the integration of an acquired curriculum business, setting technical direction as requirements shifted substantially over the project.
- Set priorities for the team, planned sprints, and ran technical interviews as part of the hiring loop.
- Sole backend engineer on a greenfield Marketplace product from concept to launch, growing to thousands of listings; also cut CI build times 90%, enabling faster iteration on a product built around continuous experimentation.

Jellyvision

Senior Software Engineer

Dec. 2016 – Feb. 2020

TECHNOLOGIES

Multi-model, multi-agent engineering (pi, OpenRouter, and others), tool choice driven by task rather than habit. Ruby, Rails, GraphQL, MySQL, Postgres, Kafka, gRPC/protobuf, RESTful API design, SQL/BigQuery, Kubernetes, Docker, GCP, AWS, Grafana, JavaScript, TypeScript, Node, React.

EDUCATION

Loyola University Chicago 2015 *M.Ed.*

UC Santa Cruz 2011 *BA Mathematics*