

Dean L. Spykerman

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SUMMARY

Build and support production web apps and WordPress/WooCommerce sites end-to-end: scoping → architecture → development → deployment (cPanel/Apache) → ongoing support.

Deliver custom PHP/Vue/MySQL functionality and REST API integrations, including bespoke WordPress plugins for data sync/automation.

Troubleshoot real-world issues across hosting, performance, and compatibility (plugins/themes, PHP versions, MySQL queries, Apache config basics).

Improve reliability and user experience through structured debugging, testing, and clear documentation for clients and non-technical stakeholders.

Comfortable in support/implementation workflows: ticket-style triage, reproduction steps, root-cause analysis, and prevention recommendations.

Working knowledge of Docker/Azure/CI-CD concepts to collaborate effectively with DevOps/platform teams.

EXPERIENCE

Web Design

Full-stack development

June 2024 - , Freelance (dean.thegrammaticeffect.com/)

- Build and deploy full-stack web apps and WordPress solutions using PHP, Vue.js, MySQL, and REST APIs on cPanel/Apache hosting.
- Deliver custom e-commerce functionality and admin workflows, supporting real production usage and ongoing feature requests.
- Troubleshoot live issues across WordPress/PHP/MySQL/hosting, closing multiple fixes per week across content, performance, and stability.
- Improve performance and technical SEO fundamentals through structured optimisation and validation testing (before/after checks).
- Own delivery end-to-end (requirements, build, testing, deployment, support), providing clear handover notes to reduce repeat issues.

Web Developer, Website & Product Management

MCE Electric (www.mce.co.za)

February 2022 - March 2024, Stafford, Johannesburg.

- Redesigned product detail templates and updated image presentation layouts, elevating user navigation experience while promoting greater engagement with the online product catalogue.
- Engineered new product landing pages and incorporated interactive elements to enhance user engagement and ensure seamless browsing experiences for diverse customer segments.
- Implemented robust search functionality and advanced filtering options for the online catalogue, streamlining the product discovery process for both residential and commercial clients.
- Supported internal teams with fast turnaround on web requests, prioritising accuracy and reliable delivery.
- Used analytics reporting to guide site improvements and content decisions, supporting business goals and performance monitoring.

Project manager / Developer for Software Development

Moby Designs

September 2017 - February 2019, Houghton, Johannesburg.

- Managed delivery of bespoke software projects including web builds, mobile applications, custom POS systems, and VR/interactive experiences.

- Coordinated requirements, testing, and implementation across stakeholders to ensure projects shipped on time and met agreed scope.
- Led QA thinking and validation workflows (test planning, feedback loops, and fixes) beforehand to handover to clients.
- Produced clear project documentation and structured communication to reduce misunderstandings and rework.
- Supported UI/UX collaboration and implementation planning to improve usability and delivery quality.

3D Object Creation and Service Desk Technician

Maxima Software

April 2017 - August 2017, Roodepoort, Johannesburg.

- Provided service desk support and off-site troubleshooting, resolving recurring client issues and ensuring smooth system operation.
- Installed and maintained systems for customers, supporting stable use after deployment and during support visits.
- Assisted customers with “2020 Fusion” by preparing assets and supporting implementation into their workflows.
- Supported sales activity by explaining product value and assisting users during onboarding and adoption.

IT Technician and Digital Content Creator

Human Interactive Technology

April 2016 - February 2017, Norwood, Johannesburg.

- Led installation and maintenance of interactive systems including large touchscreens, display systems, and in-house built computers.
- Built, configured, and tested hardware/software setups for client deployments, ensuring reliability before installation.
- Created animations and digital assets for multiple display formats, supporting client projects across varied environments.
- Built and maintained WordPress websites and supporting content for client-facing experiences.
- Provided ongoing technical maintenance and troubleshooting, reducing downtime and improving stability in live environments.

Head Sales Agent

B Doyle and Associates

March 2013 - April 2016, Sandton, Gauteng.

- Promoted into lead role and handled sales activity and client coordination, supporting 100s clients/accounts.
- Processed company, trust and trademark registration administration, completing dozens registrations or submissions per month.
- Maintained office laptops and computers, reducing downtime and keeping staff operational across 12 machines.
- Improved internal workflow consistency by documenting steps and standardising recurring tasks.
- Secured high-value contracts with key accounts by cultivating client relationships, negotiating terms, and consistently aligning offerings with customer needs.

EDUCATION

TEFL Certification

2023

Fundamentals of Digital Marketing

Google · 2021

Grade 12 Matric

Sir John Adamson · 2012

SKILLS

Core: PHP, WordPress, WooCommerce, Vue.js, JavaScript, HTML/CSS, MySQL, REST APIs, cPanel, Apache basics, performance/SEO fixes, debugging & issue triage. Working Knowledge: Linux (working knowledge), Docker basics, Azure basics, CI/CD basics, React + Node.js/Express.js (learning), Python (basic scripting). Tools: Git, browser devtools, Lighthouse/PageSpeed tooling, WordPress tooling, Adobe (PS/AI/AE/Premiere/XD)