

# RAYNER LUCAS

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## PROFILE

A motivated, proficient software developer who possesses a broad range of experience in programming, database design, and system administration. Focused, determined, and eager to learn, with the ability to adapt quickly to new rôles and new technologies. An excellent communicator who works confidently as part of a team and enjoys thinking creatively to solve technical problems.

## TECHNICAL EXPERIENCE

- Programming in a range of languages, including Perl, Python, PHP, C, C#, Oberon-2, and LPC.
- MySQL database experience, including relational data modelling, query design, and server administration.
- Source control and versioning using Perforce, Subversion, and Git.
- Web development using the Django framework.
- Web page design and production, using XHTML, CSS, and Javascript.
- Administration and configuration of Linux systems.
- TCP/IP network administration. Familiarity with transport-layer protocols such as UDP and TCP as well as application-layer protocols such as HTTP, DNS, SMTP, POP3, FTP, and NNTP.

## CAREER AND ACHIEVEMENTS TO DATE

### Software Developer (Languagelab)

June 2011—Present

I maintain, develop, and support a website used by students and teachers in over 70 countries, which means that a commitment to producing robust, fully-tested code to the highest standards is essential. As part of a small, fast-moving company, I must work pro-actively on my own initiative, as well as having excellent skills in communication and teamwork.

Skills and achievements demonstrated in this rôle include:

- Writing Django applications to extend the Languagelab site, improving the quality of the teaching experience for students.
- Working with senior management to design and develop a dashboard of business statistics, which received praise from several senior staff. The application integrated data from our MySQL databases with Google Analytics and the Google Chart API to present a clear overview of how the business was performing.
- Using Agile development methods to allow fast deployment of new components. Techniques used as part of this strategy are continuous integration, pair programming and test-driven development.
- Creating business reports using Python and MySQL to give our affiliated organisations an overview of the progress of their students.

## **CAREER AND ACHIEVEMENTS TO DATE**

### **Software Developer (Freelance)**

**May 2010—May 2011**

I ran my own business for a year, using a wide range of technologies to develop software for clients. My work required me to provide accurate estimates of time and costs, and to deliver high-quality software on time to my customers. As a self-employed worker, the ability to motivate myself and use my initiative was essential to my success, as was a commitment to maintaining high standards of professionalism at all times.

Skills and achievements demonstrated in this rôle include:

- Using Perl and MySQL to create modular, maintainable code for parsing web pages and storing extracted data.
- Creating intuitive, usable websites using XHTML, CSS and Javascript.

### **Software Developer (Multimap)**

**June 2005—November 2009**

My primary responsibilities were to maintain and add new features to a custom CRM application used by over 120 employees. Other responsibilities included supporting the company's bug tracking and timesheet systems, writing scripts to produce customised reports from databases, and reviewing code written by other developers. These tasks required good time management skills, an ability to analyse information in detail, and an aptitude for learning new technologies rapidly.

Skills and achievements demonstrated in this rôle include:

- Writing modular, object-oriented Perl and optimised MySQL queries as the key developer on the CRM project.
- Performing Linux and MySQL administration tasks as necessary to ensure the reliability and efficiency of the system.
- Working with the managers of the sales, marketing, and customer services departments to produce specifications and designs for new functionality.
- Using XHTML and Javascript to create clean, consistent user interfaces.

### **First Line Technical Support Adviser (Fasthosts)**

**March 2004—June 2005**

My responsibilities included resolving customers' problems by telephone and e-mail, diagnosing faults on a network of Linux and Windows servers, and working with colleagues to identify and fix recurring issues. My work required excellent communication skills, a determination to solve technical problems, and an enthusiasm for the development of my knowledge and skills.

Skills and achievements demonstrated in this rôle include:

- Creating tools using Perl and CGI to improve the department's efficiency in handling enquiries.
- Diagnosing faults using networking tools such as traceroute, ping, and telnet, together with a knowledge of application-layer protocols including POP3, SMTP, DNS, and HTTP.
- During my reviews, I received praise from my manager for successfully solving the customer's problem on a consistently high proportion of calls.

## EDUCATION

**M.Sc. in Computer Science, University of Bath** **2002—2003**

**Subjects studied:** Networking, Project Management, Databases and Data Management, Algorithms and Data Structures, Formal Methods and Programming, Human-Computer Interaction and Virtual Reality, Safety-Critical Systems, Multimedia.

**Dissertation Project:** Statistics Reporting Software for Usenet Servers.

**B.Sc. (Hons) in Natural Sciences, University of Bath** **1998—2002**

**Secondary Education, King Edward's School, Birmingham** **1991—1998**

**4 A Levels:** Physics [A], Biology [A], Chemistry [B], General Studies [A].

**1 AS level:** Computing [A].

**11 GCSEs:** Mathematics [A], Physics [A], Biology [A\*], Chemistry [A], English [A], English Literature [B], German [A], French [A], Latin [A], Religious Studies [B], Design and Technology [B].

## INTERESTS

### **Elected Administrator of an Online RPG**

I am a programming volunteer on Split Infinity MUD (<telnet://splitinf.org:4000>). I hold an elected administrative position due to my knowledge of the code base and my commitment to bringing fresh, creative ideas to the game. I have responsibility for reviewing other programmers' code before its inclusion in the game, resolving disputes between players, and working on advanced programming projects. My current project involves writing code that will allow players to create their own customised weapons and armour. I enjoy the community spirit and creativity of the programming team, and share their determination to turn our collective vision of the game into reality.

### **Investment in the Stock Market**

I am a contributing member of a local investment community, in which I help other members to develop strategies and plan their financial affairs, while continuing to advance my own knowledge of investment techniques. For the last three years, I have been running an ongoing project to test the effectiveness of one investment strategy by tracking its performance and comparing it to benchmarks over the same period. My participation allows me to sharpen my skills of analysis and long-range planning, and gives me experience of effectively communicating technical information to people of different levels of knowledge.