



Philip Brocoun

Senior Engineering Manager

Profile

Hello! I'm Philip, and I began developing with Ruby on Rails at a startup in NYC in 2007. Fast-forward fifteen years and here I am with over a decade of experience working on large Rails apps using best practices.

I started as an analyst at Brightidea when I was 25. At that time, I was transitioning away from mathematics and education. I taught myself Ruby on Rails and was hired a year later at readMedia as their first full-time developer. We grew the company and turned it into what Merit is today.

I now lead all development at Syncta as our Sr. Engineering Manager in Portland, OR. We provide mobile software for backflow testers and water purveyors. We were recently acquired by Watts Water Technologies.

Employment History

Senior Engineering & Product Manager at Syncta, Portland, OR

June 2019 — Present

I head up all development at Syncta, including our local Portland team and overseas contractors. My teams manage our Ruby on Rails webapp, our iOS and Android mobile apps, our APIs, and our proprietary SynctaOne automation.

Lead Developer at Syncta, Portland, OR

July 2018 — May 2019

Syncta provides mobile software for backflow testers and water purveyors. I'm in charge of our Ruby on Rails app, the JSON API that powers our iOS and Android apps, and the automation behind SynctaOne.

Sr. Ruby on Rails engineer at Merit, New York, NY

February 2014 — March 2016

Merit showcases student achievements at hundreds of colleges and universities. Meritpages.com is the largest Rails app I've ever worked on, comprising eight Rails apps deployed in a services architecture on an AWS Ubuntu Linux cluster.

Ruby on Rails consultant at Go Green Ride, Bayonne, NJ

March 2013 — March 2014

Go Green Ride is an eco-friendly ridesharing alternative to Uber. GoGreenRide.com and its accompanying iOS and Android apps use a Rails backend that heavily utilizes geolocation services and is deployed on Rackspace using Phusion Passenger.

Details

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Skills

Management

Remote Team Lead

Ruby on Rails

Product Management

Project Management

Amazon AWS

DevOps

Hobbies

Poker, Mediterranean food,
Chess, Sailing, Guitar, my dog
Toast!

Links

[My Personal Website](#)

[LinkedIn](#)

[Stack Overflow](#)

[GitHub](#)

[Facebook](#)

[Twitter](#)

Ruby on Rails engineer at readabout.me, New York, NY

December 2012 — February 2014

readabout.me was the predecessor to Merit, focusing primarily on students. The Rails app was deployed on Heroku initially, but with its success we quickly outgrew Heroku and switched to AWS.

Ruby on Rails web developer at readMedia, New York, NY

October 2008 — December 2012

readMedia sends press releases to newspapers via mail merge for its clients all over the country. I upgraded the readMedia.com Rails 2 app to Rails 3, helped move it onto AWS, and was one of three developers working full-time on the app for many years.

Analyst at Brightidea, New York, NY

February 2007 — July 2008

Brightidea provides innovation management software-as-a-service. As one of their early employees, I helped with sales, onboarding, consulting, traveling, and running their software.

Math Teacher at NYC Department of Education, New York, NY

September 2006 — June 2007

After getting my Master's degree, I taught 6–8th grade math at the [Shuang Wen School](#) (P.S. 184) in Chinatown.

Education

Bachelor of Science (B.S.) in Mathematics, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA

2001 — 2005

I have two publications: "[Reflections in a Euclidean Space](#)," and "[Exploration of Reflection Holograms and Their Fringes With a Scanning Electron Microscope](#)."

Master of Arts (M.A.) in Math Education, New York University, New York, NY

2005 — 2006

I attended NYU through [Math for America](#) where I took my theoretical knowledge of mathematics and added practical knowledge of teaching.

References

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Jeremiah Church, Founder from Syncta

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Jason Fox, CTO from Merit

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Colin Mathews, CEO from Merit

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