

Derek Backstrom

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SKILLS

Technical: Hardware prototyping, Understanding of electronic components (resistors, capacitors, transistors, IC's, etc.), Soldering, PCB rework, Python, Shell scripting, Unix command line, Apple Script, Manual Testing, Automated Testing, Functional Testing, Regression Testing, User Experience, Troubleshooting, Project and Test Planning, BOM's, Debugging, Software / Hardware Validation, Radar, Purple Restore, GitHub, iWork, Microsoft Office, MacOS, Windows, iOS.

Language: Native proficiency in English, Intermediate Spanish

EDUCATION

San Francisco State University - B.A. in Audio Engineering (Sept 2005 - May 2008) - San Francisco, CA

General Assembly - Certificate in User Experience and User Interface Design (May - August 2021) - San Francisco, CA

De Anza - Certificate in Programming in Python (currently in progress) - Cupertino, CA

WORK EXPERIENCE

Apple Inc. - contract via Mindlance - Software QA Engineer (January - October 2024) - Sunnyvale, CA

- **Test Planning and Strategy Development:** Develop test plans for upcoming projects in collaboration with two other QA engineers and three software developers, achieving 99% test case completion bringing Repair Assistant to iOS 18.
- **Test Execution and Defect Management:** Conduct case tests and ad hoc testing on NPI. Perform regression testing on sustaining devices. Work through TSTT's and use Radar to log bugs, UI improvements, and track bug fixes.
- **Automation and Continuous Testing:** Use Terminal to SSH into devices and execute commands. Log test results and run Python scripts to gather critical data and verify software integrity. Triage hardware devices and perform module repairs.
- **Quality Assurance and Process Improvement:** Document error codes and update code definitions in Confluence. Utilize Purple Restore 3 and 4 to install iOS builds and PR kits on dev-fused and prod-fused devices.

Apple Inc. - contract via Artech - Engineering Technician / Lab Manager (March 2022 - March 2023) - Sunnyvale, CA

- **Engineering Support:** Hardware / software engineering QA and validation supporting iPhone service part manufacturing test flows and providing essential feedback for next development build phases. Responsible for station / line bringup of three different iPhone service part programs simultaneously.
- **Device Builds:** Build and test carriers. Perform station / fixture retro-fit kit installations and calibration processes. Modules supported include FCAM, Face ID, Proximity Sensor, RCAM, Cover Glass and Back Glass.
- **Lab Management:** Work closely with EPM's to align expectations and ensure successful communication with contract manufactures and vendors. Process all inventory and allocations utilizing internal systems and tools.

Intel Corporation - contract via Artech - Engineering Technician (June 2021 - December 2021) - Santa Clara, CA

- **CPU Power Test Execution:** Perform systems setup, benchmark tests, create test plans and record test workflows using internal tools. Analyze and synthesize data from test cases. Communicate findings to engineers and collaborate on fixes. Bridge reworked systems to data collection interfaces. Debug, edit Apple Script and complete automated workflows.

Apple Inc. - contract via TSG - Hardware Compliance Engineer (February 2019 - August 2019) - Cupertino, CA

- **Materials Compliance:** Responsible for gathering and recording data (Agile PLM) for NPI and all sustaining products. Communicate with Apple's oversea's support teams to ensure complete quality manufacture and supplier declarations for all materials. Consistently exceeded >75% full material disclosure for EPEAT as well as >90% for Product Environmental Report.

DecksTron, LLC. - Founder / Co-Owner (September 2017 - March 2020) - San Jose, CA

- **Owner / Operator:** Manage investments, purchasing, return on investments and automation of admin responsibilities.

Apple Inc. (December 2011 - August 2017)

- **Engineering Program Specialist** - Human Interface Design / User Study Group (February - August 2017) - Cupertino, CA
- **Engineering Technician (CE)** - Engineering Support Services (February 2016 - October 2016) - Cupertino, CA
- **Lead Genius** - Apple Store, Burlingame (January 2014 - February 2017) - Burlingame, CA
- **Genius** - Apple Store, Burlingame (December 2011 - January 2014) - Burlingame, CA