

Ted Henkels

San Francisco Bay Area | (610) 674-8208 | thenkels@gmail.com | linkedin.com/in/ted-henkels | tedhenkels.com

SUMMARY

Senior full-stack engineer with 10+ years building distributed systems, scalable backend services, and full-stack platforms across high-growth startups and enterprise environments. Brings a consistent track record of technical leadership — architecting event-driven services, defining API contracts, and guiding cross-functional teams from zero to production. Equally at home driving system-level design and shipping production-quality code. Recently completed an AI & Machine Learning bootcamp at Caltech, rounding out a deep and broad technical foundation.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Senior Software Engineer

Aug 2024 – Present

Drumwave

JavaScript, NestJS, Next.js, AWS Cognito, Kafka, Postgres, MongoDB

- Architected and delivered a distributed backend service on NestJS, Postgres, and Kafka — establishing data models, event-driven processing patterns, and service boundaries from the ground up.
- Designed and built a reusable identity and authorization layer on AWS Cognito, standardizing authentication and role-based access control across services.
- Led a team of six engineers to ship a 0→1 web platform, owning API contract design, data modeling, and frontend implementation oversight.
- Managed an international engineering team across time zones, driving architectural alignment, code review standards, and CI/CD practices.

Senior Software Engineer

May 2019 – Jun 2023

Carta

Python, Django, Postgres, Kubernetes, React, JavaScript, Docker

- Led development of an onboarding contract service that scaled to serve ~2,000 customers per quarter, coordinating across product, legal, and engineering.
- Built React UI workflows that eliminated manual operations and significantly improved data accuracy across key business processes.
- Automated data-entry pipelines, reducing operational overhead and error rates across core workflows.
- Contributed to backend systems underpinning ~\$300M ARR in subscription revenue across Carta's platform.
- Drove decomposition of monolithic components into independently deployable microservices, improving system resilience and deployment velocity.

Software Engineer

Mar 2017 – May 2019

eBay

Scala, Play Framework, Google Cloud Platform, Datastore, BigTable

- Built backend services integrating GCP Datastore and BigTable for large-scale, high-throughput storage workloads.
- Delivered a high-availability coupon system serving 500,000+ users, with fault-tolerant patterns including retries and circuit breakers.
- Implemented multilingual messaging via machine translation APIs, expanding global feature reach.

Software Engineer

Oct 2015 – Feb 2017

StubHub

Java, Spring, REST APIs, Kafka, Solr, HBase, SQL

- Developed Java REST APIs supporting core ticketing workflows across high-traffic event commerce flows.
- Implemented asynchronous processing pipelines using Kafka for event-driven data at scale.
- Shipped cross-team features including social notification integrations, contributing across multiple squads using Agile processes.

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Languages Python, JavaScript/TypeScript, Scala, Java, SQL

Frameworks NestJS, Next.js, React, Django, Play, Spring

Databases Postgres, MongoDB, BigTable, HBase

Infrastructure & Cloud AWS (Cognito), GCP, Kubernetes, Docker, Kafka

Practices Distributed Systems, Event-Driven Architecture, API Design, System Architecture, Technical Leadership, CI/CD, Reliability Engineering

EDUCATION

Caltech

AI & Machine Learning Bootcamp · 2025

San Francisco State University

B.S. Computer Science · 2013