

Robert Schäfer

FULL STACK DEVELOPER

Freelance full stack developer working remotely across web applications, product engineering, and infrastructure, with additional investment in open source. Focus areas include maintainable software, strong test coverage, and modernizing fragile systems by simplifying delivery and operations while strengthening quality through reliable collaboration, code reviews, pair programming, and technical mentoring.

RECENT TECHNOLOGIES

Docker

8 years / 7 projects

Nuxt

6½ years / 5 projects

Tailwind

4½ years / 7 projects

Svelte

2¾ years / 5 projects

Terraform

2¼ years / 3 projects

Vue

7 years / 7 projects

Sentry

5¾ years / 2 projects

Netlify

3½ years / 6 projects

SvelteKit

2¾ years / 5 projects

Playwright

8 months / 3 projects

TypeScript

6½ years / 11 projects

PostgreSQL

5 years / 4 projects

Cucumber

3 years / 6 projects

Serverless

2¼ years / 2 projects

hledger

8 months / 2 projects

SELECTED RECENT PROJECTS

Bo***bH, Remote observatory

Full Stack Developer Mar 2026 - Present

With this platform for remotely controlling telescopes through the astrophotography software NINA, deep-sky imaging gets accessible without owning expensive hardware or the expertise to operate it. Users select an astronomical target and book observation time; the application sends imaging sequences to NINA via Tailscale, which executes them overnight and delivers the results. The core challenge is turning a Windows-only, inherently interactive application into a fully autonomous pipeline.

TypeScript Nuxt Vue Fly.io Docker AWS

ta***bH, AI interview platform

Full Stack Developer Mar 2026 - Present

This SvelteKit application for AI-assisted interviews and editorial publishing replaces brittle infrastructure spread across Airtable, Voiceflow, and additional custom services with a single serverless application. Using the built-in workflows of ElevenLabs AI Agents significantly reduces maintenance overhead and complexity while improving the phone agent's response time by several seconds, which is crucial for a good user experience.

TypeScript Svelte SvelteKit Tailwind Better Auth Drizzle ORM

WEBSITE

<https://roschaefer.de/>

EMAIL

hello@roschaefer.de

LANGUAGES

German

Native Speaker

English

Business Fluent

Spanish

Fluent

EDUCATION

Master of Science, IT-Systems Engineering

Hasso Plattner Institute
Oct 2014 - Mar 2018
1.6

Bachelor of Science, IT-Systems Engineering

Hasso Plattner Institute
Sep 2009 - Jul 2012
1.7

PROFILES

LinkedIn

roschaefer.de/linkedin

Github

roschaefer.de/github

YouTube

roschaefer.de/youtube

Mastodon

roschaefer.de/mastodon

***, Founder network

Full Stack Developer Jun 2024 - Jun 2025

For this free and open-source social platform for entrepreneurs, the delivery and infrastructure architecture was fundamentally reworked after deployments had previously been performed manually via a remote desktop on the target server, regularly causing downtime. Moving the project to a self-managed Kubernetes setup on Hetzner with Terraform gave every developer production-like test environments for their own branches while keeping operating costs extremely low at under 20 euros per month.

TypeScript Docker Vue Vike Vuetify Jest

au***bH, Auto parts price comparison

Full Stack Developer Jun 2021 - Sep 2023

For this software for the automotive aftermarket that helps repair shops compare prices across wholesalers, an Electron desktop application was migrated to a cloud-based platform on Google Cloud, Auth0, and Hasura. This significantly improved software quality and increased the number of connected wholesalers from 3 to 240.

TypeScript Docker Vue Tailwind Jest Testing-Library

ta***bH, Newsroom dialog

Full Stack Developer Mar 2020 - Apr 2025

For this platform for audience engagement and crowd-based reporting in journalism, the Ruby on Rails application integrates messengers such as WhatsApp, Telegram, Signal, Threema, and email, allowing editorial teams to reach people through channels they already use. Its core differentiator is a direct 1:1 conversation between journalists and their audience, turning a newsroom's own community into a valuable asset for reporting and research.

Ruby TypeScript Ruby on Rails RSpec Stimulus Docker

Hu***bH, FOSS social network

Technical Lead Nov 2018 - Apr 2020

Technical Lead work on product architecture, GraphQL APIs, production use of Neo4J, and Kubernetes-based operations for a community-built open-source social network that offers communities a privacy-friendly alternative to large platforms. The project grew to around 80 code contributors on GitHub; newcomers were onboarded through GitHub, Discord, and online pair programming, mentored directly, and most contributions were reviewed. Neo4J ran in production as the primary database to model the network's social graph directly.

JavaScript Jest Vue Nuxt Storybook Cypress

MENTORING AND TEACHING

Hochschule für Technik und Wirtschaft Berlin, Systems-Development and Framework

University Lecturer Oct 2019 - Mar 2021

Owned a master's course on full stack development with around 40 students, including curriculum, teaching, and grading. Topics included functional programming, advanced Git, test-driven development, and code reviews on GitHub. All lectures are publicly available on YouTube.

JavaScript Vue Apollo GraphQL Neo4J Nuxt Vuetify

AWARDS

Grimme Online Award (nominated),

Grimme-Institut

Jun 2020

Bee sensor stories

German Reporter Award 2019, Reporter-Forum e. V.

Dec 2019

Bee sensor stories

German Reporter Award 2017 (nominated), Reporter-Forum e. V.

Dec 2017

Dairy cow sensor stories

Winner of MIZ Formatfestival 2015, MIZ Babelsberg

Nov 2015

#ursuppe

SELECTED TALKS

Find open-source contributors in online learner communities, Vue.js Berlin Meetup

Jan 2020

Using Neo4J and GraphQL to build Human Connection, Neo4J Online Meetup

Jun 2019

Find open-source contributors in online learner communities, 35th Chaos Communication Congress

Dec 2018

MIZ Babelsberg, Rubies in the woods

Programming Mentor Sep 2015 - Nov 2018

Mentored a beginner-friendly programming group through weekly sessions focused on diversity and low-barrier access to learning how to code.

Ruby

OPEN SOURCE AND CIVIC WORK

Robert Schäfer, roschaefer.de

Design and Development Mar 2026 - Present

Personal portfolio website and print-optimized resume built from a shared content source. The project combines a bilingual SvelteKit frontend, PDF generation with Typst, and standards-compliant `resume.json` into an accessible, privacy-conscious experience for web and print.

TypeScript

Svelte

SvelteKit

Tailwind

Paraglide

Typst

Rundfunk mitbestimmen e.V., Rundfunk mitbestimmen

Founder Aug 2016 - Mar 2019

"Rundfunk mitbestimmen" is a civic tech project that lets people symbolically influence how public broadcasting fees are allocated. Users can assign their contributions to individual programs. The project was covered by Zeit Online, Netzpolitik.org, Deutschlandfunk, and RBB.

Ember

Ruby on Rails

Auth0

D3

Highcharts

Uberspace

Press: [Zeit Online](#), [Netzpolitik.org](#), [Deutschlandfunk](#), [RBB](#)