

# Kaka Ruto

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Product Engineer

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## EXPERIENCE

### 4ditor, Liverpool, UK — Creator

Mar 2025 - Present

Created 4ditor, a fullstack AI-powered SaaS platform, automating photo editing and video content creation for real estate professionals, using Rails 8

Built an automated video generation engine that transforms property images into dynamic video slideshows, leveraging AI for textual content

Designed a scheduling system for users to set up regular, automated video creation (daily, weekly, monthly) based on their brand settings (logo, colors) and chosen video templates (landscape, portrait, square formats)

Integrated multiple AI models to support both advanced image editing capabilities and the generation of content for videos

Implemented a multi-stage review and approval workflow for video elements(text overlays, social media captions/hashtags), ensuring user control and content quality

Engineered the platform to support team accounts and to manage multiple properties per account

Supported recurring and one-time payments securely using Stripe

Managed backend tasks with SolidQueue for background jobs like AI analysis and video rendering submissions

Self-hosted the app on a Hetzner VPS, deployed with docker

Led product discovery and strategy, full-stack development, and iterative feature rollouts, prioritizing rapid delivery and user feedback in a new startup setting

### Autohaven, Liverpool, UK — Creator

Apr 2024 - Mar 2025

Built an online car community network with the ability to follow/unfollow accounts, make posts, get comments and likes and grew it to 700 users and 500 posts

Created 2 automotive AI assistants(General + Audi) that uses AI to answer car-related questions people have using a messaging and a conversation interface

Built an internal newsletter subscription and emailing system and grew it to 500 subscribers and sent over 2k emails

Built an articles feature that saw 43 articles being written with an average of 40 readers

Generated a complex data schema that stored over 100k car-related records from different car data APIs

Used programmatic SEO to generate over 100k web pages that got indexed by Google

## LANGUAGES, TECHNOLOGIES

HTML, CSS,  
TailwindCSS,  
Javascript

Ruby, Ruby on Rails,  
Hotwire, RSpec,  
Minitest

GraphQL,  
GraphQL-Ruby,  
REST

Docker, Docker  
Compose

AWS ECR, ECS, EC2,  
RDS, ElastiCache,  
Route53, LB

GCP, Azure

Vim, Neovim, Tmux

## SKILLS

Team leading

API Development

System Design

CI/CD, DevOps

Git, Github, Gitlab

Agile

Open Source

## AWARDS

Processed about 500k background jobs with SolidQueue

Managed 2 engineering interns, a technical writer and 2 marketers

## **SmartPension, London, UK — Ruby Software Engineer**

May 2022 - Apr 2024

Joined an investments core team responsible for maintaining and developing new features for trading, holdings and valuations

Abstracted our domain code into a gem used internally in many projects, reducing duplication and saving dev time by 30%, while having 99% test coverage

Automated developer and QA workflows using scripts, shortening cycle time by 9%

Optimized processes for member valuations and holdings tracking, ensuring accurate and real-time data for enrolled employees

Integrated APIs to facilitate seamless communication with UK payment processors and trading platforms

Implemented cash holdings that allowed members to easily convert their investments into cash, providing more liquidity

Implemented multiple data operations to correct historical data

Shadowed our Tech Lead - overseeing our domain, leading internal and external code reviews, fixing urgent bugs or assigning them and addressing questions

## **BettyBlocks, Alkmaar, Netherlands — Elixir Engineer**

Oct 2021 - May 2022

Joined BettyBlocks to help maintain the API of the No Code platform

Joined an Elixir backend team building a graphql api that serviced thousands of businesses and handled millions of requests monthly

Contributed to an internal ubuntu framework for running the company's suites of microservices

Implemented a custom api rate limiter to limit too many requests from individual IPs and prevent DDoS attacks

Joined the company's devops guild as my team's representative

## **Zindi, South Africa, Remote — Senior Full Stack Engineer**

June 2021 - May 2022

Added end to end features to both the user-facing platform and the admin platform, using Ruby on Rails and React

Proposed and led the development of a new jobs platform that became a new source of company revenue and employed hundreds of data scientists

Translated design mockups into code using ReactJS and Redux

Added and tested new RESTful API endpoints

Reduced bug turn-around time to a few hours or days, previously it would take numerous days or weeks

Received error metrics from the data science team and integrated them to the platform for our competitions' scoring

Added end to end rescoring logic to rescore our competitions

[StackOverflow](#): 5k reputation, 4.1m people reached, 1.5k votes cast, 100 questions answered, 26 badges

[Github](#): Arctic Code Vault Contributor (Open Source)

Setup deployments to AWS ECS using Docker and Docker Compose

### **OurGivingBoard, US Remote — Team Lead**

Dec 2020 - June 2021 (Contract)

Architected the company's crowdfunding platform using Rails REST API, consumed by a React web app

Setup ci-cd to various AWS services using Docker

The API handled over 2000 signups on launch day and processed over \$30,000 in transaction volume in week 1

Led the engineering team of 3

### **QuirkyCoders, Charlotte, NC, Remote — Backend Engineer**

May 2020 - Feb 2021 (Contract)

Added features to the recruiting and hiring platform using Rails RESTful API, consumed by a React web app

### **SokoPlace, Nairobi Kenya — Lead Engineer**

Jan 2020 - Jan 2021 (Contract)

Architected the company's transport and logistics platform using a Rails GraphQL API, consumed by a Vue web app and an Android app

Setup deployments to AWS ECS using Docker and Docker Compose

Led the engineering team of 5

### **Andela, Nairobi Kenya — Software Engineer**

August 2017 - March 2020 (Full-time)

Worked on an internal product and with two of Andela's clients - Gobble(US) and Boatflex(Denmark)

## **EDUCATION**

### **Kenyatta University, Nairobi Kenya — Biomedical Engineering Degree**

September 2014 - September 2016

Trained as a Biomedical Engineer

## **TESTIMONIALS**

*"I've been working with Kaka for two years! His knowledge, wisdom, and work ethic is phenomenal. Kaka has been dedicated and has gone above and beyond on every project I've hired him for. Thank you for being such a wonderful person and engineer!"*

— Shaquanna Everett, Founder and CEO, OurGivingBoard, US