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Top Skills

Android
Agile Methodologies
Algorithms

Honors-Awards

Impact Engineer of the Year
MHTA Tekne Award
Target Champion of Excellence

Publications

Won't You Be My Neighbor? Making
Friends with Google Nearby.

Richard Banasiak

Sr. Android Developer | Device Security @ 1Password | Kotlin ·
Jetpack Compose · Mobile Security
United States

Summary

I solve problems for a living. I create them for fun.

Twenty-plus years ago I started making technology do things it wasn't supposed to, and I never really stopped. Engineer by trade, tinkerer by compulsion; if something can be taken apart and rebuilt better, I've probably already done it.

My career started in network security at McAfee, then wandered through Android and mobile across retail, finance, healthcare, and IoT: Target, Northwestern Mutual, and a string of high-profile apps along the way. The fun parts were always the ones that shouldn't have worked: AR interfaces, voice control, wearables, beacons, and IoT devices that had no business working as well as they actually did. These days I've come full circle, back to my cybersecurity roots at 1Password, working on device security where AI and cryptography meet.

I build with Kotlin, Jetpack Compose, Rust, and Go, lean on Clean Architecture when it counts, and spend my off-hours seeing how far I can push Generative AI before it gets uncomfortable — the same instinct that pays the bills, just with the safeties off. My childhood idol, MacGyver, would be proud.

I open-source most of my code on GitHub, ship side projects to Google Play, and document the whole chaotic process on my blog. The résumé lives here. The real story lives there... and it gets weird.

Experience

1Password
Senior Android Developer - Device Security
July 2024 - Present (2 years)
United States

Working on native device security for 1Password's Android platform. Using cryptography, AI, and a healthy dose of paranoia to keep secrets safe for the people who own them (and the agents acting on their behalf).

Northwestern Mutual

Lead Android Engineer

August 2018 - June 2024 (5 years 11 months)

United States

Engineering:

- Led the ground-up rebuild of Northwestern Mutual's client-facing Android app, replacing the legacy codebase with a modern implementation built on Kotlin, Coroutines/Flows, and Jetpack components including Dagger/Hilt, ViewModel, and Compose.
- Migrated a tangle of inconsistent legacy patterns to a single, consistent MVVM architecture, separating business logic from the Android framework and making the codebase genuinely unit-testable.
- Maintained and modernized the CI/CD pipeline on GitLab Enterprise.
- Set up a closed alpha program on Google Play to get pre-release builds in front of product, marketing, and senior engineering leadership.
- Added support for targeted experiments and feature flags with Firebase Remote Config.
- Rewrote the app's authentication from scratch around Android's biometrics framework and OAuth2, balancing security with day-to-day convenience.
- Migrated the app's networking from a mobile-specific REST/microservice backend (Retrofit/OkHttp) to a shared GraphQL service layer using Apollo.

Leadership:

- Engineering lead for a team of 12 Android engineers.
- Researched and vetted new mobile technologies, advising on what belonged in the product roadmap.
- Screened and ran first-round interviews for every Android candidate.
- Mentored engineers across all skill levels, owned onboarding, and ran the team's working sessions on Android best practices and standards.

Target

Senior Android Engineer

July 2017 - August 2018 (1 year 2 months)

Senior Android engineer on Target's flagship retail app, working on features for one of the most-used shopping apps in the US.

The Nerdery

Senior Android Nerd

August 2015 - July 2017 (2 years)

Greater Minneapolis-St. Paul Area

Senior Android Engineer focused on building world-class native apps for clients who demand the best.

CoreLogic

Lead Android Engineer

June 2013 - August 2015 (2 years 3 months)

Greater Minneapolis-St. Paul Area

- Lead Android developer for the CoreLogic GoMLS Real Estate platform.
- Coordinated all Android development efforts for the CoreLogic Mobile Innovations Center to ensure software development best practices and adherence to the Android design guidelines.

Imation

Product Development Engineer

May 2011 - April 2013 (2 years)

Oakdale, MN

- Lead Systems Software Engineer for the Imation DataGuard Appliance product line.
- Coordinated development efforts with diverse engineering teams from multinational vendors as well as regularly communicated project status to our sales, marketing and executive teams.
- Responsible for both back-end PHP/Perl engine framework as well as contributions to the HTML/AJAX user interface.
- Designed and implemented C/C++ Linux daemon software for monitoring of RDX cartridge events via low-level SCSI commands.
- Also responsible for PHP implementation of REST APIs for connectivity to Amazon S3, Grand Cloud, Mezeo and OpenStack storage clouds.

McAfee, Inc.

Senior Engineer

January 2005 - May 2011 (6 years 5 months)

- Joined the SmartFilter / Web Reporter team through the company that sponsored my undergraduate capstone project, and stayed through its acquisition by McAfee. Promoted to Senior Engineer over six years building enterprise web and email filtering products, part of McAfee's Content & Cloud Security Division.

- Served as the escalation point for the toughest, highest-profile customer issues, including sensitive Fortune 100 accounts — reproducing, debugging, and resolving escalated issues across the product line.
- Owned fixes end to end: isolated the root cause, then either coded the change myself or coordinated the fix across the development team through to release.
- Handled build management, installer configuration, new-systems prototyping, and x86 virtualization — and ran new-product training for support and sales teams.

Education

University of South Florida
BS, Computer Engineering