

NICO VILJOEN

WordPress Developer · UI/UX Background

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PROFILE

Full-stack developer specializing in WordPress, with deep experience building custom plugins, JetEngine-powered applications, and PHP/MySQL backends. Over a decade building production web system, from custom post type architectures and plugin development to database design, REST API integrations, and authentication systems. UI/UX background means interfaces are functionally sound and usable, reducing handoff friction between design and engineering. Many projects also included designing supporting brand assets like logos, print, signage, and campaign media, delivered alongside the build.

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Backend: PHP · WordPress (Custom Theme & Plugin Development, ACF, REST API, JetEngine) · MySQL/MariaDB · PostgreSQL · RESTful API Design · Authentication & Role-Based Access Systems · Laravel · Apache/Nginx · Docker

Frontend: JavaScript · HTML5 · CSS3 (Sass, Tailwind/Bootstrap) · GSAP · AJAX/Fetch APIs · Three.js/WebGL · Progressive Web Apps (PWA)

Tooling & Workflow: Git/GitHub · Docker · Claude Code · VS Code

Design (secondary): Figma · Adobe Suite · UX/UI Design

WORK EXPERIENCE

Senior Designer, Project Manager & Developer

2021 – Present

Architect and build production WordPress applications for enterprise clients, spanning custom theme/plugin development, REST API integrations, and role-based authentication systems.

- **KAP** — Built a private marketing-asset distribution platform with custom authentication and role-based permissions for internal teams and retailers. Stack: PHP, MySQL, WordPress REST API.
- **DesleeMattex / Lumax Energy** — Delivered custom WordPress architectures with advanced content management for product and marketing teams. Stack: PHP, ACF, responsive design.
- **Restonic Namibia** — Built a multi-site, localized, SEO-optimized deployment of a parent-brand site for a regional market. Stack: WordPress multi-site, localization, SEO.
- **Bed Finder** — Built an interactive, data-driven product-matching tool with animated UI. Stack: JavaScript, AJAX, GSAP, PHP, MySQL.
- **Health & Wellness Platform** — Built a multi-company training and health-score application supporting company and employee registration, with separate custom dashboards for employees, companies, and site admin. Stack: PHP, MySQL, WordPress.
- **Restonic 3D Model Viewer (in progress)** — Building an interactive product viewer where users explore 3D model products linked to retailer listings. Stack: Three.js, JavaScript.
- **Lumax Wiki** — Customized a LearnDash deployment with a custom quiz/survey widget and admin dashboard for tracking employee participation and scores. Stack: PHP, LearnDash, WordPress.

Freelance Designer & Developer

2015 – 2021

- Built responsive websites and custom WordPress/PHP solutions for growing brands, handling full project lifecycle from database/backend architecture through frontend delivery.
- Delivered complete design-to-development solutions, from visual identity and print materials to deployed web applications.

Business Owner & Contractor

2009 – 2016

- Contracted to telecommunications companies providing onsite technical documentation services.

PLUGINS & COMPONENTS

- **JetChat** — Custom real-time chat plugin for a JetEngine-based marketplace application. Three-panel inbox UI, JS polling, wp_mail() notification triggers, and custom post type relationships.
- **Global Reviews** — Custom plugin that captures reviews and ratings on a custom post type and calculates a combined global rating based on total reviews received based on post relationships.
- **DocuSecure** — Custom PHP program that serves documents stored above the web root via uniquely generated QR codes, enforcing a one-time-view access condition.

EDUCATION & CERTIFICATION

IxDF UX Design Certificate — Interaction Design Foundation, in progress

Web Design Certificate — Max Web Design School, 2015

References available on request.