Philip Machar

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github.com/philip-machar | Portfolio

Skills

Languages: Go, JavaScript
Backend: Go, Node.js, REST APIs, gRPC, Microservices, RabbitMQ
Frontend: React.js, Tailwind CSS
Cloud & DevOps: AWS, Docker, Nginx, CI/CD
Databases: PostgreSQL, MongoDB

Work Experience

Songa Business   Nairobi, Kenya
Software Engineer   Mar 2024 – Jan 2025
- Improved API response consistency across 10+ frontend components by designing and implementing RESTful endpoints handling authentication, CRUD, and business logic validation in Go.
- Reduced frontend-backend integration bugs by 30% by refactoring backend routes to eliminate duplication and improve service modularity, cutting review cycle time.
- Accelerated feature delivery by collaborating with cross-functional teams to optimize request handling and streamline application workflows across the full stack.

AbiliLife Kenya   Nairobi, Kenya
Software Engineer   Feb 2025 – Aug 2025
- Shipped 5+ production-ready full-stack features using React and Node.js, directly supporting core product workflows in a fast-paced agile environment.
- Reduced recurring production incidents by debugging and resolving cross-stack failures, tracing root causes from UI state management to backend validation logic.
- Improved codebase maintainability by refactoring backend routes to eliminate duplication and enforce consistent API patterns, reducing onboarding time for new engineers.

CrackMode   Nairobi, Kenya
Co-Founder & Technical Lead   Oct 2025 – Present
- Grew a developer community from 0 to 600+ members in under 6 months by building a competitive LeetCode platform with a real-time leaderboard and documented problem repository.
- Improved member interview pass rates by leading nightly algorithm sessions covering data structures, complexity analysis, and interview-style problem solving.
- Mentored 50+ aspiring engineers on technical interview preparation and problem-solving strategies, strengthening foundational CS skills across the community.

Projects

Clario – Task Management System   github.com/philip-machar/clario
Go, React, PostgreSQL, AWS, Docker, Nginx, TailwindCSS
- Built a full-stack task management system with JWT-based authentication, PostgreSQL data modeling, and AI-integrated workflows, deployed end-to-end on AWS with Docker and Nginx.
- Engineered a secure and scalable backend API in Go serving frontend React clients, with role-based access control and real-time task state management.

Hermes – Distributed Job Queue   github.com/philip-machar/jobqueue
Go, RabbitMQ, gRPC, Docker, AWS, React
- Designed and deployed a distributed job queue system supporting automatic retries, worker health tracking, and dead-letter queue handling, ensuring zero message loss under failure conditions.
- Implemented gRPC-based inter-service communication and containerized the full system with Docker and AWS for horizontal scalability.

Education

Zetech University   Nairobi, Kenya
B.Sc. in Software Engineering   May 2024 - Sept 2027

- Relevant coursework: Data Structures & Algorithms, Operating Systems, Computer Networks, Databases.
- Won multiple hackathons; co-founded CrackMode, a 600+ member DSA community, demonstrating initiative beyond coursework.