

Christopher Blake

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Personal Statement

I am a highly motivated creative individual with excellent IT skills, willing to learn and able to adapt my creative processes and work ethic to those around me. I have a broad range of skills in the design spectrum, specializing as a creative designer for new-media and print. I am able to initiate projects from ideas conception through to final product, including art direction and resource management. I also possess skills in copywriting, video, photography and moving image. I have had vast customer service and promotional experience alongside knowledge of professional working methods, client liaisons (with high-level blue-chip companies and street-level clients), project management, consultancy and collaborative practice.

I find all aspects of design appealing, especially innovative means of presenting information and in a web-context, site navigation / look and feel.

Overall, I am flexible, resourceful, and hardworking and rise to a challenge.

Experience

Graphic Designer and Web Developer: 3 Point Design / New Wave Media (2007)

Freelance design.

- Hand code HTML, CSS (standards compliant), Flash and implementing JavaScript and PHP.
- Image manipulation, vector illustration, design for web and print.
- Time management, pricing and invoices, client liaisons, resource management, administration.

Graphic Designer: TDP Marketing (2006).

Worked in a fast paced marketing and design agency. Producing work from idea conception to completion.

- Successfully designed for successful small businesses over a wide range of media.
- Highly professional methods of marketing and presenting proposals and designs.
- Received excellent feedback from clients and made lots of friends.

Advertising Production Manager: ABC&D Magazine (2005).

Responsible for the production and editorial of three sections of a monthly magazine.

- Designed and placed advertisements throughout the magazine and classified sections.
- Worked with clients and printers to achieve the best quality for print.
- Edited press releases for the showcase section and improved on the magazine's template.
- Chasing copy and customer service.

Marketing Manager: Contract through Adecco (2004).

For this presentations specialist, provided creative solutions using print media.

- Initiated cost-effective marketing campaigns. Collaborated with staff on budget estimates and client strategies.
- Projects included brochure design for the education sector, web template design, designs for fax.
- Effective rapport with clients, colleagues and printers.

Graphic Designer: University of Plymouth / Royal National Hospital, Bath (2004).

As part of BA (Hons) and follow up to a grant awarded to me by SciArt, to produce a cutting edge documentary on a sensitive issue.

- Collaborated with medical professionals, amputees, and therapists in order to successfully create a 30-minute documentary exploring the phenomena of 'Phantom Pain'.
- Designed effective narrative and storyboards, produced animations, filmed and edited until its successful completion.
- Awarded the highest mark in all the Graphic Design departments at Plymouth University for this module and the previous giving a 1st class average.
- Subject Leader, Graphic Design has written, 'a very bright student with a keen sense of design, high levels in IT skills and with an intelligence to match.'

Education

- **BA (Hons): Graphic Communication with Typography.** University of Plymouth (2004). Awarded highest marks for 50% of final year modules in all of graphic design departments.
- **BTEC: Art & Design, Marketing, English Speaking.** Worcester Tech, Barbourne (2000). Awarded 2 merits and a distinction.
- **A-Levels: Physical education, Art & Design.** Worcester Sixth Form College (1999).
- **GCSE:** A* - Art & Design, A - English Lit, B - Maths, C - 8 other subjects. The King's School Worcester (1997).

Cad Skills

Photoshop, Illustrator, Dreamweaver, Flash, In design, Acrobat, Bridge, Fireworks, Premiere, Final Cut, Swish, Quark, Linotype Font Manger, Quark Express, Coda, Rapidweaver, MS Office. I utilize the most up-to-date software that is available, on any operating system. My preference is Apple Mac OSX

Other Skills

- Full Driving License.
- Awarded Player of the Year by DRFC, North Midlands Cup winner in Basketball and Rugby.
- 'Artist of the Month' at local library.
- New Horizon's award for Acrobat 6.0

Professional References

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