

James Parker

jparker.dev · james@jparker.dev · 770-235-8096 · linkedin.com/in/james-parker-5950ab4 · Atlanta, GA

SUMMARY

Engineering leader with 15+ years of experience and 6+ years leading engineering teams. Currently Director of Engineering at Versapay, directing six fully remote teams (~15 engineers) building multi-tenant SaaS for accounts receivable automation. Strong IC foundation in Ruby/Rails, Elixir, distributed systems, and cloud infrastructure — and still hands-on. Passionate about lean, high-performing teams and scalable, well-crafted systems.

EXPERIENCE

Director of Engineering — Versapay *Jul 2022 – Present*

Lead six fully remote engineering teams (~15 engineers) building Cash Application, a multi-tenant SaaS platform automating accounts receivable. Report to VP of Engineering.

- Scaled user base 4× and grew MRR 75% through platform improvements and go-to-market execution
- Oversaw white-label integrations with several top-30 US banks, coordinating cross-company delivery
- Improved average sprint velocity 33% through process and tooling improvements
- Maintained strong IC presence: daily PR reviews, direct code contributions (Ruby/Rails), DB and async job optimization (Postgres, Resque, Redis)
- Early adopter of fully agentic AI development — ships agent-written features, fixes, and improvements to production using tools like GitHub Copilot; advocates for and coaches the team on agentic workflows
- Ensured adherence to security and compliance best practices across a regulated fintech SaaS platform
- Owned architecture and tooling decisions, CI/CD pipeline, deployment process, monitoring, and alerting (Datadog)
- Managed production incidents end-to-end, including public-facing RCA statements
- Cultivated a culture of curiosity through tech talks, code challenges, and retrospectives; maintained very low engineer attrition

Tech: Ruby/Rails, PostgreSQL, Redis, Resque, AWS, Datadog, Docker

Development Manager — HODINKEE *Jan 2021 – Jul 2022*

Reported to CTO. Managed two product teams and DevOps for the leading watch editorial and marketplace platform (post-merger with Crown & Caliber).

- Hired, mentored, and grew engineers across multiple teams and time zones
- Set architectural standards and maintained code quality across the engineering org
- Built Python ETL pipelines to support business analytics on large datasets

Lead Developer — Crown & Caliber *Apr 2019 – Jan 2021*

Served as technical owner and engineering lead for the top pre-owned luxury watch marketplace.

- Owned all architecture, tooling, and technical direction decisions
- Built a data connector framework powering the company's data warehouse
- Hired, trained, and developed engineers; ran agile ceremonies and cross-team communication

Tech: Ruby/Rails, Elixir/Phoenix, PostgreSQL, Elasticsearch, AWS EKS, Kubernetes, Docker, CircleCI

Senior Software Developer — RentPath *Feb 2018 – Apr 2019*

Built high-performance shared backend services in Elixir/OTP for a multi-brand rental property platform (ApartmentGuide.com, Rent.com). Time-to-first-byte was a primary KPI.

Tech: Elixir/OTP, Phoenix, Ruby/Rails, RabbitMQ, Redis, Elasticsearch, MySQL, Docker, Azure

Senior Software Developer (Tech Lead) — Manheim *Apr 2015 – Feb 2018*

Two teams: Inventory Foundation Services (event-driven microservices, RESTful API serving physical/virtual auction data nationwide) and Online Vehicle Exchange (one of the largest Rails apps in the world, white-label for Ford, Hyundai, Tesla). Served as Tech Lead on both.

Tech: Ruby/Rails, Elixir/Phoenix, MySQL (Aurora), Redis, Resque, ActiveMQ, AWS, Docker, Kubernetes

Software Developer — ACI Worldwide *May 2009 – Apr 2015*

Enterprise financial software: payment processing between institutions and retailers, and white-label internet banking products for community banks. ISO 8583, Java, Ruby/Rails.

SKILLS

Languages: Ruby, Elixir, JavaScript, Python, Java

Frameworks: Rails, Phoenix, Vue.js, Sinatra

Data & Infra: PostgreSQL, MySQL, Redis, Elasticsearch, Resque, Sidekiq, RabbitMQ, ActiveMQ

Cloud & Ops: AWS, Docker, Kubernetes, CircleCI, Datadog, Splunk, Loggly, Ansible

Practices: TDD, CI/CD, microservices, event-driven architecture, distributed systems, agile

EDUCATION

Georgia Institute of Technology *2009*

B.S. Computer Science