

# Gift Banda - Software Developer

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## PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Software Developer with 5+ years of experience building cloud-native, full-stack systems in enterprise environments using microservices architecture. Experienced across frontend, backend, and infrastructure, delivering scalable applications used by thousands of users. Strong in system design, CI/CD automation, and cloud platforms, with a proven track record of leading migrations from on-premises systems to AWS, improving performance, scalability, and cost efficiency. Takes ownership of end-to-end delivery, contributes to architectural decisions, and assists teammates while staying hands-on in development.

### Major Highlights:

- Built, launched, and maintain 2 enterprise-grade web applications end-to-end, including Diners Club Online, a secure corporate card management portal serving thousands of users across 7 distinct roles.
- Led a successful cloud migration of 7 on-premises applications to AWS at Diners Club, Standard Bank Group, improving system scalability and meaningfully reducing infrastructure costs.
- Co-developed Novelty, a web platform enabling entrepreneurs to evaluate business ideas, access ABSA funding insights, and build business websites.

## SKILLS

- **Frontend:** Angular, JavaScript, TypeScript, HTML5, CSS3, Bootstrap, SASS/SCSS, Jasmine.
- **Backend & Database:** Java (Spring Boot), Node.js, Golang, Express.js, Gin, Redis, RabbitMQ, Kafka, MySQL, PostgreSQL, MongoDB, Microservices Architecture.
- **Cloud & DevOps:** Docker, GitLab CI/CD, OpenShift, Terraform, Jenkins, AWS (ECS, ECR, ELB, S3, IAM, VPC, ACM, CodePipeline, CloudWatch, Route 53).
- **Tools & Technologies:** Git, GitHub, GitLab, Nginx, REST APIs, Swagger, Postman, Jira, Confluence.

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

### Software Developer

Standard Bank Group | Johannesburg

Feb 2021 - Present

- Led migration of 7 on-premises applications to AWS, re-architecting services as containerized cloud-native deployments, improving scalability, and meaningfully reducing infrastructure costs.
- Built, launched, and maintain Diners Club Online, a secure corporate card management portal for 7 user roles with JWT auth, role-based access control, email and SMS notifications, statement downloads, and reporting, using Angular, Golang, and Java (Spring Boot) on AWS with 99.9% uptime.
- Designed and implemented CI/CD pipelines using GitLab CI/CD, significantly reducing deployment time.
- Remediated penetration test findings and strengthened security across multiple services.
- Proactively monitored and resolved production incidents, maintaining high availability for thousands of users.
- Led internal engineering knowledge-sharing sessions to improve engineering practices and adoption of new technologies.

## Software Developer

**Shaper (The Digital Academy) | Johannesburg**

**Dec 2019 - May 2020**

- Co-developed “Novelty”, a web application enabling entrepreneurs to assess business ideas, access ABSA funding insights, and build websites.
- Designed and developed a Single Page Application (SPA) using Angular, Node.js, Express, and MySQL, including RESTful APIs and optimized relational schema.
- Crafted responsive UI components leveraging Angular, Material Design, and MD Bootstrap.
- Integrated Google OAuth, a domain availability checker, and multiple third-party APIs for a richer user experience.
- Containerized the application with Docker to streamline development and deployment workflows.

## EDUCATION

**Postgraduate Diploma: Computer Science**

**Tshwane University of Technology | Pretoria**

**Expected Dec 2026**

- Focus areas include data science & big data analytics, artificial intelligence, software engineering, cloud computing, new technological trends, and advanced research methodology.

**Advanced Diploma: Computer Science**

**Tshwane University of Technology | Pretoria**

**2022 - 2024**

- Covered advanced algorithms, software engineering, system analysis, software architecture, software quality assurance, and professional practice.

**National Diploma: I.T (Software Development)**

**Tshwane University of Technology | Pretoria**

**2017 - 2019**

- Covered software development, programming, databases, system analysis & design, networking principles, and project management.

## CERTIFICATIONS

- AWS Certified DevOps Engineer – Professional (In Progress)
- AWS Certified Developer – Associate
- AWS Certified Cloud Practitioner
- Microsoft Certified Azure Administrator – Associate
- Microsoft Certified Azure Fundamentals
- Salesforce Certified Platform App Builder
- National Certificate: Banking (SAQA Accredited NQF Level 5)

## REFERENCES

- Available on request