

# AARON SIKES

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I've been coding professionally since 2010. I enjoy building quality, reliable software that makes people's lives better. I'm a strong engineer, but believe that for most projects team dynamic and a focus on maintainability is more important than individual skill. I hope to work closely with people, somewhere that values building deep and thorough understanding. I try always to be open, honest, and kind. I like puzzles and friendship.

## Technologies

I'm comfortable picking up any tech stack, but I have a lot of deep experience with: HTML, CSS, JavaScript, Ember.js, Node.js, Go, Ruby/Rails, SQL/Postgres, Linux, and AWS.

## History

**Democracy Works (voting tech) [NYC / remote] 2020**

Worked on TurboVote (a web app written in Clojure), spent time mentoring junior engineers, and joined efforts to improve organizational culture.

**Recurse Center (programmer's retreat) [NYC] 2019**

For 3 months I focused on learning about CRDTs and on building a real-time, offline-first, collaborative wiki engine: <https://demo.aaron.wiki>.

**CTO, Make Love Not Porn [NYC] 2018 / 2019**

As CTO (read: entire tech department), I ran technical operations, fixed bugs, replaced our payment processor, improved admin workflows, and added user-facing features, both by modifying the legacy Rails app and incrementally rebuilding critical parts of the stack using Ember.js and Go. There was no handover from previous devs, so this involved a lot of careful archaeology to figure out how to modify the system without breaking it.

**Cardstack (web & web3 framework) [NYC / remote] 2017**

Built [a new logger](#) to be used across the Cardstack framework, and prototyped a Docker-based plugin system.

**Cota (healthcare analytics) [NYC] 2016 / 2017**

Led implementation of the front-end for a new internal web app, with data-driven forms and complex validation. I focused on mentoring junior developers and collaboration with our product & design teams.

**DockYard (digital & design consultancy) 2015 / 2016**

Worked on many projects, both green-field and long-running. Ran one project solo, and was requested specifically by the client for a follow-up project. Spearheaded two successful data model refactors on long-running projects.

**HedgeServ (financial services) 2012 - 2014**

My first web job. Learned node.js, backbone.js, ember.js, d3 visualization, Redis, MongoDB, and Linux server administration. I got to work closely with design, and loved it.

**Wells Research & Development (optics engineering) Summers of 2010, 11, 12**

My first "real" software job - building interface & control software for optics testing equipment, with VB.NET. Involved several solo trips to factories to install equipment and train operators on software use.

## Education

**Worcester Polytechnic Institute, Computer Science (partial degree) 2009 - 2012**

**Self-learning A lifetime**