

Peter Ward

Self-taught systems builder and developer
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PROFILE

Self-taught systems builder and developer with hands-on experience across self-hosted infrastructure, Python automation and web application development, with particular strength in connecting separate platforms and services through API integration. Works from first principles: builds the thing that works, then makes it look right. Combines technical delivery with commercial instinct for margins and pricing, and a strong design eye grounded in typography and lettering. Seeking remote technical, development or content roles.

TECHNICAL PROJECTS

Self-Hosted Network Infrastructure — 2026, ongoing

Designed and deployed a two-node private network from scratch. Gateway node running WireGuard VPN with an iptables kill-switch, Tor transparent proxy and NAT routing; server node under LUKS full-disk encryption with Dropbear initramfs SSH unlock and zero public exposure, all egress routed through the gateway. Built an asynchronous Python service on top (aiogram, SQLAlchemy async ORM, PostgreSQL 16 and Redis 7 in Docker, managed under systemd), including a separate alerting service subscribing to Redis pub/sub.

Kind Organisation — AI-Assisted Consultation & Quoting Platform — 2026, in development

Full-stack web application for a home-organising consultancy, built on Next.js and Node.js and deployed to Vercel as serverless functions. Integrates the Claude API to generate tailored organising recommendations from a client consultation form, pulls live product data from a Google Sheets backend via service-account authentication, and produces itemised client quotes. Built a caching service layer, a CSV import pipeline with schema validation and fuzzy column matching, and a product catalogue of 44 SKUs mapped across suppliers, materials and dimensions. Architected with separated UI, API and data layers.

Scalewise — Pricing & Margin Desktop Widget — 2026

Native KDE Plasma 6 widget (QML, Qt 6.8) that converts a wholesale unit cost into a complete resale price list across every sale size, and re-prices the full range when supplier costs change. Implements a tolerant unit parser handling mixed fractions and multiple measurement systems with validation and rollback on unparseable input, bidirectional price/margin calculation, and two pricing modes — fixed-price and target-margin — with lossless conversion between them and configurable rounding that reports realised rather than requested margin. Packaged as a distributable plasmoid with a unit test suite and versioned build pipeline.

SharedOS — Shared Cloud Development Environment — 2026

Provisioned a Hetzner VPS as a shared remote workstation for two collaborators, providing persistent Linux and Windows desktop sessions accessible from any machine. Configured remote desktop access, user isolation and shared project storage so two people could work against the same environment and toolchain without maintaining separate local setups.

Budget Gauge — KDE Plasma 6 Desktop Widget — 2026

Native desktop widget for the KDE Plasma 6 environment, modelling UK payday and BACS credit dates to forecast available budget. Handles multiple UK payment cycles including monthly, weekly and four-weekly schedules, with date-boundary logic for payment-day edge cases.

Linux System Management Toolkit — 2025-2026

Structured script repository for managing a Debian 13 workstation — staged, reversible system changes rather than ad-hoc configuration.

SKILLS

APIs & Integration — REST API design and consumption, third-party API integration (Claude API, Google Workspace service accounts, Telegram Bot API), FastAPI, webhook and endpoint design, connecting disparate platforms and data sources into unified systems

Infrastructure & Systems — Linux (Debian) administration, WireGuard VPN, iptables/nftables, Tor routing, LUKS full-disk encryption, SSH tunnelling and multi-hop access, Docker, systemd, QEMU/KVM virtualisation, VPS deployment

Development — Python (async, aiogram, SQLAlchemy), Node.js, Next.js, React, PostgreSQL, Redis, Git, QML

AI-Assisted Development — Claude Code (intermediate), MCP server integration, scoped session workflow for structured project delivery

Design & Creative — Typography and lettering (blackletter, copperplate), Adobe Photoshop, Adobe Illustrator, Procreate, graphic design

Commercial — Margin and pricing analysis, sourcing and resale, stock management, sales reconciliation across multiple channels

Office & Data — Microsoft Excel, Microsoft Word, touch typing, order entry, data accuracy

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

Assistant Manager — Betfred, Alton — November 2022 - Present

Rapid mental arithmetic calculating odds, stakes and returns under high-volume pressure. Cash handling and reconciliation, hourly till and safe checks, banking. Regulatory compliance under Gambling Commission requirements including vulnerable customer identification, Think 21 and proceeds of crime obligations. Training and supervision of cashiers; opening and closing responsibility.

Customer Service Representative — Farm and Garden Supplies, Alton — 2023

Order processing and fulfilment accuracy across multiple sales channels. Independently identified that sales data from four separate platforms was being reconciled manually, and specified an API-integrated dashboard to consolidate it — submitted as a written process improvement proposal.

Carpenter's Mate — Joe Mork, West London — 2021 - 2022

Oak flooring, skirting and soundproof underlay installation. Precision measurement and power tool operation.

Earlier roles

Warehouse and goods-in operations (John Crane, Grondon), precision lapping and polishing operative (John Crane, including SAP order confirmation), groundworks and general labouring, hospitality. Full details available on request.

CERTIFICATIONS

- Cisco IT Essentials — 2019
- Microsoft Office Specialist: Excel — 2019
- Microsoft Office Specialist: Word (Master) — 2019
- CSCS Operative Card — 2021-2026

EDUCATION

- Hospitality & Catering, Level 2 Diploma — Milton Keynes College, 2017
- Maths & English, NVQ — Milton Keynes College, 2016-2017
- IT (Microsoft Office), Level 2 NVQ — Milton Keynes College, 2016
- Painting & Decorating, City & Guilds NVQ Level 1 — 2016
- Diploma in Digital Arts (DiDA) — Elthorne Park High School, 2010
- GCSE English (C), GCSE Maths (C)