# Erin Dees

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## Profile

Software "utility player" experienced in systems programming, dynamic languages, technical writing, automated testing, and hardware interfaces. Proven technical leader and mentor.

## Skills

Systems programming (C, C++, TypeScript, some Elixir / Rust / Java / C#); dynamic languages (Ruby, Javascript, some Python / Lua); technical writing; web applications (Rails, React, SCSS, Sinatra, Node, Express).

## Engineering and Leadership

**ENGINEERING MANAGER / SENIOR PRINCIPAL ENGINEER, BRIZA; TORONTO, ON – 2020-PRESENT**

Built a successful engineering team from two to six contributors. Served as technical lead and then team manager. Built the Briza API from a solid MVP to a production-ready service that helps small businesses get insurance.

Responsible for three complex problem domains: new insurance carrier integrations, API feature development, and technical writing. Onboarded and mentored engineers and helped them grow their careers. Worked across teams to reduce friction and improve processes.

Designed and built critical customer-facing aspects such as authentication and webhooks. Wrote and taught the company's incident response and on-call processes. Scaled the API for production release and met our partner SLAs with zero capacity-related incidents.

**PRINCIPAL SOFTWARE ENGINEER, STITCH FIX; SAN FRANCISCO, CA – 2019-2020**

Led the cross-functional effort to build a shopping bag feature, which took in millions of dollars of orders in its first few weeks and continues to improve clients' experiences. Team lead and developer for the Fix Inspiration Board, a page that helps clients share favourite outfits with their stylists. Mentored colleagues in software development, project leadership, incident response, and writing skills to level up our high-performing team.

**LEAD SOFTWARE ENGINEER, NEW RELIC; PORTLAND, OR – 2018-2019**

Helped design and build the Ruby instrumentation for our banner Distributed Tracing feature, which lets customers see complex service calls in seconds that would once have taken hours. Recognized by senior leadership for building and sustaining a culture of

mentorship, and for being someone engineers sought out for guidance. Frequently called upon to gain consensus among teams for large projects.

**SENIOR SOFTWARE ENGINEER, NEW RELIC; PORTLAND, OR – 2015-2018**

Technical Product Manager (TPM) and individual contributor for the team in charge of our highest-traffic, highest-revenue web service. Led the team through a months-long containerization project, enabling our service to run in a second data centre for disaster recovery and access to more markets.

**SENIOR SOFTWARE ENGINEER, TEKTRONIX; BEAVERTON, OR – 2004-2015**

Team lead and contributor on a six-person team developing waveform analysis software in C++11 for the 5 Series oscilloscope. Met our 1.5-year time estimate, with the product increasing Tek's market share and being widely praised for its usability. Brought code review, static analysis, distributed revision control, and continuous integration to our organization. Helped build the world's first mixed-domain oscilloscope and an innovative field-portable RF mapping device, resulting in tens of millions of dollars of sales.

**SOFTWARE ENGINEER, ANRITSU; RICHARDSON, TX – 1999-2004**

Principal developer of cell phone testing software implemented in LabVIEW and Lua. Wrote desktop software to perform fast, accurate distortion measurements using a vector network analyzer. Wrote LabVIEW, C++, and Tcl code to automate tests.

**SOFTWARE ENGINEER, TEXAS ELECTRONIC RESOURCES; HOUSTON, TX – 1996-1999**

Created a C++ desktop oilfield monitoring application. Built user interfaces for embedded processors using C. Maintained embedded automation software in C and assembly language.

## Communication and Teaching

**AUTHOR, PRAGMATIC PROGRAMMERS; DALLAS, TX – 2007-2017**

Co-author of *Effective Testing With RSpec 3*, *Seven More Languages in Seven Weeks*, *Cucumber Recipes*, and *Using JRuby*. Sole author of *Scripted GUI Testing With Ruby*. These books provide practical tips to help coders learn new skills and have sold tens of thousands of copies.

**ATHLETIC COACH, PRIVATE; PORTLAND, OR — 2016-2019**

Coached adult race walkers for multiple seasons of Portland to Coast, a gruelling 12-person / 100-mile relay. Focus is on strength, flexibility, endurance, teamwork, and personal achievement. The team have improved their time each year and consistently won division prizes.

**PUBLIC SPEAKER; VARIOUS LOCATIONS — 2003-PRESENT**

Have spoken at dozens of technical conferences and in-company events, to audiences ranging from 20–100 people. Topics have included specific languages and frameworks, documentation and learning practices, and inclusivity.

## Education

Rice University, Houston, TX — B.S., Electrical Engineering; B.A., German, 1996