James McDonald

Junior Software Developer

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🧠 CORE SKILLS

- Java
- Spring Boot
- SQL
- JUnit
- REST API
- Test-Driven Development (TDD)
- React
- Typescript
- Javascript
- Tailwind CSS
- Git / Version Control

🏅 AWARDS

National Classical Guitar Competitions
First prize in the 2017 and 2018 Feis Ceoil classical guitar competitions, and the 2017 Bridget Doolan Award for outstanding performance at WIT.

🪪 PROFILE

Junior Backend / Full-Stack Developer with Java, Spring Boot, and React experience. Skilled in REST APIs, PostgreSQL, JUnit, and TDD. Seeking a role to build scalable applications and grow within a collaborative, product-focused engineering team.

📂 PROJECTS

Full-Stack Simple Banking System ⊡
07/2025 – 09/2025
- Built a full-stack banking app with Spring Boot (REST API) and React/TypeScript.
- Implemented account creation, authentication, transfers, and validation with error handling.
- Generated realistic card numbers using the Luhn algorithm with unique identifiers and auto-generated PINs.
- Built reusable UI components and integrated real-time toast notifications for user feedback.
- Applied Test-Driven Development: JUnit 5 + Mockito for backend services, and integration tests with MockMvc.
- Deployed via Render and Netlify; handled CORS and client-side routing.
- Used controller-service-repository pattern with centralised exception handling and structured errors.

🎓 EDUCATION

Higher Diploma in Science - First Class Honours - Software Development
Atlantic Technological University, Galway, Ireland
01/2023 – 01/2025 | Galway, Ireland

Bachelor of Arts (Hons) - First Class Honours - Music
Waterford Institute of Technology, Waterford, Ireland
09/2013 – 05/2017 | Waterford, Ireland

💼 WORK EXPERIENCE

Founder & Music Instructor
Marble Music Academy
01/2018 – 06/2025 | Kilkenny, Ireland
Founded a private music academy, independently managing all aspects of teaching and business operations.

🎸 INTERESTS

Classical guitar, piano performance, music composition, reading (fiction & tech), concerts, socialising with friends, and a growing interest in mathematics.