David Hopper

PRODUCT DESIGN LEAD | CRAFT, PSYCHOLOGY, SYSTEMS

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ABOUT

Over 15 years across UX design, psychology, education, music, and the visual arts has shaped my approach to understanding human behavior, navigating ambiguity, and transforming complex systems into intuitive and engaging product experiences.

SKILLS

- Lead UX/WCAG Compliance
- End-to-End Product Ownership
- Mobile & Cross-Platform Design
- Interaction & Visual Design
- User Research & Product Discovery
- Prototyping & Design Systems
- Product & Engineering Collaboration
- Applied Psychology & Behavioral Design
- Aligning Teams with Leadership
- Information Architecture
- Assessment & Evaluation
- AI-enablement & Human-AI Interaction
- Team Leadership & Development
- Presenting & Storytelling
- Stakeholder & User Engagement

TOOLS

- Figma
- Adobe CC
- Jira
- Miro
- Canva, Google Slides
- Codex (GPT), Gemini
- Pencil & Paper

EDUCATION

Certificate, UX/UI Design | UC Berkeley

BA, Psychology | University of Louisville

WORK EXPERIENCE

Land Gorilla Nov 2022 - Aug 2025

UX Design Manager > Lead Product Designer

Scaling Product Design & AI Across an Enterprise Fintech Product Ecosystem

Joined a growing enterprise fintech company to lead end-to-end product design across a complex ecosystem of web and mobile platforms. Owned initiatives from research and product strategy through interaction design, high-fidelity UI, development, and launch while transforming product operations to increase delivery capacity and quality. Promoted twice in under three years while leading cross-functional initiatives and complex product delivery.

Freelance Aug 2021 - Current

Lead Product/UX Designer & Consultant

Advising Early to Midstage Startups & Founders & Designing Products from Early Strategy Through Launch

Partnering with founders, startups, nonprofits, and growing organizations across engagements ranging from early-stage product consultation to end-to-end UX and product design. Recent work includes advising founders building AI-forward products, assessing early concepts and experiences, identifying product and UX opportunities, and providing strategic recommendations for development.

Selected Engagements

Expert Product Management Group — Led research, localization, UX/UI, and product strategy for an international enterprise SaaS application preparing for North American launch.

Ever Forward Club — Led UX and digital engagement initiatives for an education nonprofit, redesigning digital experiences and supporting organizational growth and $100K+ in funding.

Mai IT Supply — Led UX, product strategy, branding, and launch initiatives for a growing B2B technology company.

Rhythm Fire /Nusku Arts / Fusion Education Aug 2007 - Mar 2020

Program Lead/Service & Curriculum Design/Instruction

Designing Learning Experiences in Music, Visual Arts, Education, and Wellness

Long before entering technology, I spent nearly a decade engineering engaging learning environments, designing educational experiences, and leading educational teams. Rooted in psychology, creativity, and human behavior. This work laid the foundation for my approach to product design, research, facilitation, and leadership today.

CRITICAL IMPACT

◿ Built scalable product frameworks and operational processes that increased delivery capacity by +200%, driving record output of products and enhancements.

🏆Led and shipped major web and mobile platform overhauls that earned Capterra recognition for “Best Ease of Use” and “Best Features & Functionality.”