

SHANDY WARD

SENIOR WEB DEVELOPER WordPress · Frontend · Accessibility · Performance

Austin, Texas | shandy@shandyward.com | shandyward.com | LinkedIn | GitHub

PROFILE

Senior Web Developer with 17+ years of experience building, modernizing, and supporting accessible, high-performance websites and applications, with deep expertise in WordPress architecture. Experienced across PHP, JavaScript, modern frontend frameworks, custom themes and plugins, ACF/Gutenberg systems, headless builds, performance optimization, analytics, content migration, and translating UX/UI into reusable production code.

CORE EXPERTISE

WordPress: Custom themes/plugins, Gutenberg, ACF, Multisite, FSE, Flynt, Timber/Twig, Elementor, WPBakery

Backend & APIs: PHP, REST APIs, WP-CLI, MySQL, AJAX, custom endpoints, integrations

Performance & Growth: Core Web Vitals, caching, image optimization, technical SEO, schema, Google Analytics, GTM, Semrush, Hotjar

Frontend: HTML5, CSS3/SCSS, JavaScript ES6+, TypeScript, React, Next.js, Svelte/SvelteKit, Vue, Tailwind, GSAP/ScrollTrigger

Accessibility & UX: WCAG AA, ARIA, responsive/mobile-first design, design systems, Figma/Sketch translation

Delivery & Tools: Git/GitHub, Composer, NPM, Vite, Webpack, Cloudflare, CI/CD, WP Engine, Pantheon, Vercel, ChatGPT, OpenAI Codex

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Senior WordPress Developer | Soni Resources Group | Short-Term Contract | Feb. 2026 - Apr. 2026

- Led architecture and development of a corporate WordPress platform supporting the primary brand site and 60+ franchise microsites using WordPress Multisite and Full Site Editing (FSE).
- Designed a scalable Gutenberg block system with ACF and engineered shared MU-plugins, reusable blocks, and multisite-aware theme architecture for consistent, maintainable deployment.
- Established editorial governance and owned platform performance, WCAG accessibility, design-token implementation, UX, and scalable asset delivery.

WordPress Developer | Apex Fintech Solutions | Remote | 2024 - Feb. 2026

- Led build and maintenance of a modern WordPress marketing platform with custom themes and reusable ACF flexible-content components.
- Developed headless WordPress and SvelteKit archives with dynamic filtering, load-more pagination, category imagery, and Vercel/Pantheon delivery.
- Partnered with marketing, UX/UI, content, and non-technical stakeholders on publishing workflows, search, cookie management, SEO, analytics, responsive design, and post-launch enhancements.

WordPress Developer | EnvisionIt | Chicago, IL | Feb. 2025 - Aug. 2025

- Delivered custom WordPress solutions for agency clients, including plugin configuration, content migrations, responsive updates, and post-launch support.
- Maintained quality, accessibility, security, and design consistency across client implementations.

WordPress Developer | Apache Corp. | Houston, TX | 2020 - Jan. 2025

- Supported a major WordPress redesign with custom theme architecture, ACF-based layouts, advanced CMS styling, and front-end implementation.
- Developed custom PHP functionality, optimized plugin configurations, and engineered API integrations for dynamic content delivery and performance.

WordPress Developer | BusPatrol | Lorton, VA | Jan. 2024 - Dec. 2024

- Modernized the primary WordPress marketing ecosystem with a component-based theme using Laravel, Roots Bedrock, Twig, ACF, Node.js, PHP, and Vite/Webpack.
- Integrated external HR/data systems through Vue.js and REST APIs; completed database/content migrations with zero downtime and full data accuracy.
- Improved Core Web Vitals, SEO, accessibility, security, Linux hosting, and automated deployment workflows using Capistrano and GitHub CI/CD.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE - CONTINUED

Senior WordPress Developer | Snap! Mobile | Seattle, WA | Oct. 2022 - Jan. 2024

- Delivered full-stack WordPress development for the flagship marketing site, including custom themes, templates, plugin architecture, and advanced ACF/Gutenberg implementations.
- Rebuilt a modern theme to replace legacy systems, reducing plugin dependencies while improving speed, UX, maintainability, accessibility, analytics, and technical SEO.

Webmaster / WordPress Developer | JST, Inc. | Austin, TX | Feb. 2022 - Oct. 2022

Built and maintained enterprise intranet and employee-directory systems; handled PHP/JavaScript development, responsive layouts, security, plugin updates, debugging, and ongoing support.

WordPress Developer | Peak 6 | Chicago, IL | May 2021 - Feb. 2022

Delivered full-stack WordPress work using PHP/LAMP and NPM tooling; developed reusable ACF blocks with Laravel Blade templating.

WordPress Developer | REQ | Las Vegas, NV | 2020 - May 2021

Built custom CMS solutions, migrations, third-party integrations, responsive interfaces, and performance improvements across agency client sites hosted on Pantheon.

WordPress Developer | Pace Communications | Greensboro, NC | 2020

Delivered accessible, mobile-first WordPress front-end work for Wells Fargo, Ubiquity, and Argo Industries.

WordPress Developer | ShipStation | Austin, TX | 2016 - 2019

Built landing pages, dashboards, web applications, API/PHP integrations, asset pipelines, and complex React-based Gutenberg blocks.

HTML Prototyper | Civitas Learning | Austin, TX | 2015 - 2016

Created responsive software demos and prototype sites supporting sales initiatives using modern front-end and UX practices.

Creative Front-End Developer | Netspend | Austin, TX | 2015

Delivered B2B website and mobile branding initiatives in an enterprise Java platform for PayPal, ACE Cash Express, Brinks, and 7-Eleven.

E-Commerce Front-End Developer / Design Support | XO Group / The Knot | Austin, TX | 2008 - 2014

Developed responsive e-commerce interfaces with HTML5, LESS, jQuery, Bootstrap, and a .NET CMS; created wireframes, prototypes, and mobile-friendly shopping experiences.

EDUCATION

Bachelor of Arts in Communications | Stephen F. Austin State University | 1999

SELECTED FOCUS

Accessible component systems · Headless WordPress · Custom CMS architecture · Performance engineering · Design systems · Editorial workflows · AI-assisted development