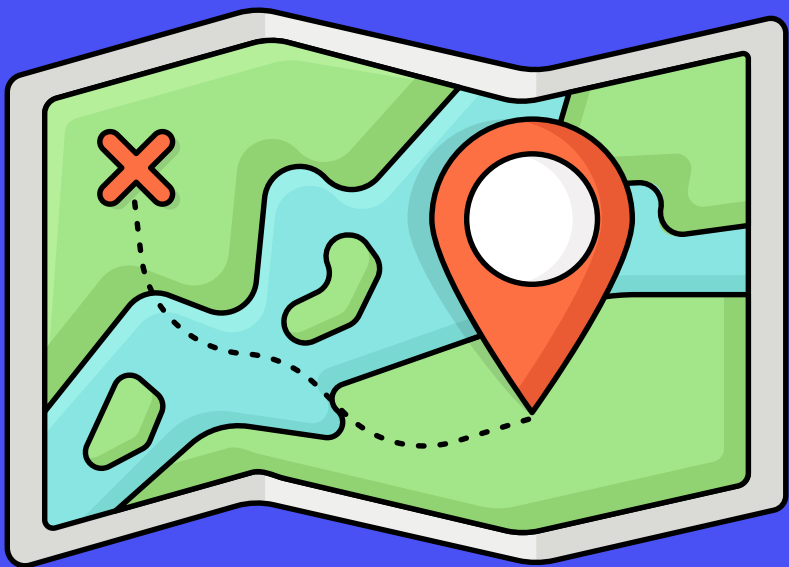# Roadmap: *Become a front-end developer*

As a front-end developer, you can:

- *Earn a good salary*
- *Enjoy demand for your skills*
- *Work with cutting-edge tech*

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Steps to a career as a front-end dev

1 **Make a career plan**

Decide how you'll learn
⏱Timeline: Variable

2 **Get an education**

CS degree, bootcamp, self-taught, etc.
⏱Timeline: 12 weeks to 6 years

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Steps to a career as a front-end dev

3 **Get real-world experience**

E.g., internships, hackathons, open-source projects
🕐**Timeline: A few months**

4 **Earn a certification***

- E.g., CIW Web Development Professional
🕐**Timeline: Could take multiple years**
* Optional

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Steps to a career as a front-end dev

5 **Prepare for a job search**

E.g., Build a GitHub portfolio, practice coding problems, study interview questions, network
⏲Timeline: A few weeks to a few months

6 **Search for dev jobs**

Use Indeed, Glassdoor, Dice, etc., & keep track of applications
⏲Timeline: 1-2 months

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Technical skills you'll need:

Don't worry! You won't need all of these right away

- **Logical reasoning**
- **How the internet works** (clients, servers, networks, webpages)
- **HTML, CSS, web development fundamentals**
- **JavaScript**
- **Graphic design** (Figma, Photoshop)
- **Version control systems** (Git & GitHub)
- **Web security standards**
- **RESTful APIs and services**
- **Package managers** (npm, yarn)
- **Testing & debugging concepts**
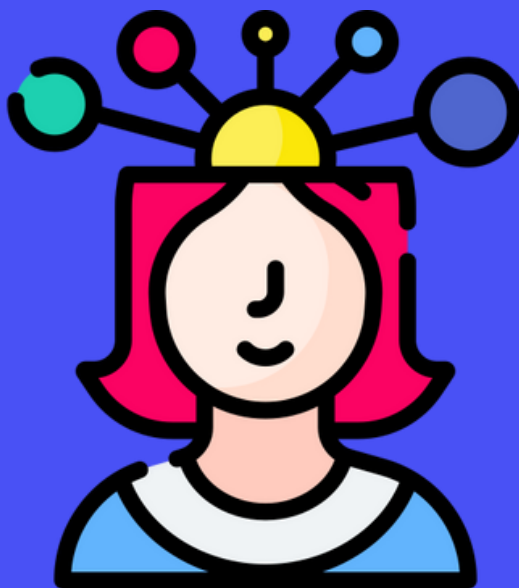- **Testing tools** (Jest, react-testing-library, Cypress, Enzyme)

Technical skills you'll need:

- **Front-end frameworks & libraries** (React, Angular, Vue.js, jQuery, Svelte, Ember)
- **CSS architecture** (BEM)
- **CSS preprocessors** (SASS, PostCSS)
- **Task runners** (npm scripts)
- **Module bundlers** (Webpack, esbuild, Rollup, Parcel)
- **Modern CSS** (styled components, CSS modules, Styled JSX, Emotion)
- **Web components** (HTML templates, custom elements, Shadow DOM)
- **CSS frameworks** (Tailwind CSS, Chakra UI, Material UI, Radix UI, Bootstrap, Bulma)
- **Progressive web apps**
- **Type checkers** (Typescript)

Technical skills you'll need:

- **Server-side rendering** (React + Next.js, Angular + Universal, Vue.js + Nuxt.js)
- **GraphQL** (Apollo, Relay Modern)
- **Static site generators** (Gatsby, Next.js, Nuxt.js, Vuepress, Jekyll, Hugo, Gridsome, Eleventy)
- **Mobile applications** (React Native, NativeScript, Flutter, Ionic)
- **Desktop applications** (Electron, Tauri)
- **Web assembly**

Education & experience:

- **CS diplomas:** Are appreciated by employers
- **Non-degree options:** Take less time & cost less, but learning essential concepts & skills requires proactivity; may limit initial job prospects to more junior roles
- **Web dev bootcamps:** Are available from many universities and companies
- **Certificate programs & self-study:** Are also potential non-degree options
- **Previous industry experience:** Is usually a prerequisite for getting hired
- **Internships:** Let you gain experience, work on real-world applications, find mentors, & network
- **Professional certifications:** Show your proficiency & dedication

Join the conversation!

Where do you hope to work as a front-end web dev?

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