

**Arriane, Junior Developer**  
Arriane is working at Gene Commerce.

*"I've been here for eight months now and I love it. Within the first few weeks I was working on front-end HTML, CSS and GitHub, which felt great. I'm also constantly learning and given time to study and do tutorials, plus the lead developers are always on hand to answer my questions.*

*I'm focused on the future. I can see progress and see a clear career pathway ahead. With software development I can see the progression opportunities so clearly.*

*There's always so much room to grow with technology, you'll never stop learning. The possibilities are endless and that's really exciting."*

**Top Tip:** Show your passion – find ways to show you're keen to learn

For further information please contact:

**BCS**

The Chartered Institute for IT  
First Floor Block D  
North Star House  
North Star Avenue  
Swindon  
SN2 1FA  
T +44 (0)1793 417 417  
www.bcs.org

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# CAREERS IN SOFTWARE & TESTING

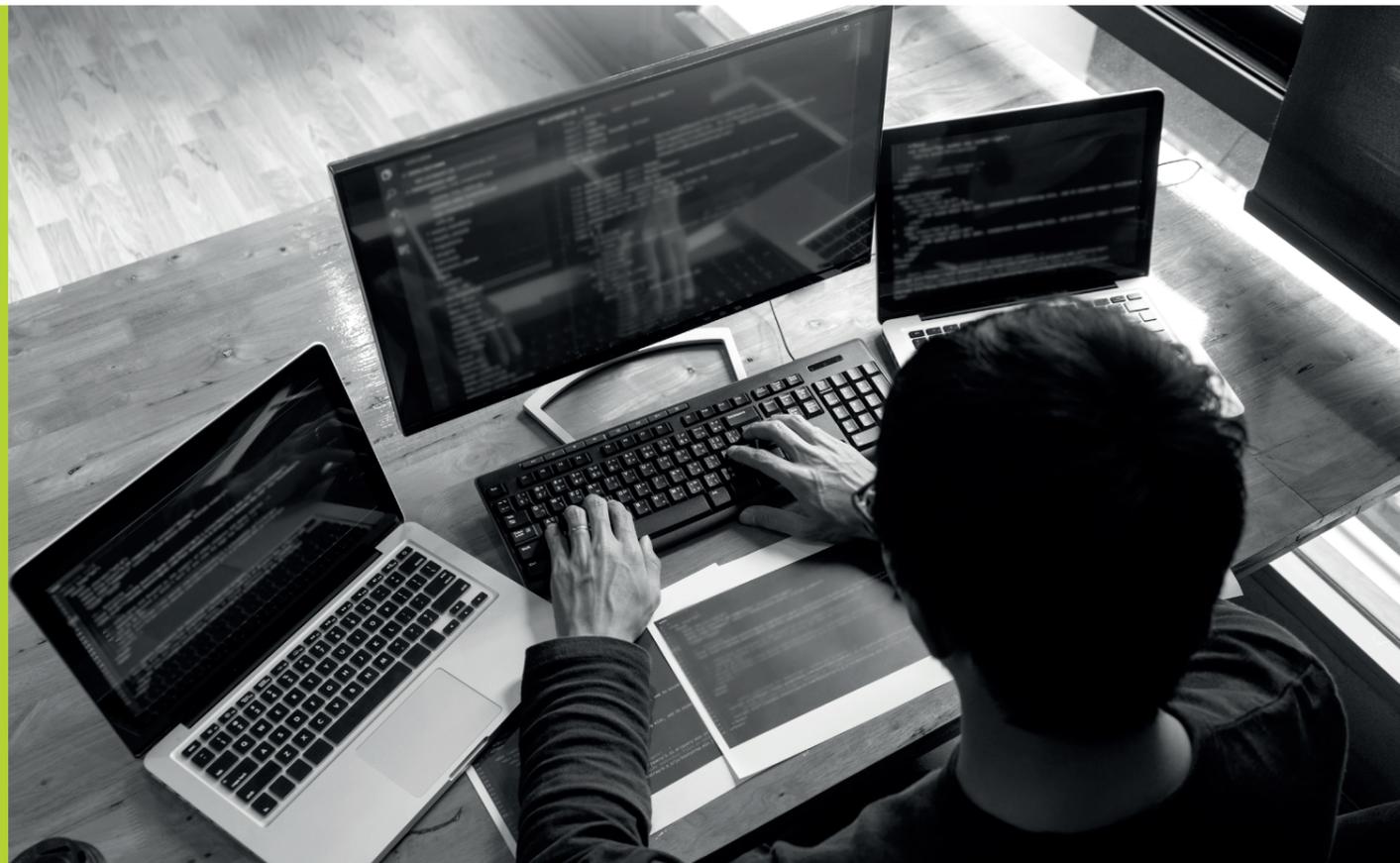


## Thinking of a career in Software Development & Testing?

If you're a creative thinker with a knack for solving puzzles, resolving problems and seeing opportunities, there is a world of possibility to explore in software development and testing.

As more and more aspects of our lives depend on software, there is an ever-growing demand for developers and testers.

Software developers and testers work not only in the tech industry itself – software houses, telecoms, data science and digital agencies, but are also found in all modern organisations including financial services, the creative industries, the retail sector, life sciences as well as the not-for-profit and the public sectors.



### Yogi, Software Technician

Yogi runs his own software agency, Finest Design,

From a young age Yogi loved computers – but it wasn't until he was a teenager that he realised you could make a career out of them.

*"The first think I made was a one-page website about myself. From then, I know I wanted to work with software"*

Yogi went on to set up his company whilst still a teenager. Finest Design specialises in creating coding for websites and online presences for businesses around the world. He is now branching out into apps, which is where he sees the future for his company. He's busy building his first app for outdoor activity enthusiasts.

#### Top tip:

I love that I've managed to get the skills whilst running my own business, but it's also great to know that I could get a job anywhere!

## What do software developers and testers do?

Software developers design the software applications and operating systems that we use in everyday life. You will not only be involved with writing code, but you'll also be involved in analysing the needs and experiences of users and then creating, testing and developing software to meet those needs and improve their experience.

Software testers analyse software and systems to overcome risks and prevent issues. You'll conduct manual and automated tests to ensure that software works as intended and is fit for purpose so that bugs or issues are resolved before the software is deployed.

## How do I get into the industry?

There is a range of paths that will take you into this exciting profession. Popular routes include doing a digital apprenticeship or choosing one of the new digital T Level courses that will be on offer from September 2020. The courses bring classroom and industry placement together, so you can take your first step into a career you want.

After your studies you might decide to go to University to further study a specific area of your choice. Or you may decide to apply for a job as a Junior developer or a software development technician.

Find out more by speaking to your local education and training providers about your options.

## So, is it for me?

A wide variety of people are suitable for a career in software development and testing, but most have the following attributes...



#### You like solving problems

The purpose of developing software is to create programs that solve problems. If you're the type who can identify issues and find out the best way to approach a solution, you'll be a perfect fit for a software development career.



#### You're good at creating new ideas

A lot of software development depends on finding new ways of doing things. If you have a creative approach and like coming up with new ways of doing things, then you'll enjoy the challenge of software development.



#### You're a team player

Software developers spend a lot of time working with others to create a great solution. If you like working in teams and sharing ideas, then you'll fit in well.



#### You're an analytical and strategic thinker

There's a lot of planning that goes into creating software programs, so if you like solving a problem by looking at the big picture as well as thinking through the detailed steps along the way, you'll enjoy developing software.



#### You're self-motivated

Creating software can be tricky, meticulous work, so it's important that you are patient and don't give up if you don't succeed the first time. If you are determined to finish what you start, you'll have the temperament to do well in a career in software development.



### Did you know...?

BCS, the Chartered Institute of IT will offer student membership for digital T Level students which includes an online personal career centre, bookshop discount, mentoring, networking opportunities and more.

Find out more at [bcs.org](https://www.bcs.org)