

DESIGN SYSTEMS SPECIALIST

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INTRODUCTION

I specialise in building scalable design systems and driving their adoption across product teams. My focus is on establishing strong system foundations and developing components, from basic to complex, supported by clear documentation that guides both product teams and AI tools. Beyond components, I've developed processes and programmes that improve adoption and help teams get more value from their design systems.

PERSONAL

NAME: Justine Montgomery

NATIONALITY: South African

LOCATION: Barcelona, Spain

CERTIFICATIONS

AI DESIGN SYSTEMS
Memorisely - 2025
4 Week bootcamp

DESIGN SYSTEM PLANNING & PROCESS
Nathan Curtis - 2024
Online 2 day workshop

MASTERING DESIGN SYSTEMS
Memorisely - 2022
5 Week Master Design Systems course

USER EXPERIENCE COURSE
University of Cape Town - 2020
10 Week - Short course

BA, GRAPHIC DESIGN DEGREE
Greenside Design Center - 2016 - 2018

ACHIEVEMENTS

INTO DESIGN SYSTEMS CO-HOST
2023-2026

INTO DESIGN SYSTEMS SPEAKER
2025

FINALIST IN ADOBE AWARDS
2017 - 2018

EXPERIENCE

PRODUCT DESIGNER III, DESIGN SYSTEMS 2024 - 2026

Stripe - Full time

- Worked on improving existing components to raise quality bar on accessibility and micro-interactions.
- Was an embedded partner on the Messaging team to help create a system to solve messaging challenges and bring components back into the core system.
- Built and enforced a design system onboarding programme for new joiners to learn how the system works and how to use it effectively.
- Contributed to newsletters and support systems in Slack to ensure teams were assisted when they needed.
- Built a workspace to share AI concepts and iterations with partnering teams to improve collaboration through AI tools.

DESIGN SYSTEMS DESIGNER 2023 - 2025

Preply - Full time

- Led Preply's design system as a solo designer working alongside two engineers to help rebrand the product and system.
- Contributed to the design system vision, mission and strategy planning.
- Tokenised the system from scratch with semantics decisions to help with Preply's rebrand and collaborated closely with brand team.
- Built web and app atomic and molecule level components in Figma and ensured Figma and code parity across all platform.
- Got buy-in for a reference site to host the design systems documentation (Zeroheight) which I also maintained and automated.
- Conducted component audits and user surveys to ensure the system fulfilled product design needs.

SENIOR PRODUCT DESIGNER 2021 - 2023

MOHARA - Contract to full time

- Lead designer for MOHARA's biggest client - Hostology.
- Built and maintained an internal headless design system (multi-theme).
- Worked closely with clients, developers and managing external teams.
- Consulted on best design and UX practices / improving platform UX.
- Mentoring interns / junior designers / skill share with team.

PRODUCT DESIGNER 2019 - 2021

Freelance / contacts

- Worked with several clients, Lucania, ZyberFox and SovTech.
- Built basic foundations and starter design UI kits using Tailwind.
- Built MVP products to test with different user types.
- Conducted user testing and surveys to improve product UX.
- Collaborated closely with various stakeholders and engineers.

GRAPHIC DESIGNER 2016 - 2019

Freelance

- Built brand identities and brand guidelines.
- Illustrations, infographics, iconography design.
- Interactive booklets and basic motion graphics.