

# Ashish Vaghela

Full Stack Engineer | End-to-End Product Ownership & AI Infrastructure

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GitHub: [github.com/Ashish-CodeJourney](https://github.com/Ashish-CodeJourney) | Portfolio: [ashish-codejourney.github.io](https://ashish-codejourney.github.io)

## SUMMARY

Full-stack engineer with 2+ years owning products end-to-end, from ambiguous idea to architecture, prototype, production, and scale, operating as a team of one. Independently shipped two production MVPs (Spring Boot, Java, Kotlin, React) and a solo-built Android product, and built Aether Gateway, an AI-native LLM gateway with multi-provider failover, vector-based semantic caching, token and cost accounting, and full observability, measured against a reproducible load-test harness rather than estimates. Strong systems thinking; reasons through latency, inference cost, and infrastructure tradeoffs. Thrives on high autonomy, fast iteration, and minimal supervision; grounded in TDD, clean code, monitoring, and API design.

## TECHNICAL SKILLS

**Languages:** Java, Kotlin, JavaScript, SQL, HTML, CSS

**AI-Native / LLM Systems:** LLM gateway design & orchestration, multi-provider routing & failover, vector / semantic caching (pgvector), token & inference-cost accounting, quota & rate limiting, versioned prompt registry, guardrails, evaluation & benchmarking harnesses

**Backend:** Spring Boot, Spring WebFlux, Quarkus, REST APIs, async & event-driven processing

**Frontend:** React, Jetpack Compose, Thymeleaf, TailwindCSS, AstroJS

**Databases:** PostgreSQL, pgvector, MySQL, MongoDB, Redis, H2

**DevOps & Observability:** Docker, Docker Compose, Kubernetes, GitHub Actions (CI/CD), Prometheus, Grafana, Micrometer / OpenTelemetry, Linux, VPS deployment

**Practices:** End-to-end product ownership, rapid prototyping, TDD, clean code, monitoring & reliability, code review, Agile, mentoring

## EXPERIENCE

**Software Crafter**, Nelkinda Software Craft

Sep 2023 – Present

Remote

- Owned the Triffuns community-building platform end-to-end: translated business goals into architecture and implementation plans, then built and shipped the production MVP from scratch using Spring Boot, Thymeleaf, and TDD.
- Built an internal service-monitoring tool in Quarkus, instrumenting services with telemetry to improve reliability and performance tracking across environments.
- Redesigned the application UI for responsiveness and usability, iterating rapidly on real user feedback.
- Automated build and deployment workflows with GitHub Actions and Docker, increasing engineering velocity and shortening idea-to-production cycle time.

**Software Crafter, ChatNCharge (client project)**, via Nelkinda Software Craft

Nov 2024 – Present

Remote

- Turned an ambiguous product idea into a working, deployable system: built the ChatNCharge MVP (connecting EV drivers with private and enterprise charging stations) from scratch in Spring Boot, owning backend, data model, and APIs.
- Validated features through fast iteration with real users and stakeholders, shipping production-grade functionality.
- Mentored junior developers and collaborated across design, product, and engineering to ship working solutions with minimal supervision.

**Full Stack Developer Intern**, Greycell Labs

Jan 2024 – Jul 2024

Ahmedabad, India

- Executed a data migration that significantly improved query performance and data-retrieval times.
- Shipped UX improvements (persistent user-selected row counts across list pages) and optimized profile-update flows, reducing server load and improving system performance.

## PROJECTS

**Aether Gateway:** self-hosted AI-native LLM gateway (solo; built to production standards)

[github.com/Ashish-CodeJourney/aether-gateway](https://github.com/Ashish-CodeJourney/aether-gateway) | [ashish-codejourney.github.io/aether-gateway](https://ashish-codejourney.github.io/aether-gateway)

- Designed and built an AI-native LLM gateway fronting any OpenAI-compatible provider, orchestrating routing, multi-provider failover (Ollama, Groq, Gemini), quota enforcement, cost accounting, and observability behind a single API. Stack: Java 25, Spring Boot 4.1, WebFlux streaming.
- Built for resilience against model variability and provider outages with circuit breakers, retries, and bulkheads; reasoned through and documented fail-open cache vs. fail-closed quota postures.
- Engineered vector-based semantic caching (PostgreSQL + pgvector) with an entity / numeric guard against false hits, cutting cache-hit latency to 8.9 ms p95 and provider failover to 67.92 ms p99, measured against a reproducible load-test harness.
- Instrumented end-to-end token and inference-cost accounting, per-key rate limits and token budgets, and a versioned prompt registry; surfaced live metrics via Prometheus, Grafana, and Micrometer / OpenTelemetry.
- Proved operational readiness on Kubernetes: graceful SSE drain with zero dropped streams (500/500) across a live rolling update; full stack boots in one command via Docker Compose.
- Backed by TDD with Testcontainers integration and Cucumber acceptance suites, ArchUnit-enforced hexagonal boundaries, and published ADRs, design docs, and benchmark methodology.

**MindGuard:** privacy-first Android product (solo-built, shipped)

[ashish-codejourney.github.io/MindGuard](https://ashish-codejourney.github.io/MindGuard)

- Designed, built, and shipped a privacy-first Android app that detects and blocks short-form video feeds to curb doomscrolling, with no accounts, no tracking, and no servers; owned product, UX, and engineering as a team of one.
- **Stack:** Kotlin Multiplatform, Jetpack Compose, Material 3, Coroutines, Flow, DataStore, Koin.

**OSW Community Portal:** events hub & job board

[opensourceweekend.org](https://opensourceweekend.org)

- Built and deployed a community platform with an events hub and job board, using Google Sheets as a lightweight low-code CMS so non-technical maintainers can run operations. Stack: AstroJS, TailwindCSS, self-managed VPS.

## OPEN SOURCE & COMMUNITY

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- Active contributor to [MDN Web Docs](#), Yari, and Akash Network: bug fixes, performance, documentation, and developer experience.
- **Ahmedabad Developer Group** (Core Team Member & Technical Lead): lead technical sessions, events, and workshops.
- **Open Source Weekend** (Core Team Member): mentor new contributors and organize open-source meetups.

## EDUCATION

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**Master of Computer Applications (MCA)**, Gujarat University, First Class

2022 – 2024

**Bachelor of Computer Applications (BCA)**, GLS University, Distinction

2019 – 2022