CARRINGTON SMURL

Product Designer & Design Engineer · AI-Native Products · 0→1 & Enterprise SaaS

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SUMMARY

Product designer and engineer. Six years owning experiences end to end across AI-first 0→1 products, enterprise B2B SaaS, and mobile — and shipping them to the codebase myself, building with AI in the terminal.

EXPERIENCE

Saddle Pass · Head of Product Design (founding) 2025 – 2026 · Austin, TX

- Owned the end-to-end experience for an AI-first, dual-sided equestrian booking marketplace — from field research with barns, trainers, and riders through engineering handoff and gated beta.
- Built the design system — tokens and component library — consumed by a React web app, a React Native app, and a Flutter app, with a sync script and tests that fail the build on divergence.
- Designed for three user types plus internal admin tooling; scoped and prioritized a 16-feature handoff across rider, facility, and admin surfaces.
- Led a cross-functional team of engineers, a design director, and design interns through weekly design reviews and bi-weekly standups.
- Designed trust-critical flows including a partner-underwritten ride protection add-on at checkout, balancing customer clarity against partner, legal, and technical constraints.

Carrington Design Co. LLC · Founder & Principal Designer 2025 – Present · Austin, TX · Remote

- Grew a single equine-staffing client engagement to $50K across a UX audit, portal and landing-page rebuild, admin portal, and an applicant tracking system built from scratch — owning the design, the engineering direction, and the sale.
- Built generative AI into the design workflow to go from concept to working React and React Native prototypes in days, testing with users before committing engineering time.
- Lead discovery and end-to-end design for B2B and consumer clients: journey maps, IA, wireframes, and high-fidelity prototypes.
- Facilitate remote workshops that align founders, PMs, and engineers on the problem, success metrics, and launch scope.

Intapp · User Experience Designer II Mar 2022 – Jan 2025 · Austin, TX

- Designed data-dense enterprise workflows for Risk & Compliance and DealCloud, used by regulated professional-services firms; turned research into requirements, design-system components, and ship-ready specs.
- Extended the shared design system with new components and templates; standardized patterns to streamline onboarding and modernize legacy workflows across web and mobile.
- Planned and ran interviews, moderated usability tests, and competitive analysis; presented synthesized recommendations to leadership to drive decisions.
- Facilitated design-thinking workshops that turned ambiguous stakeholder feedback into prioritized backlogs; shipped a mobile dark theme that improved accessibility and adoption.

Pledgr · Product Designer (Contract) Jun 2021 – Mar 2022 · Remote

- Owned profile, account, and onboarding design in a pod of three, inside a distributed 10-designer team across four countries; ran sprint rituals and critique.
- Delivered a fully prototyped profile and accounts experience on a new design system, which was developed and reached testing.

Adaptia Design Agency · Associate Designer 2020 – 2021 · Austin, TX

- Designed web and e-commerce experiences with developers; UX evaluations reduced cart abandonment and lifted organic traffic.

SKILLS

Prototyping & Front-end: React · React Native · SwiftUI · TypeScript · HTML/CSS · Node.js · Python · REST APIs · Git · AI-assisted development in the terminal (Claude Code, Codex)

AI engineering: Agent design and deployment · multi-agent orchestration · tool and MCP integration · scheduled and event-driven agents in production · evals and guardrails · human-in-the-loop approval gates

AI UX: LLM and agent workflow design · conversational and chatbot UX · prompt design · scoping and refusal behavior · trust, transparency, and error-state patterns

Design & Research: Figma · design systems · interaction design · IA · accessibility · journey mapping · service blueprints · interviews · usability testing · synthesis

Leadership: Cross-functional alignment · executive presentation · workshop facilitation · critique · mentoring · customer discovery

LEADERSHIP & EDUCATION

Community: President, Ladies That UX Austin, 50+ attendees per event · Volunteer Design Lead, Allhers Austin, led 8+ creatives

Education: BFA, Design, The University of Texas at Austin · AAS, UX/UI Design, Austin Community College