

Komal Girish Rao, UX Designer

(650) 539-7666 | komalgrao@gmail.com | www.komalrao.com | www.linkedin.com/in/komalgrao

A UX designer with a strong foundation of 6+ years in Software Engineering, adept at blending creative vision with technical expertise. On a mission to bridge humanity and technology through empathetic and intuitive design solutions that seamlessly integrate functionality and aesthetics.

Experience

Lead UX Designer, Ruminare via Tech Fleet

August 2023 - Present, Redwood City, CA

- Creating the experience strategy and design direction to deliver a scalable User Experience based on client needs and UX best practices
- Mentoring and Guiding 4 UX design apprentices through rapid prototyping and experimenting in a fast-paced environment.

Instructional Specialist, Part-time, UC Berkeley Extension

April 2023 - Present, Redwood City, CA

- Mentoring 50+ students and supporting their mastery of human-centered design principles, design thinking processes, visual design principles and front end development.
- Implemented individualized mentoring sessions to address student needs, resulting in a 30% increase in student satisfaction scores.

UX Designer, Freelance

August 2022 - Present, Redwood City, CA

- Collaborated with clients to drive strategy, align requirements with design thinking principles and tailor solutions.
- Conducted 40+ interviews and analyzed 500+ survey responses to discover users' unique pain points and define user requirements.
- Created high-fidelity mockups based on research data and iterated continuously based on user and client feedback.
- Established design system, component library, and visual guidelines for *MyStory* resulting in design efficiency and visual consistency.
- Executed an iterative design process for *DELTA's* homepage navigation via multiple rounds of usability testing and user feedback, decreasing the average duration to complete the donation task by 90 seconds.
- Defended design decisions backed by knowledge and feasibility of how design translates into code.

Senior Software Engineer, Adobe Systems

June 2015 - January 2022, Bangalore, India

- Designed and optimized large scale distributed systems backed by MariaDB and APIs in Java for Adobe Ad Cloud's DSP, resulting in 20% reduction in API response time.
- Mentored new engineers and guided implementation of Python based cross platform and cross browser automated testing framework for Adobe Flash DRM, leading to a 75% increase in test coverage.
- Led cross-functional collaboration with Product Management and Client teams to align product roadmaps and unblock releases.

Education

Certificate UX/UI

UC Berkeley Extension

July 2022 - January 2023, Remote, CA

B.E. in Computer Science

BMS College of Engineering

June 2015 - May 2019, Bangalore, India

Skills

Tools: Figma, Sketch, InVision, Miro, Adobe Creative Suite, Protopie, GitHub

Design: UI Design, Design Thinking, Mockups, Sketching, Prototyping, Wireframes, Interaction Design, Accessible Design, Design Systems,

Research: User Research, Strategy, Interviews, Usability Testing, Persona Development, Journey Mapping, Information Architecture

Other: HTML5, CSS, JS, JQuery

Projects

MyStory

An AI based story telling **Tablet app** that turns kids' hand drawn sketches into animated characters.

TravelTails

Travel-Play-Eat and do much more with your pets using this **mobile app**, wherever you go!

DELTA Rescue

Website redesign to improve content findability for new donors.

Volunteering

Math Tutor

Teach For India

July 2021 - October 2021, Mumbai, India