

Ricardo Costeira

SOFTWARE ENGINEER · ANDROID EXPERT

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Summary

Senior Android Engineer with 10+ years of experience architecting and evolving large-scale mobile applications across e-commerce, security, and accessibility domains. I specialize in modern Kotlin-based systems, legacy migrations, and developer experience improvements that increase long-term maintainability and product velocity.

Within teams, I act as a technical reference for architectural decisions, performance optimization, and sustainable design practices. I care deeply about building systems that not only scale technically but also enable measurable user impact. Published author and technical writer with multiple books and articles on professional Android development.

Skills

Android: Android SDK, Kotlin, Jetpack Compose, Coroutines, Flow, MVVM, MV, UDF, Room, Retrofit, OkHttp, Apollo GraphQL, Dagger, Hilt.

Architecture & Paradigms: Clean Architecture, modularization, functional programming, object-oriented design, dependency injection, design patterns.

Testing: Unit testing, integration testing, UI testing, Espresso, Robolectric, Mockito, Mockk, MockWebServer.

Build & Tooling: Gradle, Kotlin DSL, Version Catalogs, Git, CI/CD, Bitrise, Firebase, AI agents.

Cross Platform: Kotlin Multiplatform (KMP), React Native.

Work Experience

Mindera

Remote

SENIOR ANDROID ENGINEER

Dec 2019 - Present

- Technical lead within the Loyalty domain of the Waitrose & Partners UK e-commerce application — a revenue-critical area handling membership rewards for millions of customers annually.
- Own the technical direction of the Loyalty domain, shaping architecture decisions to support scalability, high adoption, and long-term maintainability.
- Act as an architectural reference within the broader Android team, influencing technical direction across all sectors of the app.
- Partner with product, design and stakeholders to translate evolving business requirements into sustainable Android architecture decisions, contributing to the successful rollout of high-adoption features.
- Led large-scale modernization initiatives across the Android platform — evolving concurrency models (RxJava → Coroutines/Flow), dependency injection (custom → Hilt), UI architecture (XML → Compose), state management (introducing a unidirectional data flow architecture), and build tooling (Groovy → Gradle Kotlin DSL) — improving long-term maintainability, testability, and developer velocity.
- Strengthened integration testing reliability in a heavily API-driven environment, increasing delivery confidence.
- Contribute regularly to developer experience improvements that enhance stability, maintainability, and delivery speed.
- Technical interviewer for senior Android candidates and mentor for junior developers.
- University internship advisor, supporting students during real-world Android development projects.

Symantec

Coimbra, Portugal

SENIOR SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENT ENGINEER

Mar 2018 - Oct 2019

- Took a break from Android and worked on Information Centric Tagging (ICT), a data-centric security platform for data classification and encryption, integrated across multiple enterprise products.
- Worked on the core data classification engine used by several internationally deployed security solutions.
- Acted as a technical reference for the ICTCore library, owning its architecture, readability, and long-term maintainability.
- Led refactoring initiatives to improve modularity, scalability, and safe long-term evolution of the codebase.
- Collaborated with multiple product teams integrating ICTCore into production-grade Symantec solutions.

SiosLIFE

Braga, Portugal

LEAD MOBILE DEVELOPER

Jan 2017 - Mar 2018

- Mobile Lead for accessibility-focused apps aimed at both elderly and younger users, with usability and inclusive design as first-class concerns.
- Solely designed and developed the company's first iOS application using Swift, establishing the mobile foundation on the iOS platform.
- Modernized the Android codebase by introducing dependency injection with Dagger, reactive programming with RxJava, networking with Retrofit and OkHttp, Architecture Components, MVVM, and migrating from Java to Kotlin.
- Implemented video call features on both Android and iOS apps, using WebRTC and having to dig into the protocol for bug fixing.
- Acted as the technical owner of the mobile stack, defining best practices and development standards.
- Led the company's first steps into React Native development.

Watchful Software

Coimbra, Portugal

JUNIOR SOFTWARE ENGINEER

Oct 2013 - Jan 2017

- Worked on RightsWATCH, a data-centric security platform focused on data protection and classification, used in enterprise environments.
- Developed across multiple components, spanning server-side systems, client-side applications, focusing on frontend and mobile products.
- Implemented security-related features for data classification and protection workflows.
- Gained strong foundations in secure software development, distributed systems, and production-grade quality requirements.

Books & Technical Publications

Android Fundamentals by Tutorials: Co-author

Real-World Android by Tutorials (1st and 2nd Editions): Co-author

Gradle Tutorial for Android: Getting Started (Parts 1 and 2): Technical Articles

Reactive Streams on Kotlin: SharedFlow and StateFlow: Technical Article

Kotlin Sequences: Getting Started: Technical Article

Navigation Component for Android, part 3: Transition and Navigation: Technical Article

Published on Kodeco (formerly raywenderlich.com), one of the largest professional mobile development learning platforms.

Professional Values

- Practice pragmatic engineering with a strong bias towards delivery and user value.
- Hold high standards for code quality, maintainability, and testing.
- Favor clarity, simplicity, and correctness over unnecessary complexity.
- Foster psychologically safe, respectful, and collaborative team environments.
- Treat architecture as a product that must continuously earn its place.
- Commit to continuous learning and sharing of knowledge through mentorship and writing.
- Take clear ownership and accountability for architecture and technical decisions.

Education

University of Minho

MSc IN INFORMATICS ENGINEERING

Dissertation: "Intelligent Data Leak Detection Through Behavioural Analysis"

Braga, Portugal

Oct 2012 - Apr 2016

University of Minho

BSc IN INFORMATICS ENGINEERING

Braga, Portugal

Sep 2009 - Sep 2012