SAYAKA HASHIMOTO CHUA

WEB DEVELOPER

PROFILE

Sayaka is an interesting personality who had ventured through multiple industries before deciding that she wanted to pursue coding. After completing her studies in culinary arts, she had moved on to operations at e-commerce sites such as Groupon and foodpanda. But it was her latest stint that ignited her interest in coding.

During her time in Saltycustoms, a customized-apparel brand, Sayaka had been assigned to work with the company's tech team to help launch an online platform. She'd witness the wonders of coding, and realize its importance in today's world, prompting her to sign up for NEXT Academy's Web Development bootcamp.

She walked into the academy with elementary knowledge of HTML and CSS and walked out with a wider understanding of the coding world, especially pertaining to web development. Sayaka says that the course opened up her eyes to the hidden processes constantly taking place behind every click. It was something that she took for granted, and, according to her, she'd learned how to get into the programmer's mindset at the academy — to tackle problems in a logical way.

Sayaka landed a gig as a web developer through TribeHired, a recruiting agency that collaborates with NEXT Academy. Sayaka says that this help from the academy, coupled with the high demand for coding skills, made the job hunt easy. What mattered to her more was finding the right fit, which was why she chose 4 Thirteen, a hybrid ad agency.

Her new job emphasizes slightly different disciplines, such as PHP and Laravel, and that had required Sayaka to step out of her comfort zone. To address this new need, Sayaka sought to learn more of PHP and Javascript. She'd also begun improving her backend programming to round up her skillset. These studies are supplemented by the experience she gets on the job.

Making mistakes are part and parcel of the industry, and Sayaka says that she welcomes these challenges at work, because while they can be daunting, it's also the best way for her to progress — all this hustle at just the start of her career!

Sayaka's found her stride in coding, and moving forward, she says that she plans to continue web development for at least 3 more years, before branching out into the digital side of business development.

TECHNOLOGY STACK