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# Mark Stewart

## UX Designer

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Behance Profile : <https://www.behance.net/skramshots>

Portfolio : <http://skramshots.com/uxportfolio.html>

## Profile

I have worked in the software delivery industry for over 20 years. I have successfully completed my studies to transition from a QA to a UX designer. I have worked informally with UX teams in Paddy Power and was in the process of transitioning to the team permanently when a series of redundancies were announced. I have also worked in Cross Functional teams during my time with Verizon where I participated in *Workshops and Usability testing* for a greenfield product.

My background as a QA has provided me with additional benefits as a designer such as a *keen attention to detail*, familiarity working in an *Agile* environment and the ability to very effectively *test my own interactive prototypes*.

I have always been interested in the area of UX since my first exposure to it in Paddy Power. Unfortunately when I left school there was no such industry but as I gained exposure to it I became determined to move my career in that direction.

I am a photographer outside of my day job and have been using *Adobe products* for 15 years, especially *Photoshop* & this has made me very comfortable working with tools such as *Figma, Sketch and Axure*.

I am consistently looking to learn and improve and to that end have attended courses in the *Dublin Design Institute* and the *UX Design Institute of Dublin* and have qualified comfortably from both whilst learning and creating processes such as *Affinity Diagrams, Customer Journey Maps, Prototypes & Wireframes*.

I have used my experience & education to design and code my own photography website [www.skramshots.com](http://www.skramshots.com) and I have been published in Lonely Planet and national newspapers.

I have also designed and coded my UX Portfolio.

## EXPERIENCE

### Revolverlife, Spain- Intern UX Designer

March 2021 - PRESENT

I took a voluntary position with Revolverlife to work on a Greenfield project as an Intern UX Designer to provide me with more real world commercial experience. The platform being designed is aimed at Digital Nomad workers on the one hand and charities & NGO's on the other. During this time I have been involved in :

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- Attending video meetings via [Miro](#) where as a team we would design the board with row and column titles. And from there add virtual post it notes with our thoughts and ideas for each section. More meetings were scheduled to further refine the board and highlight and group duplicates.
  - Once we had agreed that the board/affinity diagram was complete we created a [Priority map](#) (again via Miro vide meeting) where we had User Value and Effort on the X & Y axis and then moved the tickets into areas we as a group agreed upon.
  - We then identified similar organisations and conducted [Qualitative research](#) against their websites and Apps to provide [benchmarking](#) and add our individual findings to a common document.
  - Bringing my QA background to test and raise any issues in a clear and succinct way during the research and analysis phase

## **Verizon, Dublin- QA**

May 2017- Nov 2019

I was initially recruited on a 6 month contract on a legacy product, however my contract was extended on 5 occasions and I ended up being there for two and a half years. I was moved onto a greenfield project where I worked in a cross functional team with UX designers, BA's and Dev's.

The opportunity was provided to gain a greater insight into other areas so I worked closely with the UX team where I :

- Sat in on group sessions when beginning the design process.
- Evaluated and tested low and medium fidelity prototypes
- Provided feedback and suggestions via [standup sessions](#) or informal meetings
- Raised issues and bugs via [Jira](#)
- Sat in on [Usability Test](#) sessions
- Provided feedback based on my own User Test sessions

## **Paddy Power plc, Dublin- QA**

August 2010- August 2016

I worked for Paddy Power for 6 years in many different areas of the company. I was involved in working closely with UX people whilst a designated UX team was put together. I was extensively involved in Paddy Power Bingo site and App which went on to win awards. I was a QA and Team leader for an offsite team and responsible for multiple products.

I spoke to [UX managers](#) about transitioning into the UX team permanently and had signed up with the Dublin Institute of Design to make this a reality when the merger with Betfair was announced and 350 of us were laid off.

However prior to that I had gained experience by sitting in on multiple sessions with [stakeholders](#) gathering data and having designs presented to us and participating in discussions about what to change, what to keep and what to improve. I was also instrumental in identifying potential issues at the design stage before they made it into development. And then providing [demonstrations](#) of the product and its functionality to the various stakeholders as it was developed along the [MVP](#) model

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## EDUCATION

### **UX Design Institute, Dun Laoighaire— *Professional Diploma in UX Design***

October 2020 - March 2021

- Competitive Benchmarking
- Note Taking from usability testing
- Creating surveys and collating responses
- Affinity Diagrams
- Customer Journey Maps
- User Flow diagrams
- Prototyping
- Wireframes

### **Dublin Institute of Design, Dublin— *Higher National Certificate in responsive UX/UI Design***

Nov 2016 - January 2017

- HTML
- CSS
- Principles of User Experience & User Interface Design
- Adobe Illustrator
- Adobe In Design
- jQuery

### **Dublin Institute of Design, Dublin— *Associate Certificate in Web Design***

Feb 2016 - July 2016

- HTML
- CSS
- jQuery
- Font & Colour appreciation

## AWARDS

- Professional Diploma in UX Design
- Higher National Certificate in UI/UX Design
- Associate Certificate in Responsive UI/UX design
- OCA - Oracle Certified Associate
- Diploma in advanced web development.
- LIPF (Licentiatehip of the Irish Photographic Federation)

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## Personal Projects

[www.Skramshots.com](http://www.Skramshots.com) - My own personal responsive photography website

<https://tinyurl.com/FigmaBubbleWorld> - Practising with Figma

<https://tinyurl.com/FigmaSlider> - Practising with Figma

[www.cherylcox counselling.com](http://www.cherylcox counselling.com) - Putting together a basic site for my friend who didn't have an online presence

## Hobbies & Interests

Photography

Hiking

Dog walking

Reading

Music

Travel

Cooking & Baking (My Raspberry, blueberry & white chocolate brownies are to die for)