Kate Schechinger

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Professional Summary

Certified Scrum Product Owner & Product Designer with 6 years of experience launching and managing product initiatives from concept-to-launch that drove market growth and improved customer experience. Expert in user-centered design, cross-functional collaboration, and creative problem solving to accelerate innovation and maximize customer needs. Skilled in user research and rapid prototyping with a passion for creating immersive digital experiences.

Work Experience

Product Manager | Product Designer, April 2016 - October 2024
Forever Studios - Boca Raton, Florida

- Orchestrated cross-functional collaboration between customer success teams, developers, and stakeholders using advanced virtual collaboration tools.
- Conducted market research and collaborated with product development on new products, contributing to a 90% product adoption rate within the first year.
- Collaborated with stakeholders to develop user personas and journey maps, enhancing product alignment with customer needs and increasing satisfaction scores by 30%.
- Managed the product backlog, ensuring its alignment with business objectives and user researchers to validate product concepts through user interviews and usability testing.
- Led the development of a proofing and cloud-based platform, resulting in a 75% reduction in infrastructure costs.
- Implemented design system that reduced design inconsistencies by 80% and accelerated product development cycle.
- Architected UX designs to create intuitive user interfaces, resulting in a 25% increase in user engagement and a 15% reduction in user abandonment rate.
- Optimized product designs for neurodiversity and inclusive user experiences, utilizing advanced accessibility technologies.

Team Coordinator, October 2015 - February 2019
Classic Photographers - Remote

- Developed a set of best practices to achieve the optimal results.
- Led weekly review meetings to review guidelines and offer new techniques to achieve the desired quality and workflow.
- Quality checked each team members work and provided feedback and guidance.

Portrait Artist, October 2012 - September 2015
Norwegian Cruise Lines - Miami, Florida

- Operated and managed private photo studios on existing and new ships builds.
- Developed new onboard marketing and sales methods to be used fleetwide.
- Trained new team members to ensure quality of work and compliance within provided specifications.

Certifications

Professional Scrum Product Owner (PSPOI)
Scrum.org
Certified Scrum Product Owner (CSPO)
Scrum Alliance

Education

Iowa State University - Ames, Iowa
Bachelor of Arts: Graphic Design, 2012

Skills

Methodologies & Frameworks:
Waterfall, Agile, Scrum, Kanban

Product Management:
Roadmap Planning, Product Vision & Strategy Development, Backlog Management, Requirement Gathering, Stakeholder Management, User Research & Testing

Project Management Tools:
Jira, Trello, Slack

Design:
Adobe CC, User Experience Design, Wireframing, Prototyping, Figma, Zeplin, Responsive Web Design

Programing:
HTML, CSS, Visual Studio Code

Other:
Creative Problem Solving, Data-Driven Decision Making, Communication & Active Listening, Attention to Detail, Adaptability