

# Nicholas Best

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## COMPETENCIES AND SKILLS

- **Systems & Infrastructure:**
    - Network infrastructure & Systems Administrator
    - Home Lab (self-hosted services, Proxmox)
    - Hardware Assembly & Configuration
  - **Cloud & Deployment:**
    - Docker
    - Digital Ocean
    - Supabase
  - **Programming & Version Control:**
    - Java, Python, Bash, Git, GitHub
  - **Problem Solving & Continuous Learning:**
    - Building projects in a home lab, troubleshooting, exploring new tools
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## PROJECTS

- **Network Tunneling & VPS Proxy**
    - Made a tunneling solution using WireGuard and a DigitalOcean VPS to establish bi-directional connectivity for a home lab restricted by Double NAT.
    - Implemented Nginx as a reverse proxy with Authentik to enforce Single Sign-On and Multi-Factor Authentication across all public services.
  - **Full-Stack Systems & Web Development**
    - Deployed and managed various self-hosted services and Linux distributions using Proxmox hypervisor.
    - Used AI-assisted development for a retail platform, focusing on the secure integration of third-party payment APIs and the full-stack architecture.
  - **Cybersecurity Competitions**
    - Achieved a team national ranking of Top 3.5% (129th out of 3,634 teams) in National Cyber League.
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## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

### Student at University of Wisconsin Stout

Major: Cybersecurity

### CompTIA Linux+

(In Progress, Expected May 6, 2026)

### CCNA

(In Progress, Expected Aug 5, 2026)

## EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

### Cyber@Stout

On a team training for events like NCAE, CCDC, and various CTFs.

### Yedi Ultimate

Officer for the Ultimate Frisbee Club team at Stout.

### Honors

Active member of honors.

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## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

### Pursuit Community Church - Volunteer Tech

Set up and managed weekly tech equipment for live services.

Jun 2023 - Aug 2025

### Pizza T - Lead Cook / Manager

Trained and supported new staff. Adapted to multiple roles as needed.

Jul 2024 - Feb 2025

### Pro Clear - Landscaping and window washing business

Launched a service business; managed scheduling, pricing, and client referrals.

Jul 2025 - Aug 2025