

# Sander van der Kolk



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Male · Dutch · 1986

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## Profile

Sander is a goal-oriented designer and entrepreneurial developer with strategic insight and a holistic approach. Throughout his career, he has made his mark in both small and large teams, both internally and externally, by developing user-friendly web apps and sites. On the development front, he has experience in HTML/(S)CSS, SASS, PHP, Laravel, WordPress, Javascript, and tooling like NPM, GIT, Webpack, Vite. He codes fluently in Tailwind, Bootstrap, or Foundation and adheres to WCAG guidelines. He is accustomed to working with software such as Github, Atlassian Bitbucket, JIRA, Trello, Linear, Monday, using Agile/Scrum, Kanban, and traditional waterfall methodologies.

After completing his studies, Sander joined the internet agency iWink as Product Manager for Email Marketing & CMS of iMailingtool and the CMS Kirra. He worked in a multidisciplinary team and was responsible for frontend development, among other tasks. From 2014, Sander co-founded Konstruktiv with a partner. In the years that followed, Sander took on project management, design, and frontend development responsibilities, collaborating with a small team of three backend developers and one designer/frontend developer to create applications for international and national medium-sized organizations.

Sander enjoys working in teams, rolling up his sleeves alongside his colleagues to tackle challenges collectively. He excels at motivating people and is a team player. He has an eye for social dynamics and can easily engage in technical or strategic discussions. He works hard and performs well under (temporary) pressure.

Outside of work, he finds solace in DIY projects and gardening. He can often be found at music concerts at VERA and enjoys playing padel and squash. He is always open to discovering new music and podcasts and has a knack for guessing movies based on three keywords.

## Experience

**Frontend Developer · Mobility Service Nederland**

2008, 2011, 2022

Technologies: HTML, PHP, SCSS, Bootstrap, WordPress, GIT, HotJar, Google Analytics.

Mobility Service Nederland offers lease cars under various brand names and websites. Sander was asked three times to develop a design system based on the brand identity that accommodates different websites with their own colors but shared basic styling. In collaboration with an internal backend developer, Sander successfully executed the project multiple times, involving:

- Developing a design system with custom configuration of the Bootstrap CSS framework.
- Creating responsive HTML/CSS template components using the Smarty (PHP template system).
- Improving the design system based on feedback and user research.
- Documenting the use of components and style guidelines.

The project typically lasted around 4 months each time and was gradually rolled out across the 8 websites of Mobility Service Nederland. After delivery, Sander conducted a final check to optimize the functionality of interactive elements, such as the configurator, using HotJar analysis. The website [zakelijkelektrischleasen.nl](#) was entirely new in 2008 and was one of the first initiatives to promote electric plug-in lease cars in an e-commerce environment. Through close collaboration with the SEO team, they achieved this in a short time by maintaining open communication, weekly updates to incorporate feedback, and a willingness to make quick adjustments.

# Experience

## Frontend and Backend Developer · YAS Micro insurance Malaysia

March 2023 — July 2023

Technologies: PHP, WordPress, APIs, HTML, SCSS, Tailwind CSS

YAS is a startup in Malaysia focused on insuring sports activities. YAS approached Sander to develop a Partner & Events platform where YAS partners can create a landing page to manage event registration, payments, and insurance. In a short period, Sander carried out the following tasks:

- Developed elements to enable reusable sections in the Gutenberg editor of WordPress.
- Created forms spanning multiple pages and integrated checks with external systems via an API.
- Integrated with the YAS database to record registrations through the API in the YAS backend.
- Integrated with Stripe to facilitate registrations with payment through the Partner & Events platform.
- Integrated with Google Sheets to provide end customers with insight into registrations.

Within one month of launch, 5 partners had joined with more than 900 registrations for one or more sports activities through the platform.

## Frontender · KNWU & Triathlonbond

April 2019 — March 2022

Technologies: PHP, Laravel, Vue.js, Blade, Bootstrap, NPM, Webpack, Mix, JIRA/Bitbucket, HotJar

The two sports organizations, KNWU and Triathlonbond, awarded Konstruktiv the contract to design and develop their "Mijn" (My) environments after a lengthy pitch process. Based on one environment with different business rules and designs, they started development in sprints. As a front-end developer, Sander was responsible for:

- Developing the basic HTML components in the design system.
- Designing and developing a Kitchensink (an online style guide of components).
- Developing HTML variants based on the brand identity of the sports organizations.
- Conducting user research using HotJar and questionnaires.
- Developing Blade templates with Vue.js components.

The MijnKNWU and mijnTriathlonNL environments have become the place for team or individual cyclists to apply for licenses, register for events, and provide all the tools for volunteers to organize events and simplify the administration of an association.

## Frontender and Web Designer · Verhuisdieren.nl

2017 — 2022

Technologies: PHP, Laravel, SASS/SCSS, HTML, Blade, jQuery, Vue.js, Bootstrap, Webpack, Trello

The Verhuisdieren Foundation provides a platform to find a new pet or find a new home for your pet. In 2017, the foundation was looking for a reliable new partner to redesign the platform and, more importantly, improve the user experience based on findings from an internal study.

- Refactoring the Laravel application and upgrading Laravel and its packages.
- Simplifying the number of used components by adopting a modular structure and using components (partials).
- Developing Blade templates with a focus on mobile devices (75% of the target audience).
- Introducing an email design system for the 21 email notifications with dynamic content.

The new website went live in 2019, and now more than 1,000 animals are rehomed monthly (with a yearly growth rate of 24%). The website was nominated for Website of the Year in 2019 and attracts over 4 million visitors monthly.

View more roles and experiences on [konstruktiv.nl](https://konstruktiv.nl)