

Ben Clemens

I'm a design leader motivated by making and delivering new products — through excellence, empathy, and growing alongside the people I work with.

I have 15+ years of experience across product design and product strategy; I am particularly focused on designing AI-driven product experiences that produce truly better outcomes. I'm a "player/coach" who loves to roll up my sleeves and do the product design work as well as mentor and collaborate with designers.

(415) 218-2820

ben.clemens@gmail.com

<https://benclemens.com>

Skills

- Deep product design expertise, with a systems focus.
- Skilled user researcher (particular focus on recruiting panels, doing contextual inquiry and time-on-task)
- Expert Figma and Abstract user (design systems, tokens, plug-in author), Adobe Photoshop, & Illustrator.
- Rapid prototyping with Claude Code and real-world app hosting to test working versions of design ideas with users and real data.
- Front-end engineering (production-ready) with React Typescript. Favorite frameworks: Next.js, Jotai, Styled Components, Storybook, design tokens.

Publications

- [“Social Networks for Creative Collaboration”](#) Cohen, Clemens, 2005 ACM (CHI-sponsored)
- [“Design Patterns are a Better Way to Collaborate on Your Design System”](#) Clemens, Smashing Magazine, May 16, 2023

Experience

JULY 2025–PRESENT

Marker Learning

Lead Designer

- App design for an AI-powered app to help special education teams handle case management, gather and distill background documents, and write evaluations for students.
- User research and participatory design across 13 different school districts throughout the U.S.

OCT 2022–NOV 2024

VideaHealth

Head of Design

- Led the redesign of core UI for AI-driven annotations to visualize dental pathologies on x-rays
- Conducted extensive user research, accumulating hundreds of hours of clinical workflow analysis, resulting in a 40% engagement lift and increased sales
- Spearheaded the incubation and launch of two innovative products for revenue cycle management and insurance claims preparation, leveraging LLM-created clinical narratives

DEC 2015–APR 2022

Philo

Head of Design

- Pioneered the zero-to-one launch of Philo, growing the streaming TV service to over 2 million subscribers
- Developed cross-platform UI components using React, Java (Android), and Brightscript (Roku), ensuring a consistent user experience across devices
- Scaled design team from sole designer to a team of 8, while helping lead company growth from 6 to 120 employees

JAN 2015–DEC 2015

DIY.org

Product Manager

- Led product strategy, user research, and feature prioritization to create an engaging learning platform for children to learn skills from each other
- Iterated on the value proposition and adjustment to achieve SAAS metric goals for funding
- Acquired by Littlebits

2014–2015

InstaEdu

Sr. Product Designer

- Zero-to-one design of app for tutoring product
- Marketplace for online tutoring
- Designed and implemented a new lesson space for immediate help
- Acquired by Chegg

2012-13

Storify

Sr. Designer

- Zero-to-one design of a news curation tool with major media clients including The New York Times, Gannet, Reuters, AFP, CNN, and NBC News.
- Designed, implemented, and did user research on a paid model for the product
- Acquired by Livefyre

2010-12

Blurb

Director, Interaction Design

- Redesigned publishing platform bookstore
- 20% growth of customer engagement from design initiatives
- Created and launched new ebook authoring product

2009-10

BabyCenter

Creative Director

- Redesigned logo and identity
- Redesigned core email-based experience for pre-pregnancy to achieve 22% lift in active users
- Designed #1 iOS App store app for pre-pregnancy and pregnancy

2009-10

Current TV

Interaction Design Director

- Helped reinvent current.com as a collaborative-curation news site
- Redesign resulted in a turnaround from declining use to 8 months of 30%+ growth in active users

2004-08

Yahoo

Creative Director

- Lead design for Search, Autos, Local, & Maps
- Lead strategic initiative to redesign Maps, resulting in 180% lift in new users
- Lead strategic initiative to co-market Autos with General Motors brands
- Started an internal design innovation group with a team of 6

Teaching

2022

California State University Long Beach

Lecturer

Education

Temple University

MFA Degree, Art

Antioch College

BA Degree, Art

Patents

US10536741B1 "Synchronizing internet ("over the top") video streams for simultaneous feedback

USD931893S1 "Display screen or a portion thereof with a graphical user interface"

US20190149885A1 "Thumbnail preview after a seek request within a video"

Awards

Gartner Leader, Companies Using AI, 2025: VideaHealth.

Fast Company 50 Most Innovative Companies 2020: Philo.

OMMA Mediapost 2010: BabyCenter, Best Family or Parenting Site.

Webby 2008, Best Use of Interactive Video for Current's Hack the Debate.