

# Software Engineer cover letter

Two sample letters, experienced and fresher. Keep the one closer to your situation, replace the text in [brackets] and every detail with your own.

## SAMPLE LETTER: EXPERIENCED

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Dear Hiring Manager,

I am writing to apply for the Senior Backend Engineer role at [Organisation name]. Your team's focus on building a payments platform for small merchants is close to the work I have done for the last five years, and I would like to bring that experience to a smaller, faster-moving company.

At my current company, a Bengaluru-based lending platform, I own the loan disbursement service written in Go. When disbursal failures started causing customer complaints, I redesigned the retry and idempotency logic, and failed disbursals dropped from around 300 a week to fewer than twenty. I also moved our service from a shared database to its own PostgreSQL cluster with zero downtime during the migration.

Beyond my own service, I mentor two junior engineers, run our team's on-call rotation and write design documents that are reviewed across three teams. I have learnt to balance speed with reliability, which I understand matters a great deal at your stage.

My notice period is 60 days, and I may be able to shorten it through a buyout if needed. I have attached my resume and a link to a design write-up I published on our engineering blog.

Thank you for your consideration. I would welcome a conversation about your platform roadmap.

Regards,

[Your name]

## SAMPLE LETTER: FRESHER

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Dear Hiring Manager,

I am applying for the Graduate Software Engineer role at [Organisation name]. I completed my B.Tech in Computer Science from an engineering college in Pune this summer, and a product company that ships to real users every week is exactly where I want to begin my career.

During my six-month internship at a logistics startup, I worked on the shipment-tracking backend in Node.js and PostgreSQL. I wrote the API that sends delivery status updates to customers over WhatsApp, and after I added proper indexing to the tracking table, the status page loaded in under a second instead of four. I also wrote unit tests for the module, taking its coverage from almost nothing to about seventy per cent.

Outside the internship, I have solved around 400 problems on competitive coding platforms and contributed two small bug fixes to an open-source Python library, both reviewed and merged by its maintainers.

I am comfortable reading unfamiliar code, asking questions early and writing clear pull request descriptions. My degree results are out, and I can join immediately. My GitHub profile and resume are attached for your review.

Thank you for considering my application. I would be glad to take up a coding assessment or technical interview at your convenience.

Regards,

[Your name]

## **BEFORE YOU SEND IT**

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- Write a subject line such as “Application: Backend Engineer, 4 years, Go and PostgreSQL” so a recruiter screening hundreds of emails sees the role, core stack and experience at once.
- Link your GitHub or portfolio site only if it has readable, recent code; one well-documented project with a clear README beats twenty forked repositories nobody can follow.
- State your notice period, and whether a buyout is possible, in the closing paragraph; product companies screen heavily on joining timelines, and leaving it out only delays the conversation.
- Keep the letter under a page and skip the full technology list, which your resume already carries; use the space to explain one system you owned and its measured outcome.