Harssha Vardan S [Design Leader & Craftsman]

Bangalore, India

Lead Design Engineer and founding designer with 7+ years leading design teams and shipping mobile and web products. I work across strategy, brand, UI/UX, and motion, and build AI tools for design and prototyping.

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Experience

Pocket FM

Lead Design Engineer Aug 2025 — Present

- Built and shipped Console, an internal AI design toolkit for moving from ideas to prototypes and collaborating with engineering.
- Led content and experience design for audio discovery, using A/B testing, user research, and product data to guide iterations. The AI-powered experiences drove avg ~10 mins/user of engagement.
- Led design engineering for key iOS and web flows. Built motion systems from scratch with SwiftUI, Rive, Lottie, and After Effects.
- Helped the design team adopt AI in daily work, including building an internal tool to analyze app store review sentiment.

Pocket FM work update

Glitch.house

Founding Member, Principal Designer Oct 2024 — May 2025

- Led product strategy and designed and prototyped 100+ high-fidelity screens for a DIY hardware discovery app with build guides, component lists, and recommendations.
- Designed the retro-tech brand and a cross-platform design system for consistent UI across iOS, Android, and web.
- Hired and mentored a remote intern team and led front-end development for responsive web and React Native.

Glitch.house case study

The Dot Studio

Founding Member, Design Head Dec 2023 — Aug 2024

- Led brand strategy and design for schools, from state board to International Baccalaureate, across identity, websites, social media, events, and print.
- Hired and led a team of four and built design systems and sales workflows to support a future SaaS model.
- Co-developed a K—12 education thesis on personalized and collaborative learning.

The Dot Studio case study

Tekie

Founding Member, Design Head Nov 2018 — Oct 2023

- Led product design for the student and teacher coding platform through Tekie's acquisition by Uolo. Built a brand around original stories and characters for co-branding with partner schools.
- Built the design function, hired and led a multidisciplinary team of 6+, and conducted field research with students and teachers.
- Directed the animated coding series and led 30+ artists to create NEP-aligned comic textbooks for grades 1—8.

Tekie case study Inc42 The Times of India

Projects

SaveThat helps find and rediscover bookmarks you saved. Native Mac app coming.

Technical Skills

Design Tools Adobe Creative Suite, Figma, Sketch, Framer, Unicorn Studio, Rive, Spline, Canva, Jitter, LottieFiles, Blender, Unity 3D, Maya

Design Engineering SwiftUI, TypeScript, JavaScript, React, React Native, Next.js, Tailwind CSS, Node.js, HTML, CSS, Framer Motion, Vercel, v0, Lovable, Bolt, Cursor, Claude Code, Codex

Generative AI Midjourney, Adobe Firefly, Stable Diffusion, DALL-E, Sora, Runway, Hailuo AI

Education

Diploma in Animation & Film Making
Toonz Academy, Kerala • 2018

Isha Home School
Coimbatore • 8.7 CGPA

Awards

Portfolio of the Month
wallofportfolios.in • Dec 2025

Two first-place finishes, Game Jam Titans
NASSCOM Game Jam Titans • 2015 and 2016