


Duane Hodges

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 [LinkedIn](#) |  Atlanta, GA

[Portfolio](#)

Lead/Director of Quality Engineering

Proven quality engineering leader with 15+ years of experience driving large-scale transformation, automation, and DevOps initiatives for enterprise clients. Expert in building high-performing teams, architecting robust test strategies, and delivering measurable improvements in software quality, velocity, and security. Adept at aligning quality engineering with business goals, fostering cross-functional collaboration, and implementing modern CI/CD, cloud, and test automation solutions.

TECHNICAL EXPERTISE

- **Android QA & Test Infrastructure:** Espresso, Kotlin, Java, XCUITest
 - **Distributed Systems Testing:** API, backend, cloud environments
 - **CI/CD Pipelines:** GitHub Actions, Jenkins, Azure DevOps
 - **Framework Development:** Selenium, Playwright, PyTest, Appium
 - **Cloud Platforms:** AWS, Firebase, GCP
 - **Languages:** Kotlin, Java, Python, Bash, JSON
 - **Cross-Functional Testing:** Feature, workflow, integration, performance
 - **Tools:** JIRA, TestRail, GitHub, Docker, Kubernetes
 - **Leadership:** Mentoring QA teams, setting roadmap, test design reviews
 - **Methodologies:** Agile, Scrum, TDD, Modular Test Strategy, Continuous Testing
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SELECTED ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Enterprise-Scale Quality Transformation

Designed and executed a comprehensive quality engineering strategy for a global banking client, automating iOS/Android regression suites (XCUITest, Espresso) and integrating quality gates into CI pipelines. Reduced regression cycle time by 70% and eliminated manual bottlenecks, enabling faster, safer releases.

Modernization of Product Ecosystems

Led the end-to-end quality engineering for a multi-product food service platform, architecting modular test automation and performance testing frameworks. Integrated all automated tests into CI/CD, enabling daily quality validation and supporting rapid, scalable product launches.

Performance Engineering & Observability

Delivered a performance turnaround for a major hospitality client, conducting in-depth KPI analysis and competitive benchmarking. Built a custom performance testing framework, resulting in a 10% increase in customer retention and improved site reliability.

DevOps & CI/CD Enablement

Implemented automated quality gates (unit, integration, E2E, performance) using GitHub Actions, Jenkins, and Azure DevOps. Drove adoption of code coverage and static analysis tools (Codecov, CodeQL), providing real-time quality insights and reducing escaped defects.

Cloud-Native Quality Solutions

Architected and deployed cloud-based test environments using Firebase, AWS, and Azure, supporting scalable, ephemeral test infrastructure for web and mobile applications.

End-to-End Android Test Automation & CI/CD Scaling

Developed Espresso-based automation suites for Android platforms deployed across cloud CI infrastructure. Integrated test execution in GitHub Actions and reduced manual testing effort by 80%.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Slalom | Atlanta, GA

Principal Quality Engineer | 2021 – Present

- Spearheaded quality engineering for complex, multi-workstream client engagements, leading a team of 12+ engineers.

- Delivered robust test strategies for frontend (React, Angular) and backend (API, microservices) systems, aligning with business and technical stakeholders.
- Integrated automated functional, performance, and security tests into CI/CD pipelines, accelerating release cycles and improving software quality.
- Defined and tracked KPIs, leveraging data-driven insights to drive continuous improvement.
- Mentored and developed engineering talent, fostering a culture of excellence and innovation.

Ultimate Software | Atlanta, GA

Senior Software Developer in Test (SDET) | 2015 – 2021

- Designed and maintained automated test frameworks for Android and cloud-based APIs.
- Scaled system testing tools for live deployments in multi-tenant environments.
- Led QA for critical HR tech modules with millions of users.

AirWatch / VMware | Atlanta, GA

Senior Performance and Automation Engineer | 2013 – 2015

- Built test tools and environments for high-availability mobile device management apps.
- Delivered distributed performance test solutions and streamlined test environment scaling.

EDUCATION

B.S. – Information Systems

Georgia State University, Atlanta, GA

Frameworks:	React Angular Ionic
Cloud:	AWS Azure GCP
Database Tools:	SQL Server MySQL Firebase MongoDB SQL Query Analyzer
Programming Languages:	C# Java HTML CSS JavaScript Typescript Python JSON
Automation Framework:	Playwright Cypress PyTest dbt Selenium Artillery Google Lighthouse XCUI Espresso JMeter Postman Jasmine TestNG JUnit
Testing:	Unit Integration API/Contract Functional UI Web Mobile Performance Load Stress Accessibility SEO

Other:	NodeJS Jira Confluence Slack Microsoft Teams Docker Kubernetes
CI/CD Tools:	Jenkins GitLab CI/CD Azure DevOps
Version Control:	Git SVN GitHub
Project Management:	Agile Kanban

RECOGNITION & IMPACT

- Led global automation strategy for multiple mobile-first product launches
- Scaled cross-platform automation to support distributed engineering teams
- Trusted leader in transforming manual QA into test automation organizations
- Strong communicator and mentor in engineering-wide quality initiatives