

Software Engineer Achievement Cheat Sheet

Your impact lives on dashboards you already open every day — CI, Sentry, Grafana. You don't need the finance team to prove it.

NUMBERS YOU ALREADY HOLD

PRs merged & code-review turnaround

p95/p99 latency (Grafana)

error rate (Sentry)

build & deploy time (CI)

test coverage

requests/day, instances or pods

production incidents handled

BEFORE → AFTER

✗ Responsible for maintaining backend services.

✓ Owned 4 backend services handling 2M requests/day; cut p95 latency 800ms → 180ms by removing N+1 queries.

✗ Worked on improving test coverage.

✓ Raised test coverage 48% → 85% on the payments module, catching 12 regressions before release.

✗ Helped with the CI pipeline.

✓ Parallelized CI, cutting build time 22min → 6min and unblocking ~15 daily deploys.

✗ Fixed bugs reported by QA.

✓ Closed 60+ production bugs in 6 months; drove Sentry error rate from 4% to 0.3%.

✗ Participated in code reviews.

✓ Reviewed ~20 PRs/week and wrote the review checklist the team still uses, taking turnaround from 2 days to same-day.

HONEST ESTIMATION

Deploy ran ~20x/day and my change saved ~15 min each → “reclaimed ~5 hrs/week of engineering time.” Every input is on your own CI dashboard.

HOW THIS SCALES WITH SENIORITY

JUNIOR Closed 60+ bugs; automated the release checklist (saved ~3 hrs/week).

MID Shipped the notifications service (2M events/day); dropped error rate 4% → 0.3%.

SENIOR Set the API standards adopted by 6 teams; the shared gateway removed ~30% of duplicated auth code.