# Ben Thompson

## Director, Product Design

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**Growth-focused and results-driven professional with 10+ years of progressive experience leading cross-functional teams and driving product design,  strategy, and development for industry-leading organizations.**

## Work History

### The Irvine Company - Director of Product Development

July 2021 - Present,  Irvine, CA

I currently own all web, mobile app, and AI based bot projects. I lead a team of product managers, developers and designers while overseeing  product execution from conception to launch. Responsible for managing ~$2 million budget for all related projects.

- Awarded employee of the month, employee of the quarter and was the first IT department employee in 15 years to be awarded the apartments division's prestigious "impact" award for my leadership in launching keyless access in the self-guided touring mobile app.

- Increased the number of self-guided tours by 110% through key product enhancements.

- Increase AI-based bot's success rate by 400%.

### NarrativeWave - Director of Product & Design

October 2016 - July 2021,  Irvine, CA

Ensured successful development of new features and ongoing maintenance of a web based SaaS application by leading in-house development and design teams. Owned product roadmap and validated critical product features by leveraging high-fidelity prototypes and designs. Improved product UI/UX and development teams' productivity through leadership and mentoring.

- Developed enterprise SaaS application tailored for the green power generation industry from the ground up.
- Helped the company acquire their first 10 clients and secure their series A funding.

### McClain Concepts - UI / UX Team Lead

September 2015 - October 2016,  Rancho Santa Margarita, CA

Lead a dynamic team of graphic designers, UI/UX designers, and front end developers at this marketing agency. Worked on a wide variety of projects across multiple industries. Closely collaborated with all creative departments and development teams to coordinate successful project execution that consistently met and exceeded client expectations.

- Drove substantial business growth by facilitating successful launch of

custom-built, multi-million-dollar revenue-generating marketing platform.

- Lead multiple highly successful website and  web application product launches in a diverse range of industries.

### Identity Management - Creative Director

June 2013 - September 2015,  Newport Beach, CA

Lead graphic and web designer creating compelling and impactful marketing campaigns in the entertainment industry. Created all print and digital marketing materials for internal/external clients. Managed the creative department, overseeing a diverse team of employees, interns, and contractors.

- Lead successful web, graphic and print design project execution.
- Successfully launched multiple new businesses leading all in house graphic design, branding, photography, web design  development work.

## Education

### UC Riverside -  BA Sociology

September 2006 - March 2010

## Skills

### Leadership

UI / UX Design Teams

Engineering Teams

Remote Teams

Outsourced Teams

Cross Team Collaboration

Agile Project Management

Team Building

Product Management

Product Strategy

Product Roadmap

Creative Direction

Strategic Planning

Change Management

### Tools

Figma

Adobe Creative Suite

Microsoft Office

Google Suite

Slack

Github

Bitbucket

JIRA

JetBrains IDEs

Command line tools

Mac and Windows OS