Yousef Sabbagh

Product-minded IT Engineering student · Customer discovery, MVP scoping, requirements

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SUMMARY

Third-year IT Engineering student who takes products from a user problem to a live MVP: runs customer discovery, scopes the MVP and writes the requirements, then builds them in React and TypeScript with an AI-assisted workflow. Founded Ustazna, a live tutoring marketplace, and built Buildak, which reached the final stage of Syria Build Week 2026.

EXPERIENCE

Technology Intern · Devista Levant · Practical Technology Internship Program — Jun 2026 – Jul 2026

- Selected as 1 of 5 interns from 130+ applicants for a four-week program on product thinking and business analysis, run fully in English with Devista's team in Romania.
- Researched and validated the construction procurement problem, then defined the MVP scope, requirements and contractor/supplier flows for Mawad, a B2B quote-comparison platform.
- Led requirements, prompting, testing and iteration to ship a working MVP, refined it on mentor feedback, and presented it to mentors and judges at Demo Day.

Coding Coach · Awalem · Damascus — May 2026 – Sep 2026

- Taught two course levels of coding, electronics and robotics to children with Scratch, CodiPlay and Arduino.

PRODUCT PROJECTS

Ustazna · Marketplace matching parents with vetted university students who teach their children — Live site ↗

Founder, solo · Startup Syria Hackathon, Damascus University · Nov 2026

- Spoke with 5–6 parents before building, then built the first demo solo in a 5-hour hackathon and pitched it to judges in 3 minutes.
- Judges' feedback showed the pitch mixed three problems; narrowed the MVP to one (children discovering a university specialty early) and kept school tutoring as a secondary line.
- Turned the demo into a live service in three days: parent request form, tutor application, and an admin panel for vetting, matching and export, on a fixed $18 build budget with phased specs.

Buildak · B2B ordering platform for construction contractors — Contractor app ↗ · Supplier dashboard ↗

Solo project, product and full-stack · React · TypeScript · PostgreSQL · 2026

- Evolved the Mawad MVP into a quote-based flow: contractors list materials and quantities, suppliers send cash offers, and contractors compare them side by side.
- Customer discovery showed contractors usually buy on credit from traders they know; confirmed it with a contracting company and added an installment option beside cash.
- Set a clear scope (contractor-only, Arabic-only, platform-handled delivery, supplier commission) and shipped a live contractor app and supplier dashboard from phased specs.

ENGINEERING PROJECTS

TeamFlow · React · Laravel · MariaDB · Sanctum — GitHub ↗

Task management app on Laravel REST APIs with auth and member policies; 87 PHPUnit tests (435 assertions).

Teacher Organizer · React · TypeScript · IndexedDB · PWA — Live demo ↗ · GitHub ↗

Offline-first PWA for a teacher on an iPhone, with backup and restore since data loss was the main worry.

EDUCATION

B.Sc. Information Technology Engineering · University of Damascus · third year — 2024 – expected 2029

ACHIEVEMENTS & TRAINING

- **Syria Build Week 2026** · Startup Grind Damascus: Buildak selected in the top 12 of 30 for the final stage.
- **Marketing 360°** · Syrian Association for AI & Entrepreneurship, 100 hours, Aug – Nov 2026.

SKILLS & LANGUAGES

Product	Customer discovery and interviews, competitor research, MVP scoping, requirements, user flows, business models
Engineering	React, TypeScript, Tailwind CSS, PWA · Laravel, REST APIs · SQL, PostgreSQL, MariaDB
Tools	Git, GitHub, Postman, Replit, AI-assisted development (specs, code review, validation)
Languages	Arabic (native), English (C1)