

JOHNNY TRAN

Senior Product Designer / Senior Design Systems Designer

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PROFILE

Design systems leader working at the intersection of product design, engineering, and AI tooling. I own strategy and execution for the PayPal.com design system — turning brand and product goals into scalable component architecture, agentic design-to-code workflows, and accessible, data-informed patterns — while leading design practice and driving alignment with engineering and PM partners.

CORE STRENGTHS

Design Systems Strategy • Component Architecture • Design Tokens & Figma Variables • Multi-Brand Systems • Accessibility (WCAG 2.2) • AI Prototyping & Agentic Workflows • Design-to-Code • Cross-Functional Leadership

EXPERIENCE

PayPal — San Jose, CA / Hybrid

Sr. Experience Designer, Design Systems Lead • Feb 2025 → Present

UX Designer II, Design Systems Lead • Aug 2023 → Feb 2025

UX Designer II • Jun 2022 → Aug 2023

Production Designer (Contract) • Sep 2021 → Jun 2022

- Built and scaled the PayPal.com design system as its sole design owner — 191 components across PayPal, Fastlane & Venmo serving 180+ global markets — and now mentor 1 direct report while setting system direction with 6 core engineers.
- Own 2H26 strategy for the .com Design System — aligning agentic workflows, component evolution, and system convergence with design and engineering leadership.
- Led design-system transformation for PayPal's company-wide rebrand, translating Pentagram's creative direction into scalable typography, theming & interactions; guided 3 designers and 8 engineers to ship 11 components and update 39 sections in 9 weeks with zero breaking changes.
- Architected the v5 token system (Figma Variables + GitHub-hosted tokens) as the shared source of truth for color, typography, and responsive values across Figma and React.
- Led a multi-brand token/component architecture (PayPal, Fastlane, Venmo) via Figma modes — cutting component variants ~60% and eliminating file-corruption issues that blocked branching and merging.
- Built a Figma CMS metadata plugin embedding 123 structured fields across 29 component types, creating a Figma-to-CMS data layer and automating annotations and legal-review documentation.
- Piloted an agentic design-to-code workflow (Claude Code + Figma Code Connect) with system-aware guardrails and multi-brand theming, enabling designers to generate production-oriented React components from natural language.

UPTIME Energy

Graphic Designer • 2020 → 2021

- Created digital and brand marketing assets across web, social, retail, and campaign touchpoints.

EDUCATION

University of California, San Diego

B.S. Cognitive Science — Human Computer Interaction

TOOLS & TECHNICAL FLUENCY

Design & Systems: Figma • Figma Variables • Tokens Studio • Storybook • Figma Code Connect • Figma Plugin API

AI & Prototyping: Claude Code • Cursor • Codex • AI Prototyping • Agentic Workflows

Engineering Collaboration: React • HTML/CSS • Git/GitHub • Design-to-Code Workflows