

Ian Black - Resume (Fabrication)

IAN BLACK

Jacksonville, FL → Relocating to Chicago Metro Area
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PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Fabricator and problem solver with 20+ years of experience across metal fabrication, mechanical systems, and hands-on design work. I've spent my career building things — from precision metal work in a production shop to engineering set pieces and mechanical props that had to work perfectly every single night. I'm looking to bring that same drive, skill, and adaptability to a team that values craftsmanship and creative problem solving.

CORE CAPABILITIES

- Metal fabrication (cutting, forming, welding, finishing)
 - Reading and interpreting technical drawings
 - Mechanical and electronic system integration
 - Prototype development and hands-on problem solving
 - HVAC and electrical troubleshooting
 - Multi-material work (metal, fiberglass, foam, wood)
 - Training and mentoring team members
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PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Scenic Fabrication Lead

Alhambra Theatre & Dining — Jacksonville, FL
2013 - 2025

Took a traditional wood shop and built it into a full fabrication operation. Designed and built everything from structural set pieces to mechanical props — whatever the show needed, I figured out how to make it happen.

- Brought metal fabrication, fiberglass, foam work, and electronic mechanization into the shop — all on my own initiative because the productions needed it
- Built mechanized props and set pieces with electronic controls that had to hit tight tolerances and run reliably every night
- Integrated intelligent lighting into scenic builds, handling the electrical, structural, and visual sides of each project
- Every production was a new engineering challenge — no two builds were the same, and each one required original thinking from concept to finished piece
- Trained team members on fabrication techniques across multiple materials

Maintenance Technician

Matthew's Crossing — Jacksonville, FL
2006 - 2013

Kept building systems running across a large residential complex, building strong working knowledge of HVAC, electrical, and mechanical systems.

- Diagnosed and repaired HVAC, electrical, and plumbing systems across the property
- Developed better troubleshooting methods for HVAC and electrical issues and taught them to co-workers, raising the overall skill level of the team
- Became the go-to person for complex or unusual system failures

Metal Fabrication Apprentice

Therm Flo — Wheeling, IL
2001 - 2006

Learned the fundamentals of metal fabrication in a production environment right in the Chicago suburbs.

- Trained in core metal fabrication skills: cutting, forming, welding, and finishing
- Worked to industrial quality standards in a fast-paced shop environment
- Built the hands-on skills and attention to detail that have carried through my entire career

WHAT I BRING

My career started in a metal fabrication shop in the Chicago suburbs, and everything I've done since has been about pushing what I can design and build. At Alhambra, I took a wood shop and turned it into a multi-material fabrication operation — not because someone asked me to, but because the work called for it and I knew I could get it done. That drive to expand what's possible, solve problems on the fly, and build things the right way is what I bring to any team. Custom fabrication isn't just my job — it's how my brain works.

Portfolio of fabrication and design work available upon request.