
Team 1

Aashish Raizada - 22044382

Adam Collins - 31560451

Megan Nguyen - 49162696

Nakheem Duhaney - 34541516

MyBlogPost Final Report User Guide and Implementation

16th April 2021

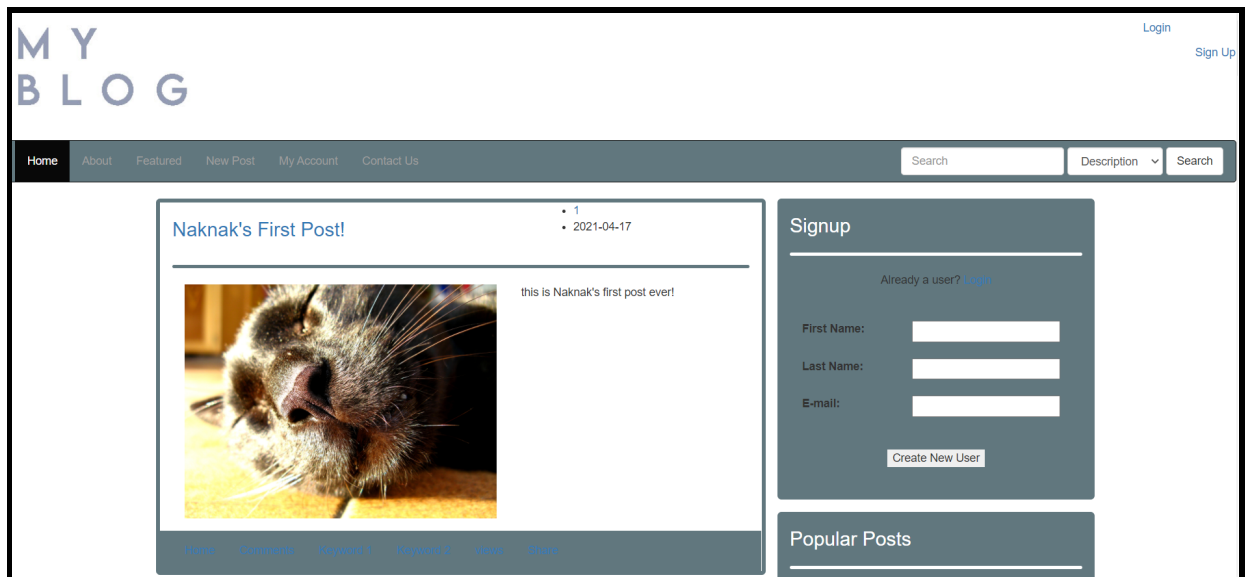
Summary

Our MyBlogPost website aims to create a platform where registered users can participate in online discussions using personalized blog posts. Our features include secure login, user control feature, search features. We also include limited features for unregistered users, including viewing posts and viewing comments. The goal is for the product to be in a familiar format, and to accomplish this, we use the bootstrap framework along with some amazing custom style sheets. With functionality including registration, posting, commenting, viewing blogs and liking posts. The site allows users to log in and stay logged in until they leave our site.

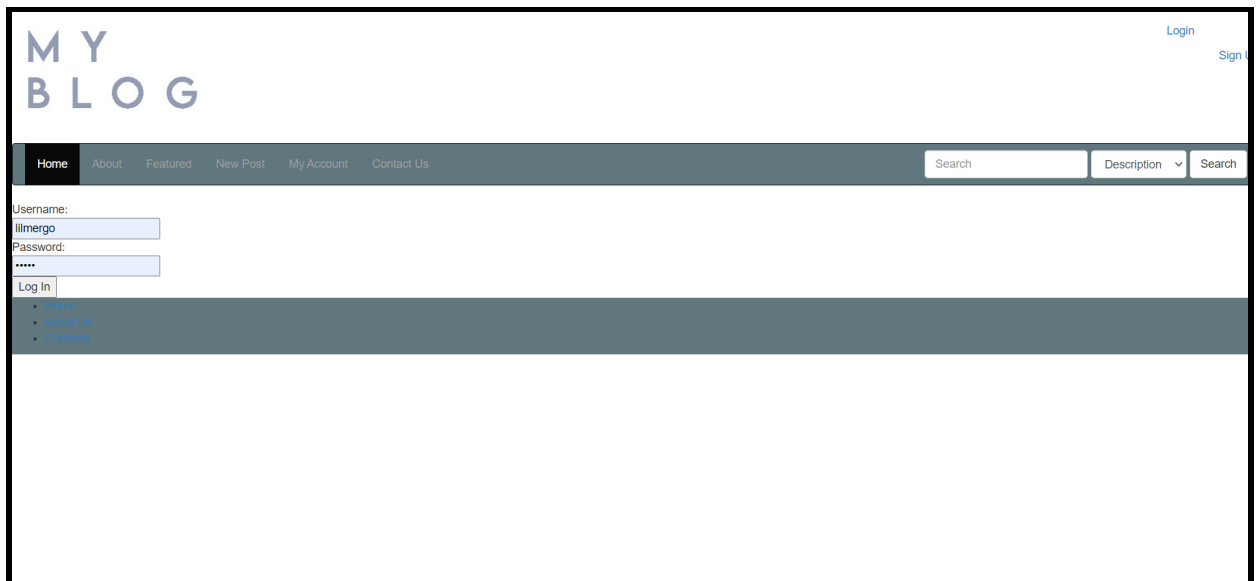
Walkthrough

Registered User:

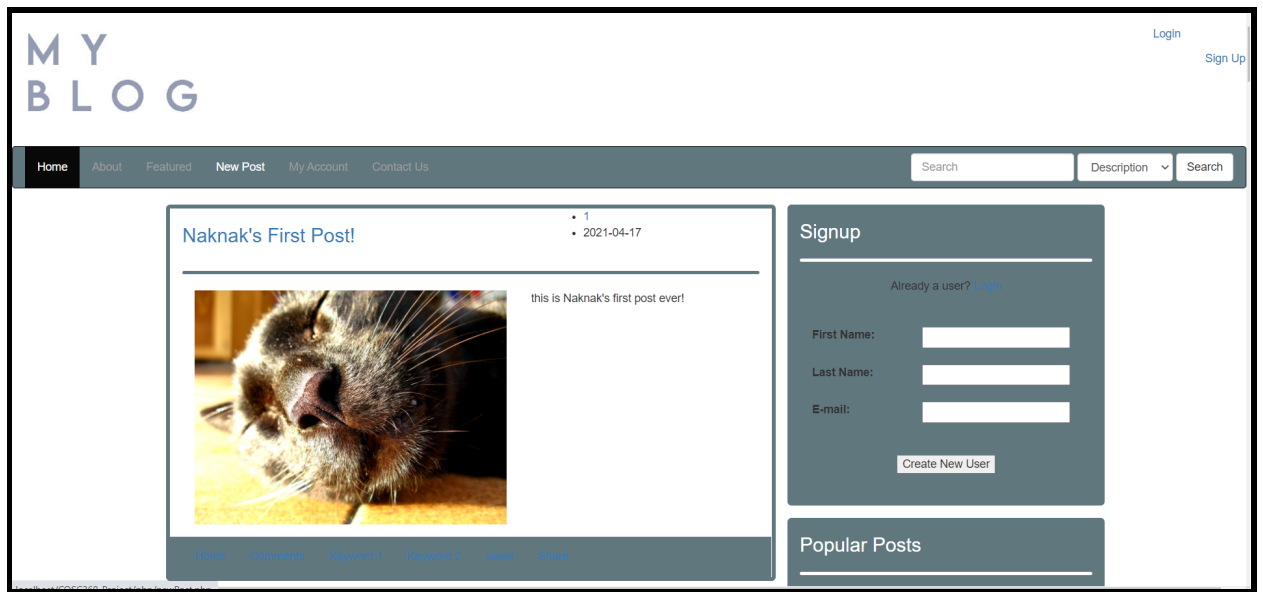
1. This is our page once opened and with no previous posts made.



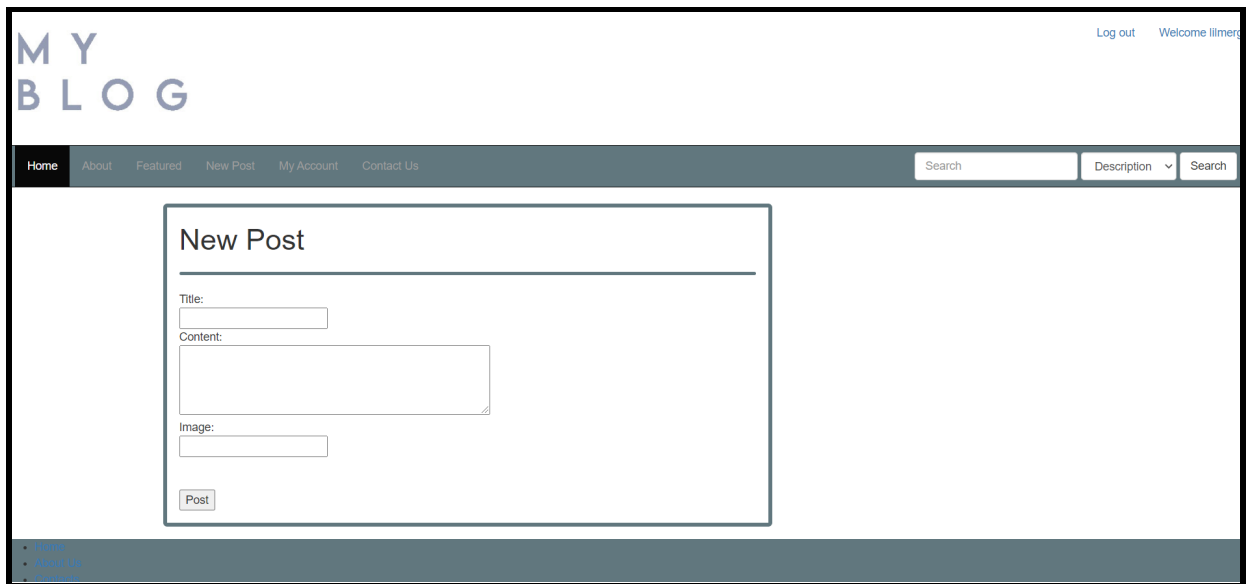
- As a registered user, you can use the log-in area found on the right. Just simply input your pre-existing username and password.
2. This is our page once the login button at the top right is selected.



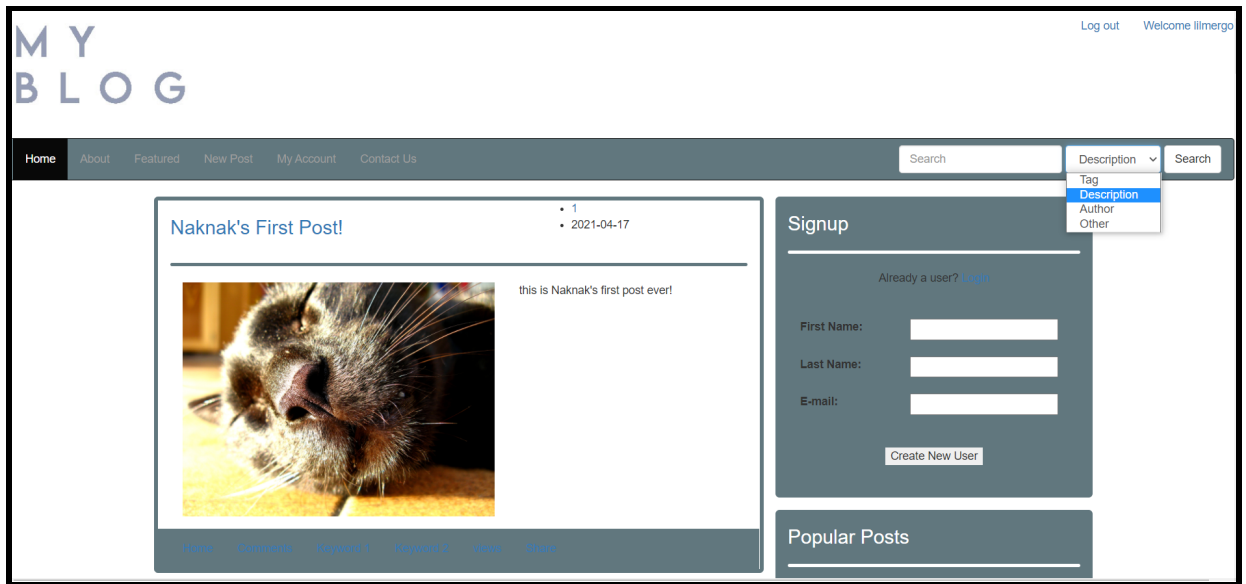
- A registered user can input their preexisting username and password if they do not want to use the previously mentioned log-in box.
3. This image highlights where the Posts button can be found and explored. This is where registered users can go to make new custom blog posts.



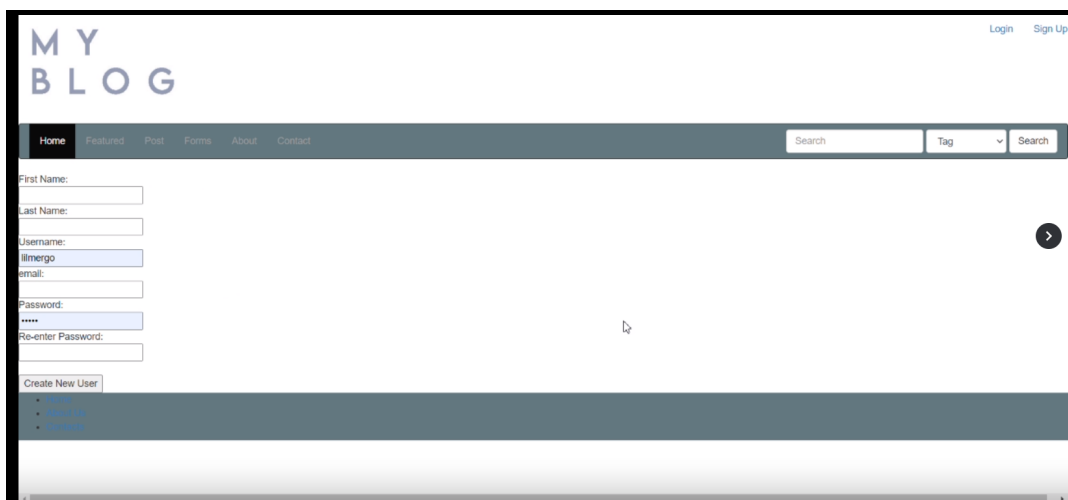
- 4. Once selected, this is the page shown. On this page, a registered user can input everything necessary to a publicly available blog post.



- The values that need to be input include the user's display name, blog title/content and an image link for the blog.
- 5. This image highlights the search bar functionality found on the top right of the main screen.

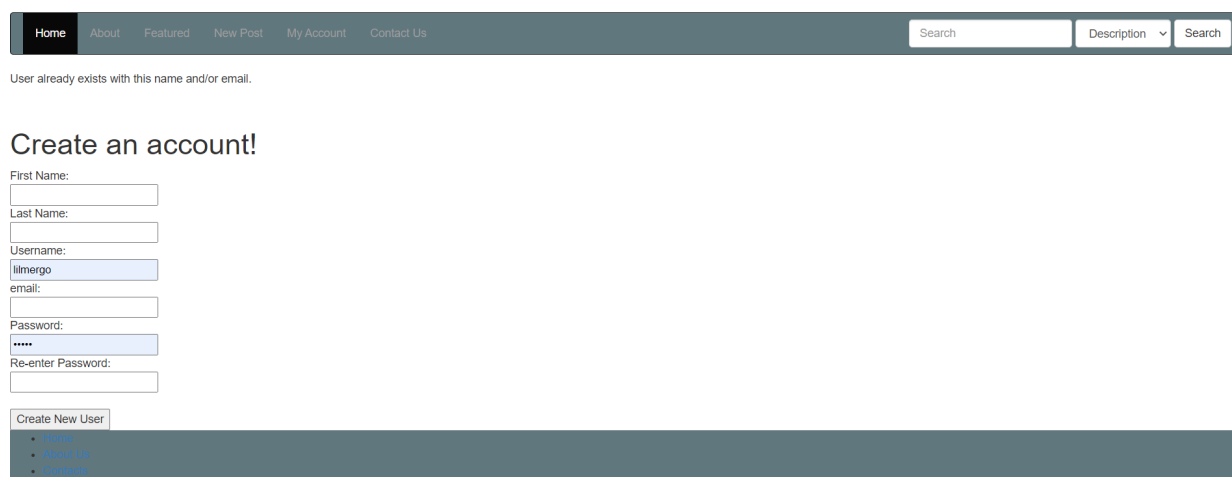


- Here a user can input any word, and then they can open the drop-down menu and filter their searches. They can look for correlating keywords, users, etc.
 - AJAX is used here to get the search results back without having to refresh the page.
 - The PHP file search.php has the code to make all query requests to the database for different files.
 - Based on the selection of the user, i.e. the option selected from the drop-down list, which determines the factor the search would be based on, and the input string entered by the user into the search bar, the matching reports are displayed.
6. This page shows off the signup page that can be opened by clicking the top right Sign Up button or selecting the signup link found on the top of the login box mentioned earlier.



- Here a user can become registered if they haven't already. All that is needed to register is a first name, last name, username, email, and password.
- The username will be verified to check if the user is already existent, and the Re-enter Password input is to validate the user password.

7. A message is displayed if the user already exists:



The screenshot shows a web page with a dark navigation bar at the top containing links: Home, About, Featured, New Post, My Account, and Contact Us. On the right of the navigation bar is a search bar with a 'Search' button and a dropdown menu labeled 'Description'. Below the navigation bar, a message states: 'User already exists with this name and/or email.' The main heading is 'Create an account!'. Below this is a form with the following fields: First Name, Last Name, Username (with the value 'lilmergo' entered), email, Password (with four dots), and Re-enter Password. A 'Create New User' button is at the bottom of the form. Below the button is a dark blue footer bar with links: Home, About Us, and Contact Us.

The page redirects to the login page once an account is created, prompting the user to log in to their newly created account



The screenshot shows a web page with a dark navigation bar at the top containing links: Home, About, Featured, New Post, My Account, and Contact Us. On the right of the navigation bar is a search bar with a 'Search' button and a dropdown menu labeled 'Description'. Below the navigation bar, a message states: 'An account for the user 'Marry' has been created. Sign in now!'. The main heading is 'Log in to your account!'. Below this is a form with the following fields: Username (with the value 'lilmergo' entered) and Password (with four dots). A 'Log In' button is at the bottom of the form. Below the button is a dark blue footer bar with links: Home, About Us, and Contact Us.

8. Users can view and update their profile information by navigating to My Account. User must also confirm their password to make these changes

[Home](#) [About](#) [Featured](#) [New Post](#) [My Account](#) [Contact Us](#) Description ▾

User profile

User Name:

First Name:

Last Name:

Image:

Email:

Enter and confirm password to make changes to your account:

Password:

Confirm Password

A message is displayed if the user successfully made changes. These changes are updated on the server database and are reflected on the User profile.

User profile

Your account has been updated

User Name:

First Name:

Last Name:

Image:

Email:

Enter and confirm password to make changes to your account:

Password:

Confirm Password

If the username or password is not correct, a message is displayed.

User profile

User name or password incorrect

User Name:
lilmergo

First Name:
NameChangeJohn

Last Name:
Nguyen

Image:
happy

Email:
megan.nguyenn261@gmail.

Enter and confirm password to make changes to your account:

Password:

Confirm Password

Make changes

9. When a user is logged in, the login button becomes the log-out button, and the signup button displays their username. When a user isn't logged in, it shows a login button.

Login Sign Up

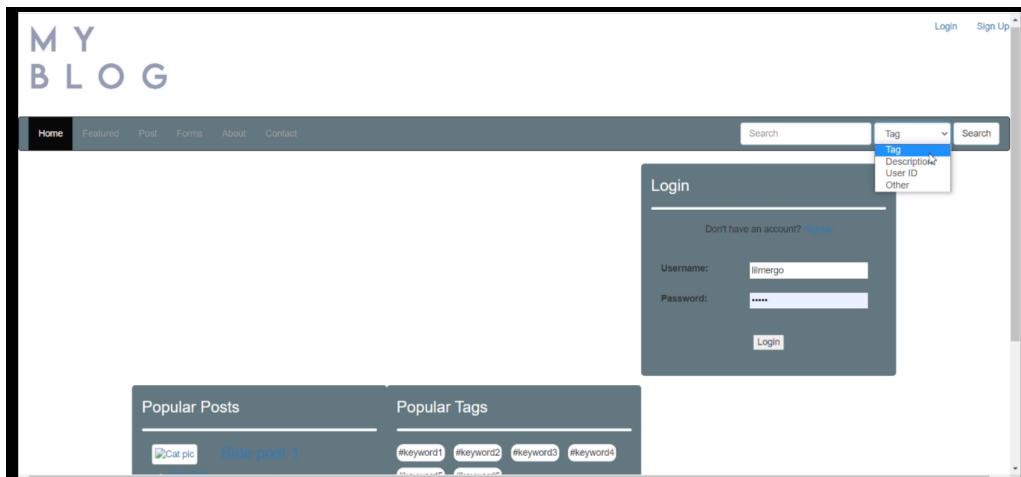
Log out Welcomelilmergo

Unregistered User:

1. This is the page displayed to an unregistered user when no posts have been made.



- Here any unregistered user can scroll through posts. They can see whichever posts were made. However, they cannot make their own or comment.
- 2. Unregistered users can also search using the same functionality as a registered user. They also have access to create an account if they so choose.



Implementation

Registered User Features:

- Users can become registered by inputting first name, last name, username, email and a password.
 - Usernames will be checked for conflicts with pre-existing usernames.
 - Passwords are checked to make sure both inputs are correct.

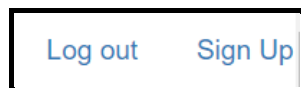
- Passwords are encrypted.
 - Users can sign up with the button in the top right or select the link found in the log-in box.
- Registered users can log in using their personalized usernames and passwords.
 - A user can do this by clicking the button on the top left or using the log-in box.
- Users can edit their profiles while logged in if they choose. This means all personal information originally input can be modified.
- Registered users can filter posts using the search bar and dropdown menu on the top right of the page.
 - Users can use tags, etc., to filter their searches.

Unregistered User Features:

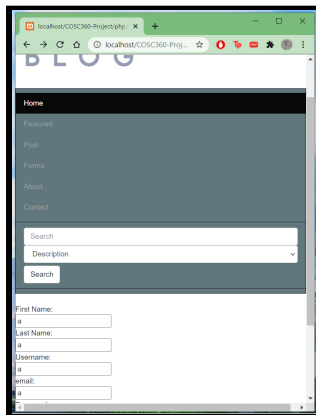
- These users are limited to just viewing posts and comments.
- They can also perform searches the same as registered users.
- Whenever they attempt to use a feature intended for a registered user, they are prompted to log into an account.

Other Features:

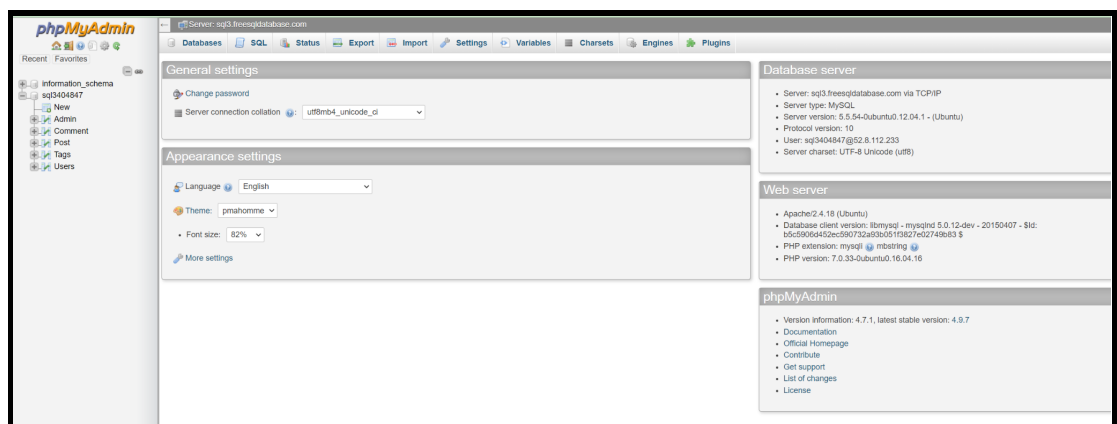
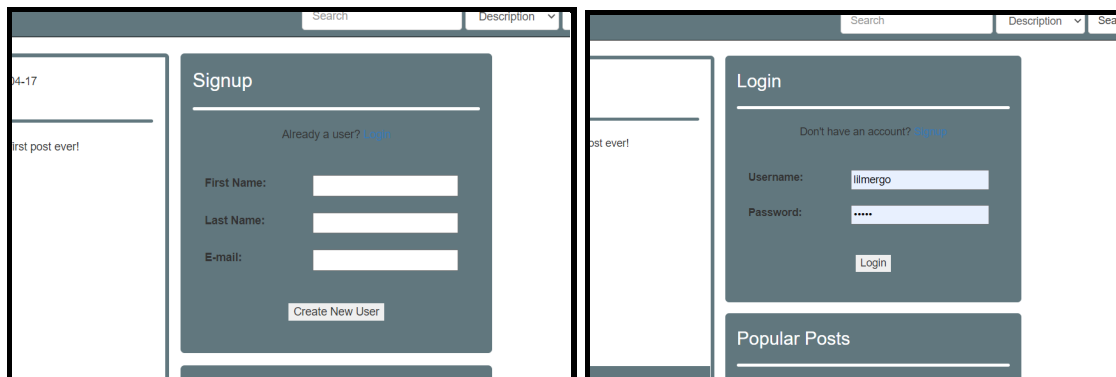
- Our site uses a custom layout with contextual menus that change depending on status.



- When a user is logged in, the login button is set to Log Out, and when they are yet to sign up or log in, it prompts them to Log in.
- Our site automatically updates its formatting depending on screen size by using Bootstrap.



- This is the site format when changed from fullscreen to the half screen.
- The site utilizes a 2 column layout with standard design principles.
 - Our buttons change colour when hovered over.
- Our MySQL database is stored on an online MySQL server to allow for easier development.
- The login/sign up sidebar on our home page switches without having to refresh the page

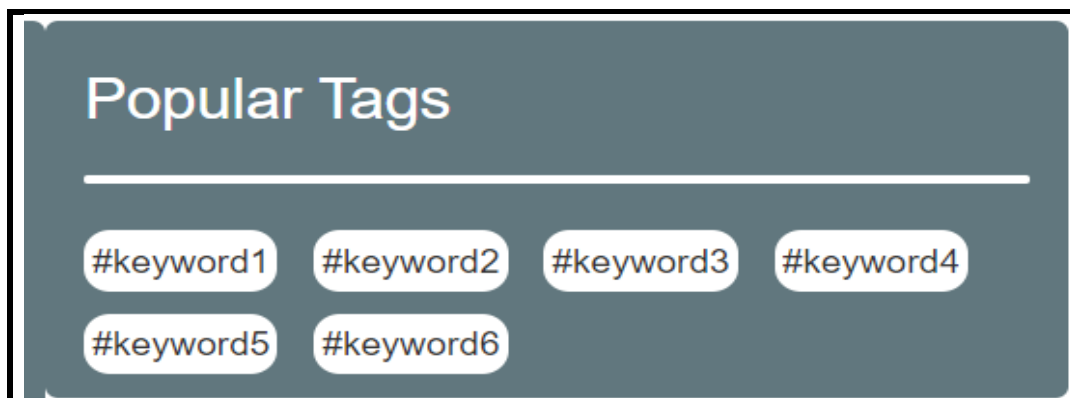


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- Our site implements form validation using JavaScript.
- Our site utilizes server-side scripting using PHP.

- Our site uses MD5 for password data security.
- Our site utilizes consistent site states to decide if a user has remained logged in or not.
- Our site has a responsive design using Bootstrap.
- Our site ensures asynchronous updating using AJAX.)
 - All searches based on tags, names, descriptions, etc., use AJAX, so users do not need to refresh their pages excessively.
- Our site uses Database3 to store profile information.
- Error handling for user account inputs is dealt with through defensive programming.

Known Limitations

- Currently, premade posts have tags assigned to them, there is a Tags database linked to our Post database, and users can search for posts based on tags. However, users cannot assign tags to posts from the website, and tags are not visible on posts or the popular tags section.



Deployment

Client-side Testing:



The screenshot shows a web page titled "MY BLOG". Below the title is a navigation bar with links: Home, Featured, Post, Forms, About, and Contact. The "Home" link is highlighted. Below the navigation bar, there is a message: "User name or password incorrect". Underneath this message are two input fields: "Username:" and "Password:". Below the "Password:" field is a "Log In" button.

- We used manual testing to manage correct login information.
- We also used manual testing to monitor the validation of form data before submission.
- For forms requiring password confirmation, the user is not allowed to proceed if mismatching passwords are entered, we consistently ran this test as we reworked user info functionality.
- Similar checks for other forms were done with javascript validation. The javascript does not allow submission without the required fields being filled in.

Server-side Testing:

- Both the profile page and account page include server-side testing to make sure the user is logged in. This way it is ensured they are able to access certain pages. If the user is not logged in, then they are returned to the index page