Full Stack Development with MERN

Project Documentation

1. Introduction

Project Title: House Hunt - Your Perfect Rental Home Finder

Team Members:

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2. Project Overview

Purpose: To create a streamlined, user-friendly platform that connects potential tenants with property owners, simplifying the process of finding and listing rental homes.

Features: User authentication (for tenants and owners), advanced property search with filters (location, price, bedrooms), detailed property listings, user profile management, and a dedicated dashboard for property owners to manage their listings.

3. Architecture

Frontend: Developed using React for a dynamic, interactive, and responsive user interface to browse listings and manage profiles.

Backend: Built with Node.js and the Express framework to handle API requests, user management, and property data logic.

Database: MongoDB (connected via MongoDB Atlas) serves as the database to store all application data, including user credentials, property details, and inquiries.

4. Setup Instructions

Prerequisites: Node.js, npm (Node Package Manager), Git, and a MongoDB Atlas account are required.

5. Folder Structure

frontend: Contains the complete React frontend source code, including components, pages, and styles.

root (/): Contains the backend server implemented with Express, including models, routes, controllers, and middleware.

6. Running the Application

Backend: Run npm run dev from the project's root directory.

Frontend: Run npm start from inside the /frontend directory.

7. API Documentation

The backend exposes REST APIs for essential operations. Key endpoints include:

POST /api/auth/register - User registration (for Tenants and Owners)

POST /api/auth/login - User login

GET /api/properties - Retrieve a list of all rental properties

GET /api/properties/:id - Retrieve a single property by its ID

POST /api/properties - Add a new property listing (Owner only)

8. Authentication

Standard email and password-based login for both Tenants and Property Owners.

The system uses JWT (JSON Web Tokens) for securing API routes and maintaining user sessions for enhanced security.

9. User Interface

Screens provided in the system include:

Login & Register Page

Home Page (Property Listing & Search)

Property Details Page

User Profile/Dashboard

Owner Dashboard (for managing properties)

Add New Property Page

10. Testing

Backend: API endpoints can be tested using tools like Postman for validation and debugging.

Frontend: The user interface and functionality can be tested manually or by using the browser's built-in Chrome DevTools.

11. Screenshots or Demo

Screenshots and demo videos can be provided separately in the project folder to showcase the application's functionality.