Subscription Shepherd User Manual

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Introduction

Software Overview

Subscription Shephard is a web application that can be used to keep track of your collective subscriptions. Whether they be to streaming services or to rent and other payments. The goal of Subscription Shepard is to accumulate all your expenses into one easy to navigate platform. Once logged in users can review the amount they spend monthly on these subscriptions, as well as add new subscriptions and edit old ones.

Server Administration

The server is maintained by an H2 database. For more information see the section on Database Management.
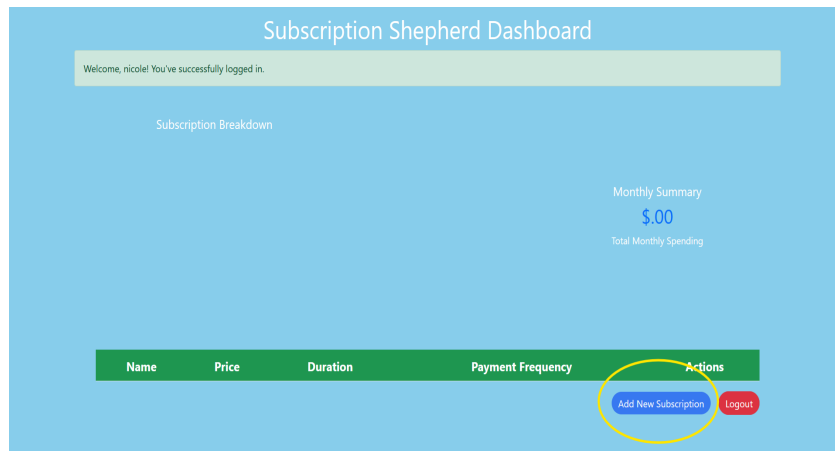
Quickstart Guide

Starting Subscription Shepherd

To be able to start up Subscription Shepherd, users must first obtain and download IntelliJ IDEA Ultimate from the IntelliJ website. As noted in the software requirements, IntelliJ IDEA Ultimate is an integrated development environment that is required to run the source code as it allows database connection and local hosting. After obtaining the IDE, users can get or clone the source code for Subscription Shepherd from GitHub at this link: https://github.com/Aminm246/Capstone-Project. Once that is achieved, users can open up IntelliJ, find the project location for Subscription Shepherd, and open it. Users should wait for the project to finish loading and then a notification should appear on the bottom right of IntelliJ for database connection. Select this notification and follow the prompts to establish a connection to the H2 database. Afterwards, go to the SubscriptionshepardApplication.java file under src/main/java/edu.metro.subscriptionshepard and press play on the IntelliJ screen in the upper right. Wait for around 20-30 seconds for the code to run and then open up a web browser in a new window. Users must then run http://localhost:8080 in the web browser to then see the login page. Now that Subscription Shepherd is downloaded, the user can create an account and start to add their subscriptions to the dashboard.

Dashboard Overview

Adding Subscriptions

To add subscriptions once logged into a user's dashboard, the user can click the blue "Add New Subscription" bubble in the lower right, as seen in the photo below.
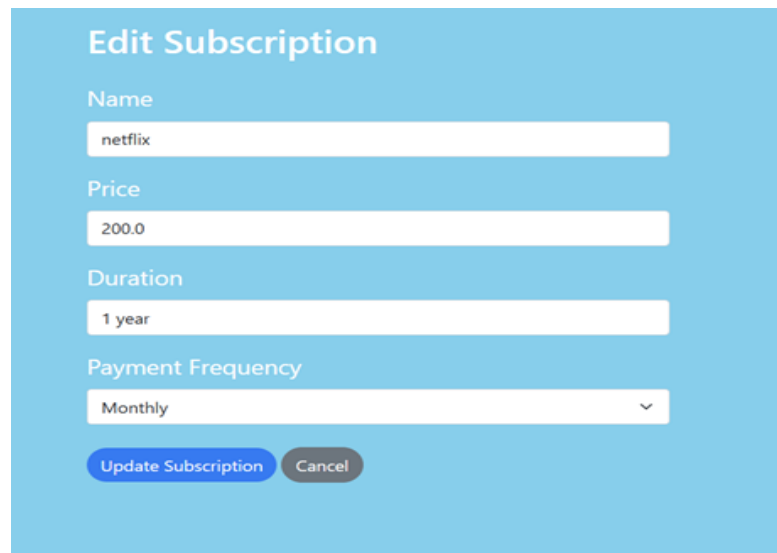

Once clicked, the user will be taken to the "Add New Subscription" screen where all the data can be entered about the new subscription. This includes the name, price, duration, and payment frequency. Once finished, the user can click "Add Subscription" to submit it and be redirected back to the dashboard, or if the user no longer wishes to enter a new subscription, they can cancel the submission by clicking the grey "Cancel" button. The "Cancel" button will take the user back to the dashboard with the data entered previously being forgotten.

With at least one subscription visible, the user can utilize the monthly summary report, which automatically populates once a subscription has been added. The summary is a handy tool that shows what subscription takes up most of your monthly payments. There is also a total shown of how much money the user is spending monthly on subscriptions. If the user has unsubscribed from any subscriptions in the time being, they can delete a subscription by clicking the red "Delete" subscription button next to the subscription they wish to remove in the table. A pop-up will be shown to the user where they can confirm the deletion or cancel it. If deleted, this change will be reflected immediately in the monthly summary as well.

Edit & Delete Subscription

To modify an existing subscription, locate the entry you wish to change in your dashboard table and click the edit (pencil) icon beside it. This will open the edit screen

where you can update any of the subscription details, including the name, price, billing cycle, or payment date.

After making your changes:

- Click "Update Subscription" to update the subscription and return to your dashboard
- Click "Cancel" to discard any modifications and return to the dashboard

All changes are immediately reflected in your monthly summary calculations.

When you need to remove a subscription, click the delete (trash can) icon next to the relevant entry in your dashboard. A confirmation pop-up will appear asking you to verify the deletion - this prevents accidental removal of subscriptions.
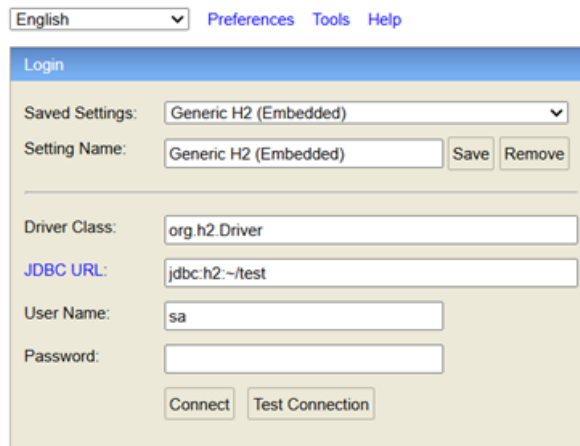
Database Management

H2 Database

The H2 database acts as a secure foundation for the app, storing all your financial data directly on your device. This means your information stays private and offline, with no need for an internet connection. Administrators can easily access the database console for maintenance or troubleshooting, while regular users can interact with the app through a straightforward, secure interface.

For admins who need direct access to the database:

1. While the application is running, navigate to http://localhost:8080/h2-console in your browser
2. Enter the following login credentials:
   - JDBC URL: jdbc:h2:file:~/test (or your configured path)
   - User Name: sa
   - Password: (leave blank unless configured)

Once connected, you can:

- View all data tables
- Run SQL queries for troubleshooting
  - Query for User Table: SELECT * FROM USER
  - Query for Subscriptions Table: SELECT * FROM SUBSCRIPTIONS
- Export/import database backups

Terms of Service

As the developers of Subscription Shepherd, there are a couple items that we must share with our users about the usage of our service, Subscription Shepherd. These terms outline how our service should and should not be used and may be subject to change. Please read them carefully as they detail the proper way to use Subscription Shepherd for your satisfaction.

1. **Users are responsible for inputting their own information about their subscriptions.**

Subscription Shepherd is not connected to any other parties that can determine what subscriptions a user has. A user must add their own subscriptions into Subscription Shepherd in order for Subscription Shepherd to start calculating their monthly spendings and track it for them. This also means that users are responsible for understanding that any information they share online is at risk of being discovered by others unintentionally.

2. **Users have every right to their subscription information.**

Although Subscription Shepherd currently lacks the ability to allow a user to modify or delete their account, it allows users to add their subscription information and delete them at any time if they choose to. This means that users have control over their own information.

3. **Subscription Shepherd only knows as much information as the user has given them.**

In correlation with the first condition, Subscription Shepherd will only have and use the data that it is given to calculate the monthly summary report. This means that it will only be as accurate as the information that it was given and users are responsible for adding in the correct information about their subscriptions for the most accurate results.

4. **Subscription Shepherd does not share any information with third parties.**

As Subscription Shepherd is not connected to any other parties, it does not and cannot share any information with third parties itself. The data it has is kept on its database and stored safely with encryption. Any other leakage or sharing of information that could occur will have been done against these terms and is misuse.

5. **Users are responsible for keeping the source code of Subscription Shepherd safe.**

Because Subscription is not widely hosted on a running server yet, each user has a copy of the source code and must keep it well maintained. This means that users should not modify the source code as modifying it can cause it to break and no longer be able to provide its services. If a user does modify it, they must respect the security of Subscription Shepherd and give credit to the developers of Subscription Shepherd.

6. **Subscription Shepherd is not responsible for any malpractice or misuse from users.**

Subscription Shepherd was designed to help individuals simply gather an estimation of their monthly spendings. This means that it is only meant for this purpose and any other malpractice or misuse of Subscription Shepherd is not the developers or Subscription Shepherd's fault.

As a safety practice for everyone associated with Subscription Shepherd, these terms of services are applied upon using the service. If any part of this agreement is invalid, that part will be construed with applicable law and the remaining parts of this agreement will remain in effect. Please review them with care for everyone's safety.