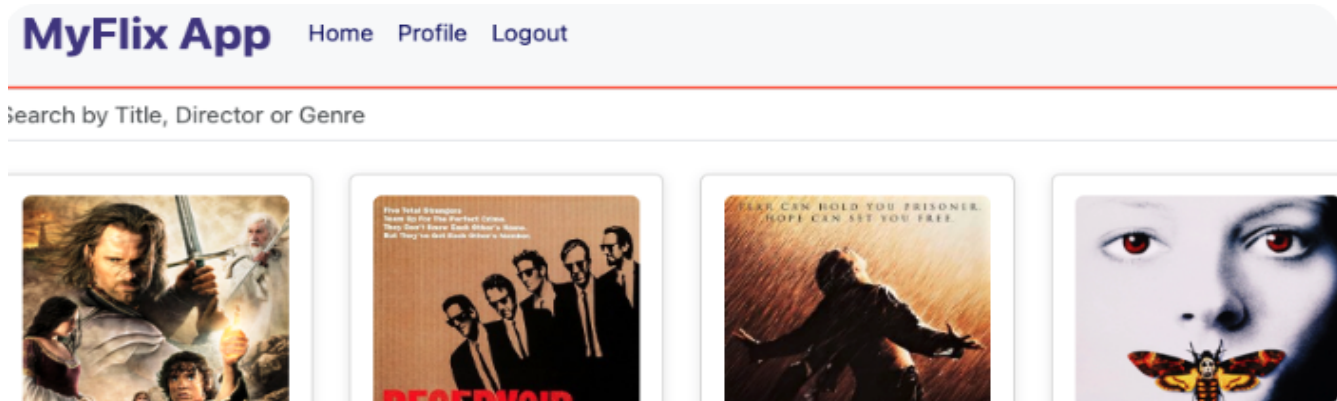# MyFlix Case Study

ExecutiveSummary

A movie app designed to help users easily explore, save, and manage their favorite films.

Introduction

MyFlix was created to give users a simpler way to browse movies, find information about them, and keep track of their favorites. The app features a clean layout, smooth navigation, and responsive design, making it easier for users to enjoy exploring film content without distractions.

The Problem

Many movie apps can feel cluttered or hard to use. Some have limited search features or don't let users save the titles they love. I wanted to create a movie app that felt clear and personal, worked across devices, and gave users control over their experience.

My Role

I designed and built this full-stack web application as part of my development training. I handled everything from layout and user interface to database design, user logins, and deployment.

Timeline

This project took about 3 to 4 weeks from start to launch.

Tools and Skills Used

Frontend:

- **React** for building the user interface
- **Redux** for managing user data across the app
- **Bootstrap** for mobile-friendly styling

Backend:

- **Node.js** and **Express** – to manage data and connect the frontend to the database
- **MongoDB** for handling movie and user data
- **JWT** (JSON Web Tokens) – for secure login and authentication

Deployment:

- **Netlify** to host the app's frontend
- **Heroku** to host the backend server

Skills I Practiced:

Full-stack development, user authentication, data handling, search filtering, profile management, and responsive web design.

Favorite Movies

One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nes...

In the Fall of 1963, a Korean War veteran and criminal pleads insanity and is admitted to ...

Director: Milos Forman

Open

The Matrix

When a beautiful stranger leads computer hacker Neo to a forbidding underworld, he discove...

Director: Lilly Wachowski

Open

Key findings

Key Finding 1:

I built a homepage that shows movie previews in a clean, scrollable layout.

Key Finding 2:

I added flexible search tools that allow users to find movies by title, genre, or director.

Key Finding 3:

I created a personal profile page where users can update their information, view their saved favorites, and remove any they no longer want.
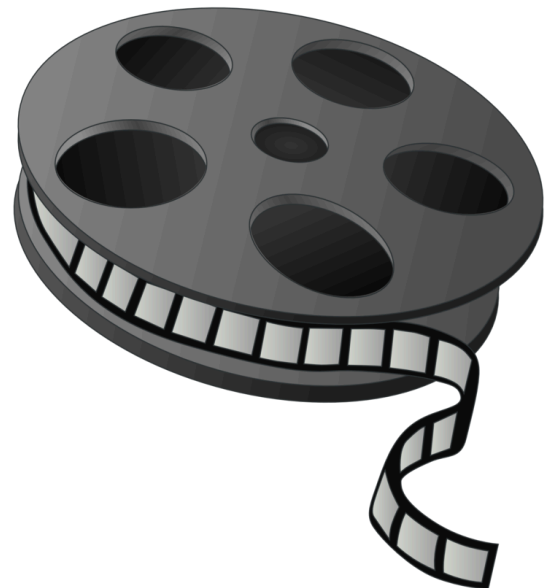
Solutions

Solution 1

I built a homepage that shows movie previews in a clean, scrollable layout.

Solution 2

I added flexible search tools that allow users to find movies by title, genre, or director.

Solution 3

I created a personal profile page where users can update their information, view their saved favorites, and remove any they no longer want.

Impact

quentin

Reservoir Dogs

When a simple jewelry heist goes horribly wrong, the surviving criminals begin to suspect that one of them is a police informant.

Director: Quentin Tarantino

Pulp Fiction

Pulp Fiction is a 1994 American independent crime film written and directed by Quentin Tarantino from a story he conceived with Roger Avary. It tells ...

Director: Quentin Tarantino

Impact 1

MyFlix provided a smoother and more personal experience for browsing movie content.

Impact 2

It allowed users to build and manage a list of favorite films with just a few clicks.

Impact 3

It helped me build confidence working with frontend and backend technologies and connecting them in a live app.

Case Study Introduction

Background

MyFlix is a full-stack movie database app that helps users browse, search, and manage their favorite films. I created this project to practice building a secure, fully functional app with a user-first approach.
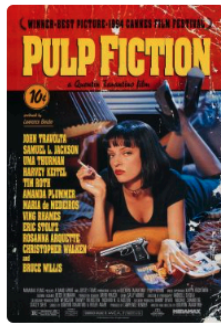
Objectives

Objective 1

Design a clean, easy-to-use movie app

Objective 2

Let users search for movies and view details

Objective 3

Allow users to sign up, log in, and manage their profiles

Objective 4

Enable users to add or remove favorite movies

Problem

Sometimes movie database apps are a lot to take in and navigate through as a user. They can be cluttered, have odd layouts, and lack good filtering options.

I made this app to improve the user experience by creating a navigable movie app where users could browse and manage their own movie lists intuitively while enjoying searching and filtering movies with ease.

Recommendations

Recommendation 1

Keep the layout simple so users can focus on movie discovery.

Recommendation 2

Add flexible search tools that allow filtering by different categories.

Recommendation 3

Let users personalize their experience with a profile and saved list.
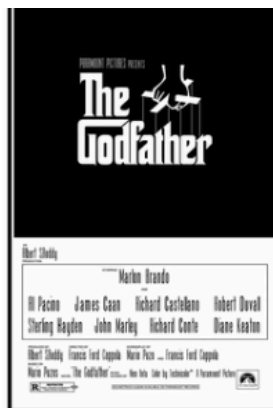
Impact of recommendation

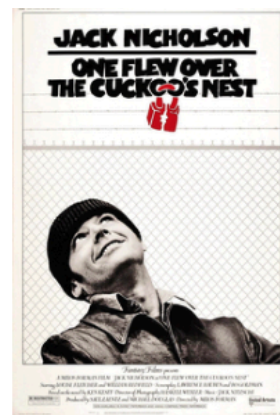| SOLUTION	EFFECTIVENESS	IMPACT	NOTES
Clean layout	Highly effective ▾	Users found it easy to browse and focus on content	No unnecessary distractions
Search by title, genre, director	Highly effective ▾	Search by title, genre, director	Simple search bar with flexible matching
Personal profile and favorites	Highly effective ▾	Let users control and update their movie list	Made the app feel more personal and engaging

Analysis

Back to the Future

Marty McFly, a 17-year-old high school student, is accidentally sent 30 years into the past in a time-traveling DeLorean invented

The Godfather

The Godfather is a 1972 American epic gangster film directed by Francis Ford Coppola, who co-wrote the screenplay with Mario Puzo,

One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest

In the Fall of 1963, a Korean War veteran and criminal pleads insanity and is admitted to a mental institution, where he rallies

Research methods

- Feedback from mentors and peers on layout and flow
- Personal testing on desktop and mobile
- Research into other movie apps to identify common frustrations

Approaches used

- Focused on user-friendly design
- Used a component-based approach in React
- Followed best practices for secure logins and responsive layout

Relevant facts and information

- Project Duration: 3 to 4 weeks
- Tools Used: React, Redux, Node.js, Express, MongoDB, Bootstrap, JWT
- Final Features: Login system, movie search, profile management, favorites list, and live deployment

Challenges

One of the bigger challenges was syncing user data across the app. I needed to make sure information stored in the database stayed accurate with what users saw on screen.

Another challenge was protecting certain pages so only logged-in users could view their profiles or add movies to their favorites.

Solving these issues gave me a stronger understanding of how full-stack apps manage user data and permissions.

Conclusion

Summary of findings

The MyFlix app made movie browsing and list building easier, cleaner, and more personal. It gave users a simple way to explore films while letting them manage their own accounts and saved titles.

Implications of the study

This project gave me real-world experience building a complete web app from scratch. I practiced every step of the development process from the planning and coding to testing and deployment, and I learned how small design decisions can make a big difference in the user experience.

"**This project strengthened my full-stack development skills and reminded me that the best apps are the ones that feel simple and enjoyable to use.**"