

Capstone Project
23CSP-339 - Full Stack-I

Final Project Evaluation Guidelines

Role Based Access Control

Project Title

Role-Based Access Control (RBAC) in a MERN application

A PROJECT REPORT

Submitted by

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in partial fulfilment for the award of the degree of

IN

BRANCH OF STUDY



Nov 2025



BONAFIDE CERTIFICATE

Certified that this project report "**Role-Based Access Control (RBAC) in a MERN application**" is the Bonafide work of "**Anish kumar & Dipali rawat**" who carried out the project work under my/our supervision.

SIGNATURE

Submitted for the project viva-voce
examination held on

INTERNAL EXAMINER

SIGNATURE

EXTERNAL EXAMINER

Project Title

Role-Based Access Control (RBAC) in a MERN application

Project Description

Design and implement fine-grained Role-Based Access Control (RBAC) in a MERN application where Admin, Editor, and Viewer roles govern which API actions and UI capabilities are allowed. Build a Node.js (Express) backend with JWT-based authentication that encodes role claims and enforces authorization via middleware and query-level filters in MongoDB. In React, reflect effective permissions by enabling/disabling controls, guarding routes, and hiding restricted data. Deliver seeded users/roles and demonstrate row-level ownership checks (e.g., Editors can modify their own content, Admins can manage all).

Hardware/Software Requirements

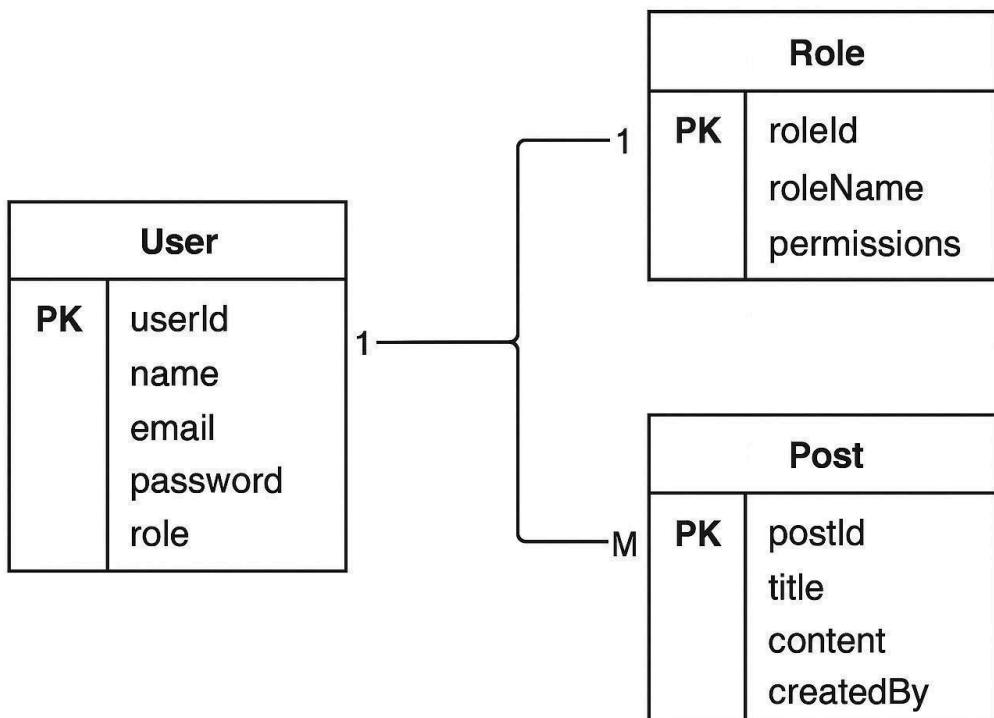
Hardware Requirements

- Processor: Intel i5 or higher
- RAM: Minimum 8 GB
- Storage: 20 GB available
- OS: Windows / Linux / macOS

Software Requirements

- Node.js (v18 or higher)
- MongoDB Community Server
- React.js (v18)
- Express.js
- Visual Studio Code
- Postman for API testing

ER Diagram



Database Schema

Users Collection

```
{
  "_id": "ObjectId",
  "name": "John Doe",
  "email": "john@example.com",
  "password": "$2b$10$hashed",
  "role": "editor"
}
```

Roles Collection

```
{
  "_id": "ObjectId",
  "roleName": "editor",
  "permissions": ["read", "create", "update_own"]
}
```

Posts Collection

```
{
  "_id": "ObjectId", "title": "Sample Post",
  "content": "This is an example post.", "createdBy": "user_id_ref"
}
```

Backend Implementation (Node.js + Express)

Authentication

- Login endpoint verifies credentials.
- JWT generated with user ID and role.
- Token attached in headers for API calls.

Authorization Middleware

Example:

```
function authorizeRoles(...allowedRoles) {  
  return (req, res, next) => {
```

```

    if (!allowedRoles.includes(req.user.role)) {
      return res.status(403).json({ message: "Access denied" });
    }
    next();
  };
}

```

Ownership Check Example

```

const post = await Post.findById(req.params.id);
if (req.user.role === 'editor' && post.createdBy.toString() !== req.user.id) {
  return res.status(403).json({ message: "Not allowed to modify others' content" });
}

```

Front-End Screens

Role-Based UI Rendering

```

{user.role === 'admin' && <button onClick={deletePost}>Delete</button>}
{user.role === 'editor' && post.createdBy === user.id && <button>Edit</button>}

```

Protected Routes

```

<Route
  path="/admin"
  element={
    user.role === 'admin' ? <AdminPanel /> : <Navigate to="/unauthorized" />
  }
/>

```

JWT Token Structure

```

{
  "id": "647a1f...",
  "email": "user@example.com",
  "role": "editor",
  "iat": 1718807000,
  "exp": 1718810600
}

```

Output Screens and Reports

Below are the key **output screens** of the project that demonstrate the working of fine-grained Role-Based Access Control in the MERN application.

1. Login Page

- The user enters email and password.
- Upon successful login, a JWT token is generated and stored in localStorage.
- The dashboard is loaded based on the user's role.

2. Admin Dashboard

- Admin can view all posts created by any user.
- Admin has full access: Create, Update, Delete any record.

- “Manage Users” option is visible only for Admins.
-

3. Editor Dashboard

- Editors can create and modify their own posts.
- If they try to edit another user’s post, the system denies access with a 403

message.

- “Edit” and “Delete” buttons appear only for owned posts.
-

4. Viewer Dashboard

- Viewers have read-only access.
 - They can see all posts but cannot create, edit, or delete.
 - Buttons for restricted actions are disabled or hidden.
-

5. Unauthorized Access Page

- When a user tries to access a restricted route, they are redirected to this page.
 - Displays message: “Access Denied – You do not have permission to view this page.”
-

6. Post Creation Page

- Editors and Admins can create posts through this form.
 - Data is sent via POST request to /api/posts.
-

7. Post Management (Admin View)

- Admin sees all posts along with author information.
- Delete and Edit buttons are available for all posts”)

Limitations

1. Token Expiry & Re-login:

Users must re-login after JWT expiry; no auto-refresh mechanism.

2. Static Role Management:

Roles and permissions are hardcoded with no dynamic configuration.

3. No Audit Logging:

Sensitive user actions are not recorded or tracked.

4. Limited Error Handling:

API responses lack detailed, user-friendly feedback.

5. No Two-Factor Authentication (2FA):

Login security relies only on credentials.

Future Scope

1. Dynamic Role Management:

Add an admin interface for creating and managing roles and permissions dynamically.

2. Audit & Logging System:

Record and monitor all critical user actions with timestamps.

3. Token Refresh Mechanism:

Implement refresh tokens for seamless session management.

4. Two-Factor Authentication (2FA):

Integrate optional OTP or Authenticator-based verification.

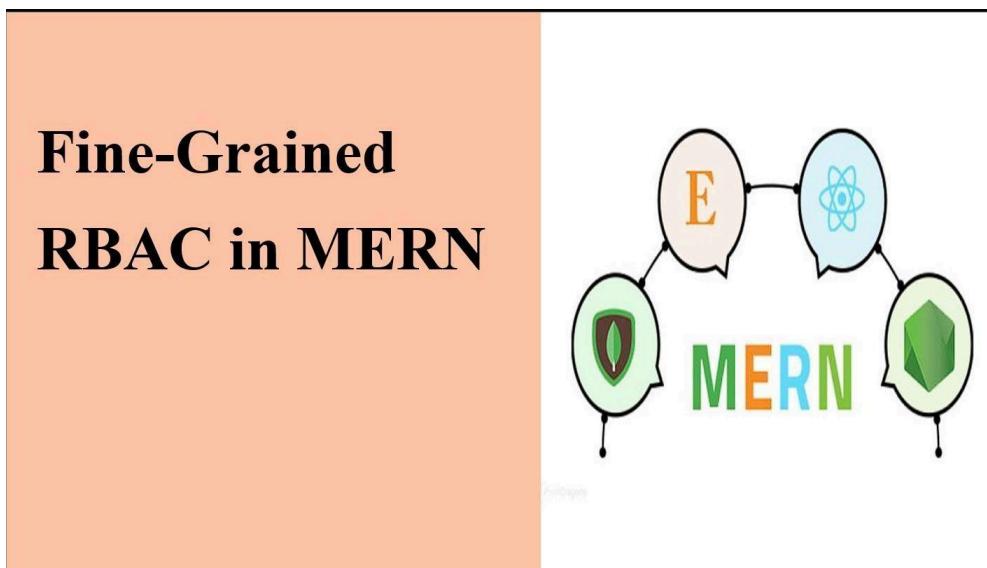
5. Enhanced UI/UX:

Improve the interface with responsive, role-based dashboards using modern UI frameworks.

GitHub URL

<https://github.com/Anish122316/full-stack-developer-project-2025.git>

PPT SLIDES:



Architecture And Design of the Project

Backend: JWT + Middleware

Express middleware verifies JWT tokens, extracts user roles, and applies access rules before running MongoDB operations. Query-level filters ensure data access aligns with role permissions and ownership.

Role Based Database

MongoDB queries enforce ownership validation and role-based restrictions. Editors can fetch only their own entries, Admins have unrestricted visibility, and Viewers possess read-only access without edit privileges.

Frontend :

Route guards and conditional rendering conceal restricted UI elements. Hidden menus, disabled actions, and secured routes mirror backend roles, maintaining a consistent and secure user experience.

An abstract, colorful illustration of a digital ecosystem. It depicts a central glowing blue cube with various icons and data points floating around it, including a bar chart, a pie chart, a gear, and a network graph. The background is a dark gradient, and the overall theme is technology and data analysis.



Importance of RBAC in MERN

Security
Prevent unauthorized access to sensitive data and operations through role-based constraints at every layer.

Scalability
Manage permissions for growing teams without duplicating code—centralize rules in JWT claims and middleware.

Compliance
Demonstrate audit trails and enforce least-privilege access required by security standards and regulations.

Execution: Backend Process and Working

JWT Token
Embed user ID, role, and optionally resource ownership into the JWT payload. Sign using a secret key and transmit to the client.
userId: unique identifier
role: "Admin", "Editor", or "Viewer"
ownedResources: array of IDs

Express Middleware
Validate JWT, extract claims, and attach user context to the request object. Authorization middleware verifies roles before executing route handlers.



Implementation: Frontend

MongoDB Ownership
Query filters enforce row-level access. Editors match query where userId equals their ID; Admins bypass filters.

React Route Guards
Protected routes check user role and redirect unauthorized users. PrivateRoute component wraps admin/editor pages.

Conditional UI
Disable edit/delete buttons for Viewers. Hide admin panels from non-admins. Show only permitted menu items based on decoded JWT.



Final Implementation:

The RBAC Platform interface consists of four main components:

- Login Screen:** Displays a "Welcome Back!" message, input fields for Username and Password, a "Login" button, and links for "Forgot your password?", "Create account?", and "Admin", "Editor", "Viewer".
- User Management:** A table titled "User Management" showing users with their names, roles (Admin, Editor, or Viewer), and actions (Edit, Delete). A dropdown menu allows changing the role of the selected user.
- Admin Dashboard:** A dashboard with three cards: "Manage Content Feed" (View, edit, and delete all posts), "Manage Users" (View all users and change their roles), and "View Audit Log" (See a log of important system events).
- Audit Log (Recent):** A table titled "Audit Log (Recent)" listing recent logins with details like IP address and timestamp.

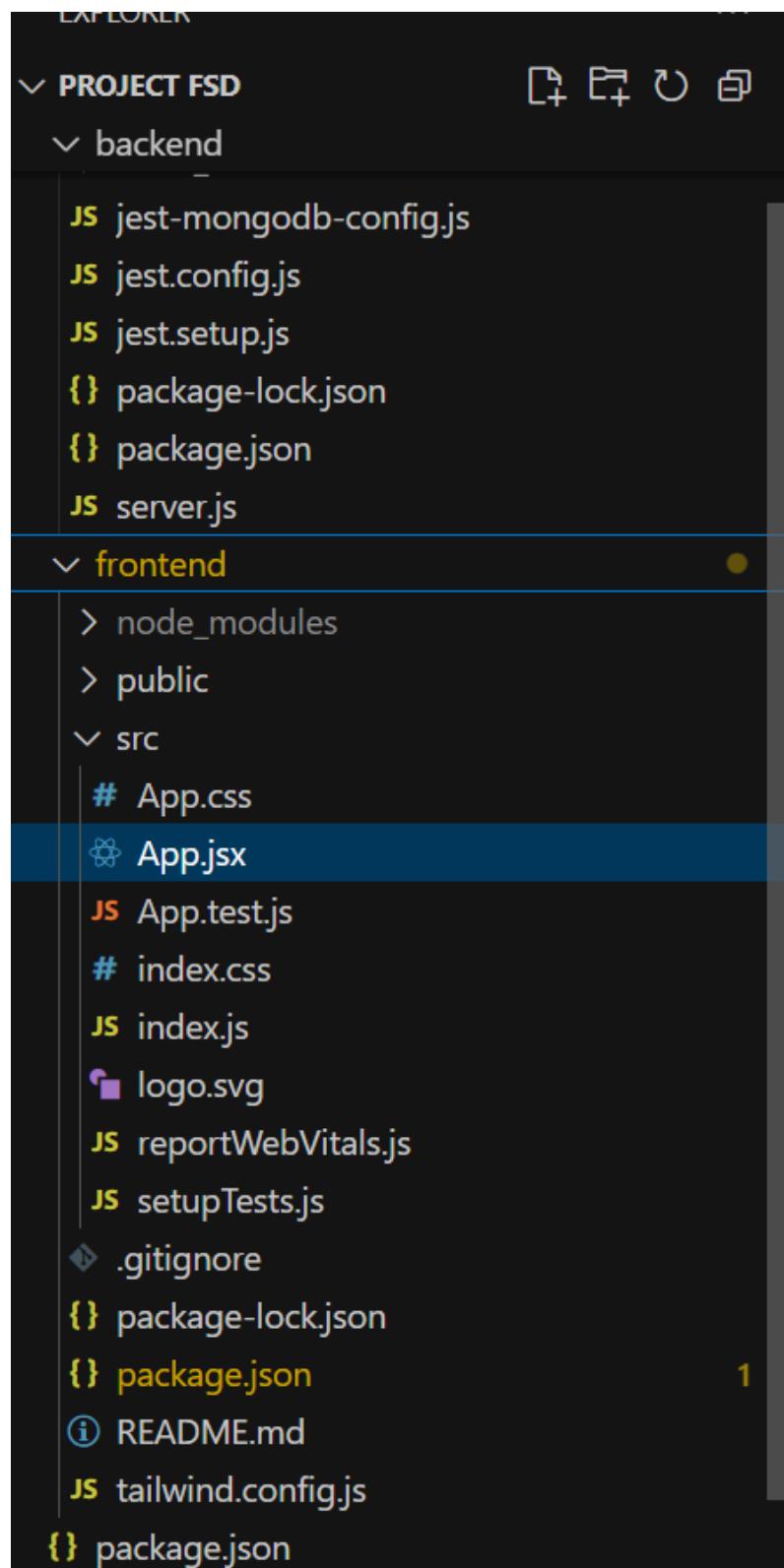
Final Implementation:(role based controls)

The Content Feed interface is tailored for different user roles:

- Admin controls:** Shows a Content Feed with posts from "Another Editor's Post", "Editor's Post", and "Admin's Post". Each post has "Edit" and "Delete" buttons.
- Viewer controls:** Shows a Content Feed with the same posts, but only the "Delete" button is visible for each post.
- Editor controls:** Shows a Content Feed with the same posts, but only the "Edit" button is visible for each post.

Project Code

Project layout (recommended)



BACKEND

backend/server.js

```
const express = require('express'); const
mongoose = require('mongoose'); const
bcrypt = require('bcryptjs'); const jwt =
require('jsonwebtoken');
const cookieParser = require('cookie-parser');
const cors = require('cors');
const morgan = require('morgan');
const rateLimit = require('express-rate-limit');
const { body, validationResult } =
require('express-validator');

// --- Configuration ---
const PORT = process.env.PORT || 5001;
const MONGO_URI =
'mongodb://localhost:27017/rbac-db';
const ACCESS_TOKEN_SECRET = 'your-
access-token-secret-key-CHANGE-ME'; const
REFRESH_TOKEN_SECRET = 'your-
refresh-token-secret-key-CHANGE-ME'; const
ACCESS_TOKEN_EXPIRATION = '15m';
const REFRESH_TOKEN_EXPIRATION = '7d';

const ROLES = { Admin:
  'Admin', Editor: 'Editor',
  Viewer: 'Viewer',
};

const PERMISSIONS = {
  [ROLES.Admin]: {
    content: ['create', 'read', 'update_all',
    'delete_all'],
    users: ['read', 'update', 'delete'], auditlog:
    ['read'], // Added permission for
    audit log
  },
  [ROLES.Editor]: {
    content: ['create', 'read', 'update_own',
    'delete_own'],
    users: [],
    auditlog: [],
  },
  [ROLES.Viewer]: {
    content: ['read'], users:
    [],
    auditlog: [],
  },
};

const app = express();

// --- Middleware ---
app.use(cors({
  origin: 'http://localhost:3000',
  credentials: true,
}));  
app.use(express.json()); app.use(cookieParser());
```

```

app.use(morgan('dev'));

// --- Database Connection ---
mongoose.connect(MONGO_URI)
  .then(() => {
    console.log('MongoDB connected successfully.');
    seedDatabase();
  })
  .catch((err) =>
  console.error('MongoDB connection error:', err));

// --- Mongoose Schemas ---
const userSchema = new mongoose.Schema({
  username: { type: String, required: true, unique: true, index: true },
  password: { type: String, required: true },
  role: { type: String, enum: Object.values(ROLES), default: ROLES.Viewer },
}, { timestamps: true });

userSchema.pre('save', async function(next) {
  if (this.isNew || this.isModified('password')) {
    const salt = await bcrypt.genSalt(10);
    this.password = await bcrypt.hash(this.password, salt);
    console.log(`[Hashing]: Password for ${this.username} has been hashed.`);
  }
  next();
});

const User = mongoose.model('User', userSchema);

const contentSchema = new mongoose.Schema({
  title: { type: String, required: true },
  body: { type: String, required: true },
  author: { type: mongoose.Schema.Types.ObjectId, ref: 'User', required: true },
  timestamps: true
});

const Content = mongoose.model('Content', contentSchema);

// --- ADD NEW SCHEMA FOR AUDIT LOG --
const auditLogSchema = new mongoose.Schema({
  type: {
    type: String,
    enum: ['ROLE_CHANGE', 'USER_LOGIN'],
  }
});

```

```

'USER_REGISTER'],
  required: true
},
actor: { type: mongoose.Schema.Types.ObjectId,
ref: 'User' },
// Who did the action
target: { type:
mongoose.Schema.Types.ObjectId, ref: 'User' },
// Who was affected
details: {
  oldRole: String,
  newRole: String,
}
}, { timestamps: true });

const AuditLog = mongoose.model('AuditLog',
auditLogSchema);
// --- END OF NEW SCHEMA ---

// --- Utility Functions ---
const createToken = (payload, secret, expiresIn)
=> {
  return jwt.sign(payload, secret, { expiresIn });
};

const sendAuthTokens = (res, user) => {
const userData = { id: user._id, username:
user.username, role: user.role };

  const accessToken = createToken(userData,
ACCESS_TOKEN_SECRET,
ACCESS_TOKEN_EXPIRATION);
  const refreshToken = createToken({ id: user._id
}, REFRESH_TOKEN_SECRET,
REFRESH_TOKEN_EXPIRATION);

  res.cookie('refreshToken', refreshToken, {
    httpOnly: true,
    secure: process.env.NODE_ENV ===
'production',
    sameSite: 'strict',
    maxAge: 7 * 24 * 60 * 60 * 1000,
  });

  res.json({
    message: 'Authentication successful',
    accessToken,
    user: userData,
  });
};

// --- Rate Limiter ---
const authLimiter = rateLimit({ windowMs:
15 * 60 * 1000,
max: 10,
message: 'Too many authentication attempts
from this IP, please try again after 15 minutes',
});

```

```

const token = authHeader &&
authHeader.split(' ')[1];

if (!token) {
  return res.status(401).json({ message: 'No
token provided, authorization denied.' });
}

try {
  const decoded =
jwt.verify(token,
ACCESS_TOKEN_SECRET);
  req.user = decoded;
  next();
} catch (err) {
  res.status(401).json({ message: 'Token is
not valid.' });
}
};

const authorize = (action) => {
  return (req, res, next) => {
    const [resource,
requiredPermission] =
action.split(':');
    const userRole =
req.user.role; const
userPermissions =
PERMISSIONS[userRole]?.[resource] || [];

    const hasPermission =
userPermissions.includes(requiredPermissio
n) ||
      userPermissions.includes(`$r
equ iredPermission}_all`);

    if
      (!hasPermission
      ) { if
        (userPermissions.includes(`${
ssio n}_own`)) {
          req.isOwnershipCheckRequired =
            true; return next();
        }
        return res.status(403).json({ message:
'Forbidden: You do not have permission.'
});
      }
      next();
    };
  };
};

// --- API Routes ---

// 1. Auth Routes
app.post('/api/auth/register',
authLimiter, [
  body('username', 'Username must be at least 3
characters long').isLength({ min: 3
)
}); trim().escape(),
body('password', 'Password must be at
least 6 characters long').isLength({ min: 6 }),
body('role', 'A valid role is
required').isIn([ROLES.Editor,
ROLES.Viewer]), // Validate incoming role
], async (req, res) => {

  const errors =
validationResult(req); if
(!errors.isEmpty()) {
}
}
);

```

```

    return res.status(400).json({ errors:
  errors.array() });
}

try {
  const { username, password, role } = req.body;
// Get role from request
  let user = await User.findOne({ username }); if
  (user) {
    return res.status(400).json({ message: 'User
already exists.' });
  }

  // VALIDATE THE ROLE - Do not allow
registering as Admin
  if (role === ROLES.Admin &&
process.env.NODE_ENV !== 'test') {
    return res.status(400).json({ message: 'Cannot
register as Admin.' });
  }

  user = new User({
    username, password,
    role: role || ROLES.Viewer // Use provided
role, default to Viewer
  );
  await user.save();

  // --- ADD AUDIT LOG ---
  await new AuditLog({
    type: 'USER_REGISTER',
    actor: user._id, // User is the actor
    target: user._id // and the target
  }).save();

  sendAuthTokens(res, user);
} catch (error) {
  res.status(500).json({ message: 'Server error
during registration.', error: error.message });
}
);

app.post('/api/auth/login', authLimiter, [
body('username', 'Username is
required').notEmpty().trim().escape(),
body('password', 'Password is
required').notEmpty(),
], async (req, res) => {

  const errors = validationResult(req); if
  (!errors.isEmpty()) {
    return res.status(400).json({ errors:
  errors.array() });
  }

  try {
    const { username, password } = req.body;
    const user = await User.findOne({ username
});
    if (!user) {
      console.log(`[Login Attempt]: User
`${
```
```

```

 return res.status(400).json({
 message: 'Invalid credentials.' });
 }

 console.log(`[Login Attempt]: Found
 user ${username}. Comparing
 passwords...`);
 const isMatch = await
 bcrypt.compare(password, user.password);

 if (!isMatch) {
 console.log(`[Login Attempt]: Password
 for ${username} does NOT match.`);
 return res.status(400).json({
 message: 'Invalid credentials.' });
 }

 console.log(`[Login Attempt]: Password
 for ${username} matched. Logging in.`);

 // --- ADD AUDIT LOG ---
 await new AuditLog({
 type:
 'USER_LOGIN',
 actor:
 user._id,
 target:
 user._id
 }).save();

 sendAuthTokens(res, user);
 } catch (error) {
 res.status(500).json({ message: 'Server
 error during login.', error: error.message });
 }
});

app.post('/api/auth/refresh', (req, res)
=> { const refreshToken =
req.cookies.refreshToken;
 if (!refreshToken) {
 return res.status(401).json({ message: 'No
 refresh token provided.' });
 }

 try {
 const decoded =
 jwt.verify(refreshToken,
 REFRESH_TOKEN_SECRET);

 User.findById(decoded.id).then(user
 => { if (!user) {
 return res.status(401).json({
 message: 'Invalid refresh token.' });
 }

 const userData = { id: user._id,
 username: user.username, role: user.role };
 const accessToken =
 createToken(userData,
 ACCESS_TOKEN_SECRET,
 ACCESS_TOKEN_EXPIRATION);
 res.json({ accessToken });
 } catch (err) {
 res.status(401).json({ message:
 'Invalid refresh token.' });
 }
}

```

```

});

app.post('/api/auth/logout', (req, res) => {
 res.cookie('refreshToken', '', { httpOnly:
 true,
 expires: new Date(0),
 });
 res.status(200).json({ message: 'Logged out
successfully.' });
});

// 2. Content Routes app.use('/api/content',
authenticate);

app.get('/api/content', authorize('content:read'),
async (req, res) => {
 try {
 const content = await
Content.find().populate('author',
'username').sort({ createdAt: -1 });
 res.json(content);
 } catch (error) {
 res.status(500).json({ message: 'Server error.',
error: error.message });
 }
});

app.get('/api/content/:id',
authorize('content:read'), async (req, res) => { try
{
 const content = await
Content.findById(req.params.id).populate('auth
or', 'username');
 if (!content) {
 return res.status(404).json({ message: 'Content
not found.' });
 }
 res.json(content);
} catch (error) {
 res.status(500).json({ message: 'Server error.',
error: error.message });
}
});

app.post('/api/content',
authorize('content:create'), [
body('title', 'Title is
required').notEmpty().trim().escape(),
body('body', 'Body is
required').notEmpty().trim().escape(),
], async (req, res) => {

 const errors = validationResult(req); if
(!errors.isEmpty()) {
 return res.status(400).json({ errors:
errors.array() });
 }

 try {
 const { title, body } = req.body;

```

```

 author: req.user.id,
 });
 await content.save();
 res.status(201).json(content);
} catch (error) {
 res.status(500).json({ message: 'Server error.', error: error.message });
}
});

app.put('/api/content/:id',
 authorize('content:update'), [
 body('title', 'Title is required').notEmpty().trim().escape(),
 body('body', 'Body is required').notEmpty().trim().escape(),
], async (req, res) => {

 const errors =
 validationResult(req); if
 (!errors.isEmpty()) {
 return res.status(400).json({
 errors: errors.array() });
 }

 try {
 const { title, body } =
 req.body; let content =
 await Content.findById(req.params.id);

 if (!content) {
 return res.status(404).json({
 message: 'Content not found.' });
 }

 if (req.isOwnershipCheckRequired
 && content.author.toString() !==
 req.user.id) {
 return res.status(403).json({ message:
 'Forbidden: You can only update your own
 content.' });
 }

 content.title =
 title; content.body
 = body; await
 content.save();

 res.json(content);
 } catch (error) {
 res.status(500).json({ message: 'Server error.', error: error.message });
 }
};

app.delete('/api/content/:id',
 authorize('content:delete'), async (req, res) => {
 const content = await Content.findById(req.params.id);
 if (!content) {
 return res.status(404).json({
 message: 'Content not found.' });
 }

 await content.remove();
 res.json({ message: 'Content deleted.' });
 });
});

```

```

 if (req.isOwnershipCheckRequired &&
content.author.toString() !== req.user.id) {
 return res.status(403).json({ message:
'Forbidden: You can only delete your own
content.' });
 }

 await
Content.findByIdAndDelete(req.params.id);

 res.json({ message: 'Content deleted
successfully.' });
 } catch (error) {
 res.status(500).json({ message: 'Server error.',

error: error.message });
 }
});

// 3. Admin Routes app.use('/api/users',
authenticate, authorize('users:read'));

app.get('/api/users', async (req, res) => {
 try {
 const users = await User.find().select('-password');
 res.json(users);
 } catch (error) {
 res.status(500).json({ message: 'Server error.',

error: error.message });
 }
});

app.put('/api/users/:id/role',
authorize('users:update'), [body('role',
'A valid role is
required').isIn(Object.values(ROLES)),

], async (req, res) => {

 const errors = validationResult(req); if
(!errors.isEmpty()) {
 return res.status(400).json({ errors:
errors.array() });
 }

 try {
 const { role } = req.body;
 const user = await
User.findById(req.params.id);

 if (!user) {
 return res.status(404).json({ message: 'User
not found.' });
 }

 const oldRole = user.role; // Store old role
 user.role = role;
 await user.save();

 // --- ADD AUDIT LOG ---
 await new AuditLog({ type:
'ROLE_CHANGE',
actor: req.user.id, // The Admin who made
});
 }
});

```

```

the change
 target: user._id, // The user who was
changed
 details: {
 oldRole: oldRole,
 newRole: user.role
 }
}).save();

 res.json(user);
} catch (error) {
 res.status(500).json({ message: 'Server
error.', error: error.message });
}
);

// 4. Audit Log Route
app.get('/api/audit-logs',
authenticate,
authorize('auditlog:read'), async (req, res) =>
{
 try {
 const logs = await AuditLog.find()
 .populate('actor', 'username') // Get
username of the actor
 .populate('target', 'username') //
Get username of the target
 .sort({ createdAt: -1 }) // Newest first
 .limit(20); // Get last 20 events

 // Format the data to perfectly match
 the frontend's mock data structure
 const formattedLogs = logs.map(log => ({
 _id: log._id,
 timestamp:
 log.createdAt, type:
 log.type,
 adminUsername:
 log.actor?.username, // Will be null if
 actor/target deleted
 targetUsername:
 log.target?.username, oldRole:
 log.details?.oldRole, newRole:
 log.details?.newRole,
 }));
 res.json(formattedLogs);
 } catch (error) {
 res.status(500).json({ message: 'Server error
fetching audit logs.', error: error.message });
 }
};

// --- Server Start ---
if (process.env.NODE_ENV !== 'test') {
 app.listen(PORT, () => {
 console.log(`Server running on port
${PORT}`);
 });
}

```

```

const adminUser = new User({
 username: 'admin', password:
 'adminpassword', role: ROLES.Admin,
});
const editorUser = new User({
 username: 'editor', password:
 'editorpassword', role: ROLES.Editor,
});
const viewerUser = new User({
 username: 'viewer', password:
 'viewerpassword', role: ROLES.Viewer,
});

await adminUser.save(); await
editorUser.save(); await
viewerUser.save();

const content1 = new Content({
 title: 'Admin\'s Post',
 body: 'This post was created by the Admin.
Only the Admin can edit or delete this.', author:
 adminUser._id,
});
const content2 = new Content({

backend/package.json

```

---

```

{
 "name": "backend",
 "version": "1.0.0",
 "main": "server.js",
 "scripts": {
 "test": "cross-env NODE_ENV=test jest --
runInBand",
 "start": "node server.js"
 },
 "keywords": [],
 "author": "",
 "license": "ISC",
 "description": "",
 "dependencies": {
 "bcryptjs": "^3.0.2",
 "cookie-parser": "^1.4.7",
 "cors": "^2.8.5",

```

```

 title: 'Editor\'s Post',
 body: 'This post was created by
the Editor. The Admin can
edit/delete it, and the Editor who
wrote it can also edit/delete it.',
 author: editorUser._id,
 });
const content3 = new
Content({ title:
 'Another Editor\'s
Post',
 body: 'This is a second post by the
Editor.', author: editorUser._id,
});

await
content1.s
ave();
await
content2.s
ave();
await
content3.s
ave();

console.log('Database seeded
successfully.');
} catch (error) {
 console.error('Error seeding
database:', error.message);
}
}

// --- ADD THIS AT THE VERY END ---
module.exports = app;

```

---

```

 "express": "^5.1.0",
 "express-rate-limit": "^8.1.0",
 "express-validator": "^7.3.0",
 "jsonwebtoken": "^9.0.2",
 "mongoose": "^8.19.2",
 "morgan": "^1.10.1"
},
"devDependencies": {
 "@shelf/jest-mongodb":
 "^4.3.2", "cross-env":
 "^7.0.3",
 "jest": "^29.7.0",
 "mongodb-memory-server":
 "^9.4.0", "supertest": "^7.0.0"
}
}
```

---

## FRONTEND

**Use create-react-app or Vite. The code below assumes create-react-app.**

### frontend/src/App.jsx

```
import React, { useState, useEffect,
 createContext, useContext } from 'react';
import {
 BrowserRouter,
```

R  
o  
u  
te  
s,  
R  
o  
u  
te  
,

L  
i  
n  
k,  
useNavigate,

```

Outlet, useLocation,
Navigate,
useParams,
} from 'react-router-dom'; import
axios from 'axios';

// --- Configuration ---

const ROLES = {
 Admin: 'Admin',
 Editor: 'Editor',
 Viewer: 'Viewer',
};

// Simplified permission definitions (for frontend
// checks)
const PERMISSIONS = {
 [ROLES.Admin]: {
 content: ['create', 'read', 'update_all',
 'delete_all'],
 users: ['read', 'update', 'delete'], auditlog:
 ['read'],
 },
 [ROLES.Editor]: {
 content: ['create', 'read', 'update_own',
 'delete_own'],
 users: [],
 auditlog: [],
 },
 [ROLES.Viewer]: {
 content: ['read'],
 users: [],
 auditlog: [],
 },
};

// --- Mock Data ---
const MOCK_AUDIT_LOGS = [
 { _id: '1', timestamp: '2023-10-27T10:30:00Z',
 eventType: 'USER_LOGIN', user: { username:
 'admin' }, details: { ip: '192.168.1.1' } },
 { _id: '2', timestamp: '2023-10-27T10:35:00Z',
 eventType: 'ROLE_UPDATE', user: { username:
 'admin' }, targetUser: { username: 'editor' },
 details: { from: 'Editor', to: 'Viewer' } },
 { _id: '3', timestamp: '2023-10-27T10:40:00Z',
 eventType: 'USER_REGISTER', user: {
 username: 'newUser' }, details: { role: 'Viewer' } },
 { _id: '4', timestamp: '2023-10-27T09:00:00Z',
 eventType: 'USER_LOGIN', user: { username:
 'editor' }, details: { ip: '10.0.0.5' } },
 { _id: '5', timestamp: '2023-10-26T18:15:00Z',
 eventType: 'ROLE_UPDATE', user: { username:
 'admin' }, targetUser: { username: 'viewer' },
 details: { from: 'Viewer', to: 'Editor' } },
 { _id: '6', timestamp: '2023-10-27T11:00:00Z',
 eventType: 'USER_LOGIN', user: { username:

```

```

// --- Theme Classes (Hardcoded Dark) ---
const themeClasses = {
 layout: "min-h-screen font-sans
transition- colors duration-300
bg-gray-900",
 nav: "sticky top-0 z-30 shadow-sm border-b
bg-black/20 backdrop-blur-lg text-white border-
white/10",
 card: "rounded-xl bg-black/20
backdrop-blur- lg border border-white/20
shadow-xl",
 input: "w-full px-4 py-2.5 border rounded-lg
focus:outline-none focus:ring-2 transition-all
bg- gray-700/50 border-white/20 text-white
placeholder-gray-300 focus:ring-blue-500
focus:border-blue-500",
 text: "text-white",
 textMuted:
 "text-gray-300",
 textLabel:
 "text-gray-100",
 textHeading: "text-3xl font-bold text-
transparent bg-clip-text bg-gradient-to-r
from- blue-400 to-purple-400",
 aurora: "absolute top-0 left-0 w-full
h-full overflow-hidden -z-10",
 solidBg: "bg-gray-800",
 solidBorder:
 "border-gray-700"
};

// --- Auth Context ---
const AuthContext = createContext(null);

// --- Axios API Client ---
const apiClient = axios.create({
 baseURL:
 'http://localhost:5001/api',
 withCredentials: true,
});

apiClient.interceptors.request.
use((config) => {
 const { accessToken } =
 JSON.parse(localStorage.getItem('auth') ||
 '{}');
 if (accessToken) {
 config.headers['Authorization'] =
 `Bearer
${accessToken}`;
 }
 return config;
},
(error) => Promise.reject(error)
);

apiClient.interceptors.response.
use((response) => response,
async (error) => {
 const originalRequest =
 error.config; if
 (error.response?.status === 401
 &&
 !originalRequest._retry) {
 originalRequest._retry =
 true; try {
 const { data } = await
apiClient.post('/auth/refres
h');
 const newAccessToken = data.accessToken;

 let authData =
 JSON.parse(localStorage.getItem('auth') ||
 '{}');

```

```

 authData.accessToken = newAccessToken;
 localStorage.setItem('auth',
 JSON.stringify(authData));

 originalRequest.headers['Authorization'] =
`Bearer ${newAccessToken}`;
 return apiClient(originalRequest);
 } catch (refreshError) {
 localStorage.removeItem('auth');
 window.location.href = '/login'; return
 Promise.reject(refreshError);
 }
}
return Promise.reject(error);
};

// --- AuthProvider Component --- const
AuthProvider = ({ children }) => { const
[user, setUser] = useState(null);
const [loading, setLoading] = useState(true);

useEffect(() => { try
{
 const authData =
JSON.parse(localStorage.getItem('auth'));
 if (authData && authData.user) {
 setUser(authData.user);
 }
} catch (error) {
 console.error('Failed to parse auth data from
localStorage');
}
setLoading(false);
}, []);

const login = (userData) => {
 const authData = {
 accessToken: userData.accessToken,
 user: userData.user,
 };
 localStorage.setItem('auth',
 JSON.stringify(authData));
 setUser(userData.user);
};

const logout = async () => { try
{
 await apiClient.post('/auth/logout');
} catch (error) { console.error('Logout
failed', error);
}
localStorage.removeItem('auth');
setUser(null);
};

const value = { user, login, logout, loading };
return (
<AuthContext.Provider value={value}>
 {!loading && children}
</AuthContext.Provider>

```

```

};

// --- Auth Hooks ---
const useAuth = () =>
{
 return useContext(AuthContext);
};

const usePermissions = () =>
{ const { user } = useAuth();

 const can = (action, subject)
 => { if (!user) return false;

 const [resource,
requiredPermission] = action.split(':');
 const userPermissions =
PERMISSIONS[user.role]?.[resource] ||
[];

 if
(userPermissions.includes(requiredPermiss
ion)
||
userPermissions.includes(` ${requiredPerm
ision
}_all`)) {
 return true;
 }

 if
(userPermissions.includes(` ${requiredPerm
ission
}_own`)) {
 if
 (!subject
) {
 return
 true;
 }
 return subject.authorId === user.id;
 }

 return false;
 };
}

const canRead = (resource = 'content') =>
can(` ${resource}:read`);
const canCreate = (resource = 'content') =>
can(` ${resource}:create`);
const canUpdate = (subject, resource =
'content') => can(` ${resource}:update`,
subject); const canDelete = (subject, resource
=
'content') => can(` ${resource}:delete`,
subject); const canManageUsers = () =>
can('users:read');
const canViewAuditLog = () =>
can('auditlog:read');

return { can, canRead, canCreate,
canUpdate, canDelete, canManageUsers,
canViewAuditLog, userRole: user?.role,
userId: user?.id };
};

// --- UI Components ---
// Modal
const Modal = ({ title, children, onClose }) =>
{
 return (
 <div className="fixed inset-0 bg-black/60
 backdrop-blur-sm z-40 flex items-center
 justify-

```

```

center p-4">
 <div className={"relative w-full max-w-md
p-6 ${themeClasses.card}">
 <h3 className={"text-xl font-semibold mb- 4
${themeClasses.text}">{title}</h3>
 <div
 className={themeClasses.textMuted}>
 {children}
 </div>
 <button onClick={onClose}
 className="absolute top-4 right-4 text-
gray-400 hover:text-gray-200"
 >
 <svg className="w-6 h-6" fill="none"
 stroke="currentColor" viewBox="0 0 24
24"><path strokeLinecap="round"
 strokeLinejoin="round" strokeWidth="2"
 d="M6 18L18 6M6 6L12 12"></path></svg>
 </button>
 </div>
</div>
);
};

// Aurora Background
const AuroraBackground = () => {
 (
 <div className={themeClasses.aurora}>
 <style>{
 .aurora-blur { filter:
 blur(100px);
 }
 .aurora-1 { position:
 absolute; width:
 500px; height:
 500px;
 background: radial-gradient(circle,
 rgba(139, 92, 246, 0.4) 0%, rgba(139, 92, 246, 0)
 70%);
 animation: aurora-anim-1 20s infinite
 alternate;
 }
 .aurora-2 { position:
 absolute; width:
 400px; height:
 400px;
 background: radial-gradient(circle, rgba(59,
 130, 246, 0.4) 0%, rgba(59, 130, 246, 0)
 70%);
 animation: aurora-anim-2 22s infinite
 alternate;
 }
 .aurora-3 { position:
 absolute; width:
 300px; height:
 300px;
 background: radial-gradient(circle,
 rgba(236, 72, 153, 0.4) 0%, rgba(236, 72, 153, 0)
 70%);
```

```

@keyframes
aurora-anim-1 { 0% {
 top: 10%; left: 10%; }
 100% { top: 30%; left: 60%; }
}
@keyframes
aurora-anim-2 { 0% {
 top: 50%; left: 70%; }
 100% { top: 40%; left: 20%; }
}
@keyframes
aurora-anim-3 { 0% {
 top: 80%; left: 40%; }
 100% { top: 60%; left: 80%; }
}
`}</style>
<div className="aurora-blur">
 <div className="aurora-1"></div>
 <div className="aurora-2"></div>
 <div className="aurora-3"></div>
</div>
</div>
);
};

// --- Page Components ---

// Layout
const Layout = () => {
 const { user, logout } = useAuth0();
 const navigate = useNavigate();
 const { canManageUsers } = usePermissions();

 const handleLogout = async () =>
 { await logout();
 navigate('/login');
 };

 return (
 <div className={themeClasses.layout}>
 <AuroraBackground />
 <nav className={themeClasses.nav}>
 <div className="max-w-7xl mx-auto
px-4 sm:px-6 lg:px-8">
 <div className="flex justify-between h-
16">
 <div className="flex items-center">
 <Link to="/" className="text-2xl
font- bold text-transparent bg-clip-text
bg-gradient- to-r from-blue-500
to-purple-500">
 RBAC Platform
 </Link>
 </div>
 <div className="flex items-center space-
x-4">
 <Link to="/" className="text-gray-300 hover:text-white
px-3 py-2 rounded-md text-sm font-medium
transition-colors">

```

```

)
 {user ? (
 <>
 Hi, {user.username} ({user.role})
 <button onClick={handleLogout}
 className="bg-gradient-to-r from-red-500 to-red-600 text-white px-4 py-2 rounded-lg text-sm font-medium shadow-md hover:from-red-600 hover:to-red-700 transition-all duration-300 transform hover:scale-105"
 >
 Logout
 </button>
 </>
) : (
 <>
 <Link to="/login"
 className="text-gray-300 bg-white/10 hover:bg-white/20 px-4 py-2 rounded-lg text-sm font-medium transition-all duration-300">
 >
 Login
 </Link>
 <Link
 to="/register"
 className="bg-gradient-to-r from-blue-500 to-blue-600 text-white px-4 py-2 rounded-lg text-sm font-medium shadow-md hover:from-blue-600 hover:to-blue-700 transition-all duration-300 transform hover:scale-105"
 >
 Sign Up
 </Link>
 </>
);
</div>
</div>
</div>
</nav>
<main className="py-10 relative z-10">
 <div className="max-w-7xl mx-auto px-4 sm:px-6 lg:px-8">
 <Outlet />
 </div>
</main>
</div>
);
};

// Home Page (Content List)
const HomePage = () => {
 const [content, setContent] = useState([]);
 const [error, setError] = useState(null);
 const { canCreate } = usePermissions();

 const fetchContent = async () => {

```

```

setError(null);
const { data } = await
apiClient.get('/content');
setContent(data);
} catch (err) {
setError('Failed to fetch
content.); console.error(err);
}
};

useEffect(() => {
fetchContent();
}, []);

if (error) {
return <p className="text-red-500 text-center">{error}</p>;
}

return (
<div className="max-w-4xl mx-auto">
<div className="flex justify-between
items-center mb-8">
<h1 className={`${themeClasses.text}`}>Content Feed</h1>
{canCreate() && (
<Link
to="/create"
className="bg-gradient-to-r from-green-500 to-green-600 text-white px-5
py-2.5 rounded-lg shadow-md
hover:from-green-600 hover:to-green-700
transition-all duration-300 transform
hover:scale-105"
>
+ Create New Post
</Link>
)}
</div>
<div className="space-y-6">
{content.length > 0 ? content.map((item) =>
(
<ContentItem key={item._id}
item={item} onDelete={fetchContent} />
)) : (
<p
className={`${themeClasses.textMuted}`}
text-center`>No content yet. Be the first to
create a post!</p>
)
}
</div>
</div>
);
};

// Content Item
const ContentItem = ({ item, onDelete }) => {
const { canUpdate, canDelete } =
usePermissions();
const [showConfirm, setShowConfirm] =
useState(false);
const [deleteError,
setError] = useState(null);


```

```

 const subject = { authorId: item.author?._id };
 const canEdit = canUpdate(subject);
 const canRemove = canDelete(subject);

 const handleDelete = async () => {
 try {
 setDeleteError(null); await
apiClient.delete(`/content/${item._id}`);
 setShowConfirm(false);
 onDelete();
 } catch (err) {
 setDeleteError('Failed to delete post.');
 console.error(err);
 setShowConfirm(false);
 }
 };

 return (
 <>
 <div className={`${p-6 transition-all
duration-300 ${themeClasses.card}`}>
 <div className="flex justify-between
items-start">
 <div>
 <h2 className={`${text-2xl font-semibold
${themeClasses.text} mb-2`}>{item.title}</h2>
 <p
 className={`${${themeClasses.textMuted} text- sm
mb-4`}>
 By <span className={`${font-medium
${themeClasses.textLabel}`}>{item.author?.user
name || 'Unknown Author'
 </p>
 </div>
 <div className="flex space-x-2 flex-
shrink-0 ml-4">
 {canEdit && (
 <Link to={`/edit/${item._id}`}
 className="text-sm bg-gradient-to-r
from-yellow-400 to-yellow-500 text-white px-4
py-2 rounded-lg shadow-md hover:from-yellow-
500 hover:to-yellow-600 transition-all duration-
300 transform hover:scale-105"
 title="Edit this post"
 >
 Edit
 </Link>
)}
 {canRemove && (
 <button
 onClick={()=> setShowConfirm(true)}
 className="text-sm bg-gradient-to-r
from-red-500 to-red-600 text-white px-4 py-2
rounded-lg shadow-md hover:from-red-600
hover:to-red-700 transition-all duration-300
transform hover:scale-105"
 title="Delete this post"
 >
 Delete
 </button>
)}
 </div>
 </div>
 </div>
);

```

```

 </div>
 </div>
 <p
 className={`${themeClasses.textMut
 ed}`}
 leading-relaxed`>{item.body}</p>
 {deleteError && <p
 className="text-red-500 text-sm
 mt-4">{deleteError}</p>}
 </div>

 {showConfirm && (
 <Modal title="Delete Post?" onClose={()=> setShowConfirm(false)}>
 <p>Are you sure you want to delete
 the post titled "{item.title}"? This action
 cannot be undone.</p>
 <div className="flex justify-end
 space-x-3 mt-6">
 <button
 onClick={() =>
 setShowConfirm(false)}
 className="px-4 py-2 rounded-lg
 bg-
 gray-200 text-gray-800 hover:bg-gray-300"
 >
 Cancel
 </button>
 <button
 onClick={handleDelete}
 className="px-4 py-2 rounded-lg
 bg-red-600 text-white hover:bg-red-700"
 >
 Delete
 </button>
 </div>
 </Modal>
)}
);
};

// Form Wrapper Component
const AuthFormWrapper = ({ title, children }) => {
 return (
 <div className={`max-w-md mx-auto
 p-8 md:p-10 ${themeClasses.card}`}>
 <h2 className={`text-center mb-8
 ${themeClasses.textHeading}`}>
 {title}
 </h2>
 {children}
 </div>
);
};

// Login Page
const LoginPage = () => {
 const [username, setUsername] =
 useState(''); const [password,
 setPassword] = useState(''); const [error,
 setError] = useState(null);
 const { login } = useAuth();
 const navigate = useNavigate();

 const handleSubmit = async (e) => {
 e.preventDefault();

```

```
setError(null); try
{
 const { data } = await
apiClient.post('/auth/login', { username, password
});
 login(data);
 if (data.user.role === ROLES.Admin) {
 navigate('/admin');
 } else {
 navigate('/');
 }
} catch (err) {
 setError(err.response?.data?.message ||
'Invalid username or password.');
 console.error(err);
}
};

const fillDemoUser = (user, pass) => {
 setUsername(user); setPassword(pass);
};

return (
 <AuthFormWrapper title="Welcome
Back!">
 <form onSubmit={handleSubmit}>
 {error && <p className="text-red-500
text-center mb-4 text-sm">{error}</p>}
 <div className="mb-4">
 <label className={`block mb-2 font-
medium ${themeClasses.textLabel}`}
htmlFor="username">Username</label>
 <input type="text"
 id="username"
 value={username}
 onChange={(e) =>
setUsername(e.target.value)}
 className={themeClasses.input}
 />
 </div>
 <div className="mb-6">
 <label className={`block mb-2 font-
medium ${themeClasses.textLabel}`}
htmlFor="password">Password</label>
 <input
 type="password"
 id="password"
 value={password}
 onChange={(e) =>
setPassword(e.target.value)}
 className={themeClasses.input}
 />
 </div>
 <button
 type="submit"
 className="w-full bg-gradient-to-r from-
blue-500 to-blue-600 text-white px-4 py-2.5
rounded-lg shadow-md hover:from-blue-600
hover:to-blue-700 transition-all duration-300
transform hover:scale-105"
 >
```

```

 Login
 </button>
</form>
<div className="mt-6 text-center">
 <p className={' mb-3
${themeClasses.textMuted} text-sm`}>Or try
a demo user:</p>
 <div className="grid grid-cols-3 gap-3">
 <button
 onClick={() =>
fillDemoUser('admin', 'adminpassword')}
 className="px-4 py-2 rounded-lg
text-white font-medium bg-gradient-to-r
from-purple-500 to-indigo-500 shadow-md
hover:scale-105 transform transition-all"
 >
 Admin
 </button>
 <button
 onClick={() =>
fillDemoUser('editor', 'editorpassword')}
 className="px-4 py-2 rounded-lg
text-white font-medium bg-gradient-to-r
from-cyan-500 to-blue-500 shadow-md
hover:scale-105 transform transition-all"
 >
 Editor
 </button>
 <button
 onClick={() =>
fillDemoUser('viewer', 'viewerpassword')}
 className="px-4 py-2 rounded-lg
text-white font-medium bg-gradient-to-r
from-green-500 to-teal-500 shadow-md
hover:scale-105 transform transition-all"
 >
 Viewer
 </button>
 </div>
</div>
<p className={' mt-6 text-center text-sm
${themeClasses.textMuted}`}>
 > Don't have an
 account?{' '}
 <Link to="/register" className="font-
medium text-blue-500 hover:text-blue-400">
 Sign Up
 </Link>
</p>
</AuthFormWrapper>
);
};

// Register Page
const RegisterPage = () => {
 const [username, setUsername] =
useState('');
 const [password, setPassword] =
useState('');
 const [role, setRole] =
useState(ROLES.Viewer);
 const [error, setError] = useState(null);
 const { login } = useAuth();
 const navigate = useNavigate();

 const handleSubmit = async (e) => {

```

```

e.preventDefault();
setError(null);
try {
 const { data } = await
apiClient.post('/auth/register', { username,
password, role });
 login(data);
 navigate('/');
} catch (err) {
 setError(err.response?.data?.message ||
'Failed to register. Username might be taken.');
 console.error(err);
}

};

return (
 <AuthFormWrapper title="Create Your
Account">
 <form onSubmit={handleSubmit}>
 {error && <p className="text-red-500
text-center mb-4 text-sm">{error}</p>}
 <div className="mb-4">
 <label className={`block mb-2 font-
medium ${themeClasses.textLabel}`}
htmlFor="username">Username</label>
 <input type="text"
 id="username"
 value={username}
 onChange={(e) =>
setUsername(e.target.value)}
 className={themeClasses.input}
 />
 </div>
 <div className="mb-4">
 <label className={`block mb-2 font-
medium ${themeClasses.textLabel}`}
htmlFor="password">Password</label>
 <input
 type="password"
 id="password"
 value={password}
 onChange={(e) =>
setPassword(e.target.value)}
 className={themeClasses.input}
 />
 </div>

 <div className="mb-6">
 <label className={`block mb-2 font-
medium ${themeClasses.textLabel}`}
htmlFor="role">Register as:</label>
 <select id="role"
 value={role}
 onChange={(e) => setRole(e.target.value)}
 className={themeClasses.input}
 >
 <option className="bg-gray-700 text-
white" value={ROLES.Viewer}>Viewer</option>
 <option className="bg-gray-700 text-
white" value={ROLES.Editor}>Editor</option>
 </select>
 </div>
 </form>
 <button
 type="sub
 mit"
 className="w-full bg-gradient-to-r
from-green-500 to-green-600 text-white px-4
py-2.5 rounded-lg shadow-md
hover:from-green-600 hover:to-green-700
transition-all duration-300 transform
hover:scale-105"
 >
 Register
 </button>
</div>
</form>
<p className={`${mt-6 text-center text-sm
$themeClasses.textMuted}`}>
 Already have an account?{'}

 <Link to="/login" className="font-
medium text-blue-500
hover:text-blue-400">
 Login
 </Link>
</p>
</AuthFormWrapper>
);
};

// AdminDashboard Page
const AdminDashboard = () => {
 const AdminButton = ({ to, title,
description, icon }) => (
 <Link
 to={to}
 className={`block p-6
transition-all duration-300 transform
hover:scale-105 hover:shadow-2xl
$themeClasses.card`}
 >
 <div className="flex items-center
space-x-4">
 <div className="p-3 rounded-full bg-
gradient-to-r from-blue-500 to-purple-500
text-white">
 {icon}
 </div>
 <div>
 <h3 className={`text-xl font-semibold
${themeClasses.text}`}>{title}</h3>
 <p
 className={themeClasses.textMuted}>{des
cription}</p>
 </div>
 </div>
 </Link>
);
};


```

```
);

return (
 <div className="max-w-4xl mx-auto">
 <h2 className={`${text-4xl font-bold mb-8 text-center ${themeClasses.textHeading}`}>Ad
 min Dashboard</h2>
 <div className="grid grid-cols-1 md:grid-cols-2 gap-6">
```

```

<AdminButton to="/" title="Manage Content Feed" description="View, edit, and delete all posts." icon={<svg className="w-6 h-6" fill="none" stroke="currentColor" viewBox="0 0 24 24"><path strokeLinecap="round" strokeLinejoin="round" strokeWidth="2" d="M19 20H5a2 2 0 0 1-2V6a2 2 0 0 1-2h10a2 2 0 0 1 0 12 2v1m2 13a2 2 0 0 1-2V7m2 13a2 2 0 0 1-2V9a2 2 0 0 1-2h-2m-4-3H9M7 16h6M7 12h6M7 8h6"></path></svg>} />
<AdminButton to="/admin/users" title="Manage Users" description="View all users and change their roles." icon={<svg className="w-6 h-6" fill="none" stroke="currentColor" viewBox="0 0 24 24"><path strokeLinecap="round" strokeLinejoin="round" strokeWidth="2" d="M12 4.354a4 4 0 1 1 5.292M15 21H3v-1a6 0 0 1 0 16-6h6m6 3a9 9 0 1 1 11-18 0 9 9 0 0 1 18 0z"></path></svg>} />
<AdminButton to="/admin/audit" title="View Audit Log" description="See a log of important system events." icon={<svg className="w-6 h-6" fill="none" stroke="currentColor" viewBox="0 0 24 24"><path strokeLinecap="round" strokeLinejoin="round" strokeWidth="2" d="M9 12h6m-6 4h6m2 5H7a2 2 0 0 1-2-2V5a2 2 0 0 1-2h5.586a1 1 0 0 1 707.293i5.414 5.414a1 1 0 0 1 1.293.707V19a2 2 0 0 1-2 2z"></path></svg>} />
</div>
</div>
);
};

// Admin Page (User Management)
const AdminPage = () => {
 const [users, setUsers] = useState([]); const [error, setError] = useState(null); const [editingRole, setEditingRole] = useState({}); const [updateError, setUpdateError] = useState(null);
 const { userId: adminUserId } = usePermissions();

 const fetchUsers = async () => { try
 {
 setError(null);
 const { data } = await apiClient.get('/users');
 setUsers(data);
 }
}

```

```

 console.error(err);
 };

useEffect(() => {
 fetchUsers();
}, []);

const handleRoleChange = (userId, newRole) => {
 setEditingRole(prev => ({ ...prev, [userId]: newRole }));
};

const handleSaveRole = async (userId) => {
 const newRole = editingRole[userId];
 if (!newRole) return;

 setUpdateError(null);
 try {
 await apiClient.put(`users/${userId}/role`, { role: newRole });
 setEditingRole(prev => {
 const newState = { ...prev };
 delete newState[userId];
 return newState;
 });
 fetchUsers();
 } catch (err) {
 setUpdateError('Failed to update role.');
 console.error(err);
 }
};

if (error) {
 return <p className="text-red-500 text-center">{error}</p>;
}

return (
 <div className={`${maxW4xl} mx-auto p-8 ${themeClasses.card}`}>
 <h2 className={`${textCenter} mb-6 ${themeClasses.textHeading}`}>
 User Management</h2>
 {updateError && <p className="text-red-500 text-center mb-4 text-sm">{updateError}</p>}
 <div className="overflow-x-auto">
 <table className="w-full table-auto min-w-max">
 <thead>
 <tr className={`${bgGray700}/50 text-left ${themeClasses.textLabel} uppercase text-sm`}>
 <th className="px-6 py-3 font-
semibold">Username</th>
 <th className="px-6 py-3 font-
semibold">Role</th>
 <th className="px-6 py-3 font-
semibold">Actions</th>
 </tr>
 </thead>
 <tbody>

```

```

className={themeClasses.textMuted}>
 {users.map((user) =>
 <tr key={user._id} className={ border- b
${themeClasses.solidBorder} hover:bg-gray-
700/50`}>
 <td className="px-6 py-
4">{user.username}</td>
 <td className="px-6 py-
4">{user.role}</td>
 <td className="px-6 py-4 flex items-
center space-x-3">
 <select value={editingRole[user._id]
|| user.role}
 onChange={(e) =>
handleRoleChange(user._id, e.target.value)}
 disabled={user._id ===
adminUserId}
 className={`${themeClasses.input}
${user._id === adminUserId ? 'bg-gray-600/50' :
''}`}
 >
 {Object.values(ROLES).map((role)
=> (
 <option key={role}
 value={role}
 className="bg-gray-700 text-
white"
 >
 {role}
 </option>
)));
 </select>
 {editingRole[user._id] &&
editingRole[user._id] !== user.role && (
 <button onClick={()=>
handleSaveRole(user._id)}
 className="px-4 py-2 rounded-lg
bg-green-600 text-white text-sm hover:bg-green-
700"
 >
 Save
 </button>
)}
 </td>
 </tr>
)));
</tbody>
</table>
</div>
</div>
);
};

// AuditLogPage
// AuditLogPage
const AuditLogPage = () => {
 const [logs, setLogs] = useState([]); const
 [error, setError] = useState(null);

```

```

// Fetch function
const fetchLogs = async () =>
 { try {
 setError(null);
 const { data } = await
 apiClient.get('/audit- logs'); // calls
 http://localhost:5001/api/audit-logs
 // Optional: if backend returns timestamps,
 convert to ISO or leave as-is
 // Ensure newest first (backend already
 sorts, but just in case)
 const sorted = Array.isArray(data) ?
 data.sort((a, b) => new Date(b.timestamp
 || b.createdAt) - new Date(a.timestamp ||
 a.createdAt)) : [];
 setLogs(sorted
);
 setLoading(false);
 } catch (err) {
 console.error('Failed to fetch audit
 logs', err);
 setError(err.response?.data?.messag
 e || 'Failed to fetch audit logs.');
 setLoading(false);
 }
};

useEffect(() => {
 fetchLogs();
}

// Polling interval: update every 5
seconds (tune as needed)
const interval = setInterval(fetchLogs, 5000);

// Cleanup on unmount
return () => clearInterval(interval);
}, []);

const renderLogDetails = (log) => {
 // Match your backend fields
 (server.js formats logs with type,
 adminUsername, targetUsername,
 oldRole, newRole)
 switch (log.type) {
 case 'ROLE_CHANGE':
 return `${log.adminUsername} ||
 'Someone' changed ${log.targetUsername} ||
 'a user's role from ${log.oldRole} || 'N/A' to
 ${log.newRole} || 'N/A'`;
 case 'USER_LOGIN':
 return `${log.adminUsername} ||
 log.targetUsername || 'User' logged in.`;
 case 'USER_REGISTER':
 return `${log.adminUsername} ||
 log.targetUsername || 'User' registered a new
 account.`;
 default:
 return 'Performed an action.';
 }
}

```

```

(Recent)</h2>

 {loading && <p });
 className={'${themeClasses.textM
uted} text- center`}>Loading audit
logs...</p>
 {error && <p
 className="text-red-500 text-
center mb-4 text-sm">{error}</p>

<div className="space-y-4">
 {logs.length > 0 ? logs.map(log => (
 <div key={log._id || log.id} className="p- 4
rounded-lg bg-gray-700/50">
 <p className={themeClasses.text}>
 <span className="font-semibold text-
blue-400">{log.adminUsername ||
log.targetUsername || 'System'}
 {renderLogDetails(log)}
 </p>
 <p className={`${text-sm
${themeClasses.textMuted} mt-1`}>
 {new Date(log.timestamp ||
log.createdAt.toLocaleString())
 </p>
 </div>
)) : (
 !loading && <p
 className={themeClasses.textMuted}>No audit
 logs found.</p>
)
 </div>
</div>
);
};

// Form Wrapper for Content
const ContentFormWrapper = ({ title, children
})=> {
 return (
 <div className={`${max-w-2xl mx-auto p-8
md:p-10 ${themeClasses.card}`}>
 <h2 className={`${text-center mb-8
${themeClasses.textHeading}`}>
 {title}
 </h2>
 {children}
 </div>
);
};

// CreatePostPage
const CreatePostPage = () => {
 const [title, setTitle] = useState("");
 const [body, setBody] = useState("");
 const [error, setError] = useState(null);
 const navigate = useNavigate();

 try {
 await apiClient.post('/content', {
 title, body
 });
 navigate('/');
 } catch (err) {
 setError(err.response?.data?.message || "Title and body are required.");
 }
}

const handleSubmit = async (e) => {
 e.preventDefault();
 setError(null);
 if (!title || !body) {
 setError("Title and body are required.");
 return;
 }

 try {
 await apiClient.post('/content', {
 title, body
 });
 navigate('/');
 } catch (err) {
 setError(err.response?.data?.message || "Title and body are required.");
 }
}

```

```

'Failed to create post.');
 console.error(err);
}
};

return (
 <ContentFormWrapper title="Create
New Post">
 <form onSubmit={handleSubmit}>
 {error && <p
 className="text-red-500 text-center
mb-4 text-sm">{error}</p>}
 <div className="mb-4">
 <label className={`block mb-2 font-
medium ${themeClasses.textLabel}`}
 htmlFor="title">Title</label>
 <input
 type="te
 xt"
 id="title"
 value={tit
 le}
 onChange={(e)
=>
 setTitle(e.target.value)
}
 className={themeClasses.input}
 />
 </div>
 <div className="mb-6">
 <label className={`block mb-2 font-
medium ${themeClasses.textLabel}`}
 htmlFor="body">Body</label>
 <textarea
 id="body"
 rows="10"
 value={body}
 onChange={(e)
=>
 setBody(e.target.value)}
 className={themeClasses.input}
 />
 </div>
 <button
 type="subm
 it"
 className="w-full bg-gradient-to-r
from- blue-500 to-blue-600 text-white px-4
py-2.5 rounded-lg shadow-md
hover:from-blue-600 hover:to-blue-700
transition-all duration-300 transform
hover:scale-105"
 >
 Publish Post
 </button>
 </form>
</ContentFormWrapper>
);
};

```

```
const [error, setError] = useState(null); const
[loading, setLoading] = useState(true); const
navigate = useNavigate();
const { id } = useParams();

useEffect(() => {
 const fetchPost = async () => { try {
 const { data } = await
apiClient.get(`/content/${id}`);
 setTitle(data.title);
 setBody(data.body);
 setLoading(false);
 } catch (err) {
 setError('Failed to fetch post data. You may
not have permission to edit this.');
 console.error(err);
 setLoading(false);
 }
};
 fetchPost();
}, [id]);

const handleSubmit = async (e) => {
 e.preventDefault();
 setError(null);
 if (!title || !body) {
 setError('Title and body are required.');
 return;
 }
 try {
 await apiClient.put(`/content/${id}`, { title,
body });
 navigate('/');
 } catch (err) {
 setError(err.response?.data?.message ||
'Failed to update post.');
 console.error(err);
 }
};

if (loading) {
 return <div className={`${textCenter
${themeClasses.textMuted}`}>Loading
post...</div>;
}

if (error && !title) {
 return <p className="text-red-500 text-
center">{error}</p>;
}

return (
<ContentFormWrapper title="Edit Post">
<form onSubmit={handleSubmit}>
 {error && <p className="text-red-500
text-center mb-4 text-sm">{error}</p>}
 <div className="mb-4">
 <label className={`${block mb-2 font-
medium ${themeClasses.textLabel}`}
htmlFor="title">Title</label>
```

```

 id="title"
 value={title}
 onChange={(e) =>
 setTitle(e.target.value)}
 className={themeClasses.input}
 />
 </div>
<div className="mb-6">
 <label className={`block mb-2 font-medium ${themeClasses.textLabel}`}
 htmlFor="body">Body</label>
 <textarea
 id="body"
 rows="10"
 value={body}
 onChange={(e) =>
 setBody(e.target.value)}
 className={themeClasses.input}
 />
 </div>
 <button
 type="submit"
 className="w-full bg-gradient-to-r from-blue-500 to-blue-600 text-white px-4 py-2.5 rounded-lg shadow-md hover:from-blue-600 hover:to-blue-700 transition-all duration-300 transform hover:scale-105">
 >
 Update Post
 </button>
 </form>
</ContentFormWrapper>
);
};

// Unauthorized Page
const UnauthorizedPage = () => {
 return (
 <div className={`${textCenter} p-10 max-w-lg mx-auto ${themeClasses.card}`}>
 <h1 className="text-5xl font-bold text-transparent bg-clip-text bg-gradient-to-r from-red-500 to-yellow-500">Access Denied</h1>
 <p className={`${mt-6 textMuted}`}>You do not have the required permissions to view this page.</p>
 <Link to="/" className="mt-8 inline-block bg-gradient-to-r from-blue-500 to-blue-600 text-white px-6 py-3 rounded-lg shadow-md hover:from-blue-600 hover:to-blue-700 transition-all duration-300 transform hover:scale-105">
 Go Back to Home
 </Link>
 </div>
);
};

// --- Protected Route Component ---
const ProtectedRoute = ({ allowedRoles }) => {
 const { user } = useAuth();
 const location = useLocation();
 const { userRole } = usePermissions();

 if (!user) {
 return (
 <div style={{ border: '1px solid #ccc', padding: '10px' }}>
 You must be logged in to access this page.
 </div>
);
 }

 if (allowedRoles.length === 0) {
 return null;
 }

 if (userRole === undefined) {
 return (
 <div style={{ border: '1px solid #ccc', padding: '10px' }}>
 You must be logged in to access this page.
 </div>
);
 }

 if (!allowedRoles.includes(userRole)) {
 return (
 <div style={{ border: '1px solid #ccc', padding: '10px' }}>
 You do not have permission to access this page.
 </div>
);
 }

 return null;
};

```

```

if (!user) { />
 return <Navigate to="/login" *
state={{ from: location }} replace */
/>; */
}

if (allowedRoles && /* Protected Routes (Editors &
!allowedRoles.includes(userRole) Admins)
) {

 return <Navigate to="/unauthorized" state={{ *
from: location }} replace />;
}

return <Outlet />;
};

// --- App Component --- export
default function App() { return (
 <AuthProvider>
 <BrowserRouter>
 <Routes>
 <Route path="/" element={<Layout />}>

 /* Public Routes */
 <Route path="/login" element={<LoginPage />} />
 <Route path="/register" element={<RegisterPage />} />
 <Route path="/unauthorized" element={<UnauthorizedPage />} />

 /* Protected Routes (All logged-in users) */
 */}

```

```

<Route
element={<ProtectedRoute />}>
 <Route index
element={<HomePage />}>
</Route>

/* Protected Routes (Editors &
Admins)

<Route
element={<ProtectedRoute
allowedRoles={[ROLES.Admin, ROLES.Editor]} />}>
 <Route path="create"
element={<CreatePostPage />}>
</Route>
 <Route
path="edit/:id"
element={<EditPostPage />}>
</Route>

/* Protected Routes (Admins Only) */
<Route element={<ProtectedRoute
allowedRoles={[ROLES.Admin]} />}>
 <Route path="admin"
element={<AdminDashboard />}>
</Route>
 <Route path="admin/users"
element={<AdminPage />} />
 <Route path="admin/audit"
element={<AuditLogPage />} />
</Route>

</Route>
</Routes>
</BrowserRouter>
</AuthProvider>
);
}

```

## README (run instructions)

Create a top-level README with these steps:

### Prerequisites

- Node.js (v18+ recommended)
- MongoDB running locally or remote connection string

### Backend

1. cd backend
2. cp .env.example .env and edit .env (set MONGO\_URI and JWT\_SECRET)

3. npm install
4. Seed demo roles & users: npm run seed (this seeds 3 users:  
alice@admin.com/admin123, bob@editor.com/editor123,  
charlie@viewer.com/viewer123)
5. npm run dev (or npm start) to run server on PORT (default 5000)

## Frontend

1. cd frontend
2. npm install
3. (optional) create .env with  
REACT\_APP\_API\_URL=http://localhost:5000/api

#### 4. npm start (runs on <http://localhost:3000>)

### Test flow

1. Login with seeded users (emails & passwords above)
2. Admin can create/edit/delete any
3. Editor can create and edit own posts only (cannot delete)
4. Viewer can only read

---

### Extra notes / example cURL Login

```
curl -X POST http://localhost:5000/api/auth/login \
-H "Content-Type: application/json" \
-d '{"email":"bob@editor.com","password":"editor123"}'
```

### Create Post (Editor)

```
curl -X POST http://localhost:5000/api/posts \
-H "Content-Type: application/json" \
-H "Authorization: Bearer <TOKEN>" \
-d '{"title":"Hello","content":"My post"}'
```

### Get Posts

```
curl -H "Authorization: Bearer <TOKEN>" http://localhost:5000/api/posts
```

---

### Security & design touches explained (quick)

- JWT contains minimal claims: id, email, role. Short lived tokens recommended with refresh tokens for production.
- Backend enforces RBAC via middleware authorizeRoles() and row-level checks in controllers (post.createdBy).
- Query-level filters done in getPosts() to show an editor only their own posts.
- Frontend uses token decode to reflect UI controls and guards routes using ProtectedRoute. Buttons disabled/hidden based on user.role and isOwner.

---

### Limitations & improvements (recap)

- No refresh tokens; add refresh token flow in production.
- Roles are strings saved on the user — consider persisting advanced permission sets in DB and fetching them.
- Action auditing is missing — add action logs.
- No rate limiting or brute-force protection — add to production.
- Password reset, email verification, 2FA optionally required.

# Project Output

RBAC Platform

Welcome Back!

Username

Password

Login

Or try a demo user:

Admin    Editor    Viewer

Don't have an account? [Sign Up](#)

Home    Login    Sign Up

This screenshot shows the login page of the RBAC Platform. It features a dark-themed interface with a central modal. The modal has a title 'Welcome Back!', two input fields for 'Username' and 'Password', a blue 'Login' button, and a section for 'demo users' with three colored buttons: purple for 'Admin', teal for 'Editor', and green for 'Viewer'. Below the demo user section is a link to 'Sign Up'. At the bottom of the modal, there's a note for users without an account. The top navigation bar includes 'Home', 'Login', and 'Sign Up' buttons.

RBAC Platform

Create Your Account

Username

Password

Register as:

Editor

Register

Already have an account? [Login](#)

Home    Login    Sign Up

This screenshot shows the registration page of the RBAC Platform. It has a similar dark-themed design with a central modal. The modal title is 'Create Your Account'. It contains fields for 'Username' and 'Password', a dropdown menu for 'Register as' (set to 'Editor'), and a large green 'Register' button. Below the button is a link for existing users. The top navigation bar includes 'Home', 'Login', and 'Sign Up' buttons.

**RBAC Platform**

Home Admin Panel Hi, admin (Admin) Logout

## Admin Dashboard

**Manage Content Feed**  
View, edit, and delete all posts.

**Manage Users**  
View all users and change their roles.

**View Audit Log**  
See a log of important system events.

**RBAC Platform**

Home Admin Panel Hi, admin (Admin) Logout

## User Management

USERNAME	ROLE	ACTIONS
admin	Admin	Admin
editor	Editor	Editor
viewer	Viewer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Viewer</li><li>Admin</li><li>Editor</li><li>Viewer</li></ul>

**RBAC Platform**

Home Admin Panel Hi, admin (Admin) Logout

## Audit Log (Recent)

admin admin logged in.  
11/7/2025, 6:58:53 PM

sample sample registered a new account.  
11/7/2025, 6:58:44 PM

admin admin logged in.  
11/7/2025, 6:57:37 PM

**RBAC Platform**

Home Admin Panel Hi, admin (Admin) Logout

## Content Feed

+ Create New Post

**Another Editor's Post**

By editor

This is a second post by the Editor.

Edit Delete

**Editor's Post**

By editor

This post was created by the Editor. The Admin can edit/delete it, and the Editor who wrote it can also edit/delete it.

Edit Delete

**Admin's Post**

By admin

This post was created by the Admin. Only the Admin can edit or delete this.

Edit Delete

**RBAC Platform**

Home Hi, viewer (Viewer) Logout

## Content Feed

+ Create New Post

**Another Editor's Post**

By editor

This is a second post by the Editor.

**Editor's Post**

By editor

This post was created by the Editor. The Admin can edit/delete it, and the Editor who wrote it can also edit/delete it.

**Admin's Post**

By admin

**RBAC Platform**

Home Hi, editor (Editor) Logout

## Content Feed

+ Create New Post

**Another Editor's Post**

By editor

This is a second post by the Editor.

Edit Delete

**Editor's Post**

By editor

This post was created by the Editor. The Admin can edit/delete it, and the Editor who wrote it can also edit/delete it.

Edit Delete

**Admin's Post**

By admin

## References

These are the **primary online sources** and official documentation consulted during the development and study of the project:

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