

USER GUIDE

➤ Home Page

On the home page the user is given three options, to register, to log-in to their account or to visit the website. However, the “visit website” option is for registered users only, therefore if they do not have an account, they would be prompted to create one.

Additionally, the Sahara logo at the top left-most corner of the header also serves as a link back to the homepage.

➤ To Register

The user is required to fill out the registration form by entering their first name and last name, creating a username and password, and finally confirming that password. Note that unlike passwords, usernames are not case sensitive. The user will be notified if the username entered already exists or if the password inputted in the first field does not match the one inputted in the confirmation field. After successfully registering for Sahara, the user is taken to the login page. There is also a quick link “Sign up” at the right side of the footer which leads to the registration page.

➤ To Log In

The user is required to enter their username and password, and after successfully logging in the user is automatically taken to the buy page. The user would be notified if an incorrect username/password has been entered. If the user does not have a Sahara account there is a link to the bottom of the login form that they can use to register if they wish. Multiple users can log into the website.

➤ To Sell an Item

When the user first logs on to the site there would be no items for sale as yet, since no other user uploaded any items. The user must first put an item up for sale, by adding to our catalogue, and only then would a buyer be able to make a purchase.

To put an item up for sale, the user can click the “Sell” link in the header. He/she is then required to fill out the necessary fields, which are product name, price, quantity, category, ownership length and description. The user is also required to upload an image of the

item they wish to sell by placing the picture in the images folder, and then dragging and dropping it in the indicated area. The different categories of items sold on Sahara are: Electronics, Stationery, Course Materials, Dorm Furnishings, and Books.

➤ To Shop

If the user wants to shop the items on Sahara, they can click the “Buy” link in the header to go to the all products page, or they can select one of the categories in the navigation bar to shop a specific group of items. They can also manually enter the name/description of an item in the search bar.

To narrow their search, the user can use the filter feature on the left side of the page; this allows them to enter a price range, and also choose how long the item was previously owned. There is also another feature on the right side of the page where the user can choose to sort the items either by name (ascending order), average customer rating, price (high to low) or price (low to high).

When an item is selected, the item preview, item description, price and seller information will be displayed. They would also be allowed to add that item to their cart and choose the quantity they desire. If the quantity requested is greater than the quantity in stock, the user is notified. Every time the user adds an item to their cart the number of items in the cart increases by one, and the number next to the “Cart” link in the header reflects this change.

➤ To View Cart

To view the cart the user can click the “Cart” link in the header. From there the user is shown a list of all the items they added to the cart, which includes a preview of the item, the item name, item description, the seller, quantity, price and order total. The user can also continue shopping by clicking the “Continue Shopping” button, or checkout by clicking the “Checkout” button.

➤ To Checkout

When the checkout button is selected, from the cart the user is taken to a page which displays their order total and a review of their order. If the user is ready to purchase their order, they are required to fill out the fields under billing address and shipping address, as well as select a shipping method and input their payment information. Once that step is completed the user must click the “Pay Now” button to complete their purchase. After checking out the user can go to their Account to rate their purchase by clicking on a star.

➤ To View Account

The user can view their account by clicking the “Account” link in the header. They would then be taken to the My Account page where the user’s personal information is displayed (first name, last name, username and encrypted password), along with their purchases and sales.

➤ Contact Us

The footer includes the different ways the Sahara team could be contacted (as links), which are: on the phone, by email, or by visiting the physical Sahara store location.

➤ About Us

The link to the About Us page is located in the footer. On this page the user can learn more about our aim as a store front and view the member of our team.

➤ To Log Out

The user can log out by clicking the logout icon at top right-most corner of the header. When this icon is clicked, the user will be notified that they have successfully logged out, and would be taken back to the homepage. If the user decides to log back in at a later point in time, regardless of whether a different user logged on the system during that time, the user can continue from where he/she left off as his cart would remain unchanged.