

User Guide:**Getting Started**

First before we start using the system there are a few modules and libraries that need to be installed on client machines, the first is the framework that the system is built around. This is Django and to install it you use a 'pip' command. Before you run the command pictured below ensure that you have installed Python 3.90 and you installed pip alongside Python, *'this is just checking a box that asks to install pip and its automatically checked while you go through the installer.'* Once pip and python are installed run this command below in the command line.

```
C:\Users\Local1>pip install django
Collecting django
  Downloading Django-3.1.3-py3-none-any.whl (7.8 MB)
    | 7.8 MB 3.3 MB/s
Collecting sqlparse>=0.2.2
  Downloading sqlparse-0.4.1-py3-none-any.whl (42 kB)
    | 42 kB ...
Collecting asgiref<4,>=3.2.10
  Downloading asgiref-3.3.1-py3-none-any.whl (19 kB)
Collecting pytz
  Downloading pytz-2020.4-py2.py3-none-any.whl (509 kB)
    | 509 kB ...
Installing collected packages: sqlparse, asgiref, pytz, django
```

The pip command will do all the downloads for you just ensure once they are finished that Django did install correctly by running this command.

```
C:\Users\Local1>django-admin --version
3.1.3
```

This command displays the version of Django you have installed and shows us that it has installed correctly.

Now that we have Django we need to install some of the other modules such as 'Crispy forms'. To install crispy forms you need to use pip again and run the following command in the command line.

```
C:\Users\Local1>pip install django-crispy-forms
Collecting django-crispy-forms
  Downloading django_crispy_forms-1.9.2-py3-none-any.whl (108 kB)
    | 108 kB 3.3 MB/s
Installing collected packages: django-crispy-forms
Successfully installed django-crispy-forms-1.9.2
```

Another Module you need to install is bootstrap4, to do that you use pip again and run the command shown below.

```
(DemoInstalls) C:\Users\benPC>pip install bootstrap4
Collecting bootstrap4
  Using cached bootstrap4-0.1.0-py3-none-any.whl
Installing collected packages: bootstrap4
Successfully installed bootstrap4-0.1.0

(DemoInstalls) C:\Users\benPC>
```

Another module you need to install is pillow and to do that you run the command shown below.

```
(DemoInstalls) C:\Users\benPC>pip install pillow
Collecting pillow
  Using cached Pillow-8.0.1-cp38-cp38-win_amd64.whl (2.1 MB)
Installing collected packages: pillow
Successfully installed pillow-8.0.1
```

Once you have installed all those modules you can now start the application, to do that you need to change the directory using `cd .../.../AtlanticProject` the ... symbolise where the project folder is stored on your local computer. Now that you are in the right directory you need to activate the application, to do that you run the following command `python manage.py runserver` You can see what the application looks like when running below.

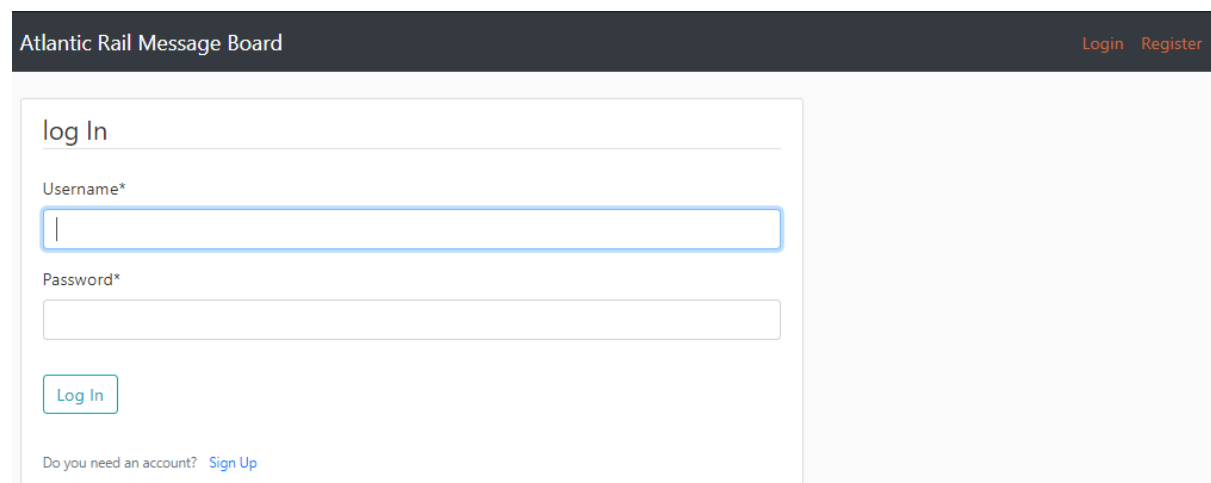
```
(DemoInstalls) C:\Users\benPC\Desktop\AtlanticProject>python manage.py runserver
Watching for file changes with StatReloader
Performing system checks...

System check identified no issues (0 silenced).
December 04, 2020 - 10:50:16
Django version 3.1.4, using settings 'AtlanticProject.settings'
Starting development server at http://127.0.0.1:8000/
Quit the server with CTRL-BREAK.
```

To start using the application copy the <http://127.0.0.1:8000/> into your browser and add *MessageBoard* to the end of that URL so it should look like this <http://127.0.0.1:8000/MessageBoard>

Creating An Account/ Signing In

From there you should be greeted with a login screen like the one shown below.



The screenshot shows the 'Atlantic Rail Message Board' login interface. At the top, there is a dark header with the site name on the left and 'Login Register' links on the right. The main content area has a light gray background. On the left, there is a white login form titled 'log In'. The form contains a 'Username*' field with a blue border, a 'Password*' field, and a 'Log In' button. Below the form, there is a link that says 'Do you need an account? Sign Up'.

If you are a new user and do not have an account you can either click on the 'register' button in the nav bar but you could also click the sign-up button at the bottom of the log-in form. This will then take you to a registration form page, looking like this:

Atlantic Rail Message Board

Get Your Atlantic Rail Account Today!

Username*

Required. 150 characters or fewer. Letters, digits and @/./+/-/_ only.

Email*

Password*

- Your password can't be too similar to your other personal information.
- Your password must contain at least 8 characters.
- Your password can't be a commonly used password.
- Your password can't be entirely numeric.

Password confirmation*

Enter the same password as before, for verification.

[Sign Up](#)

Do you already have an account? [Sign In](#)

All fields are required as indicated with an * and all fields also have validation, for example if you enter an invalid email then an error message will pop up to inform you of the error. See below for an example.

Email*

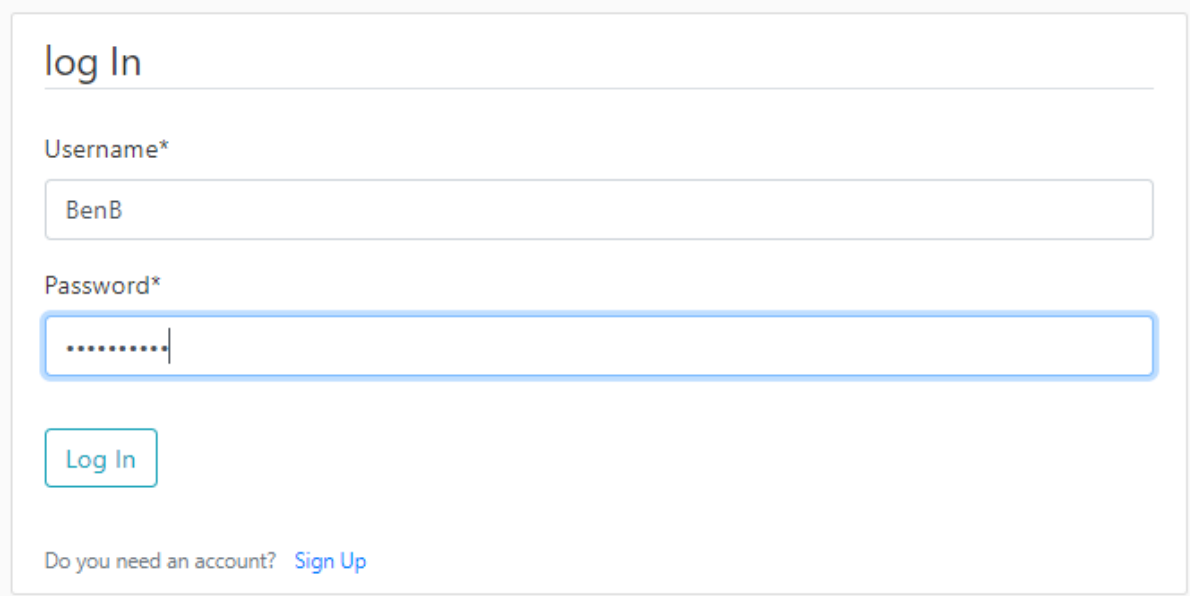
ExampleError@

Password*



Please enter a part following '@'. 'ExampleError@' is incomplete.

Once the account is created the program will redirect you to the log-in page again so you can enter your details to sign in.



log In

Username*

BenB

Password*

.....

Log In

Do you need an account? [Sign Up](#)

Using the Dashboard

The screenshot below is a picture of the dashboard, at first glance all the message appear which is useful as this the format most modern blog systems/ social media sites work so transitioning to the message board would be easy and intuitive. As you can see there are two buttons to sort the posts in ascending order or descending order, the posts are automatically sorted descending in date so the most recent posts are shown first. This makes sense as you would want to see the most recent posts first. If a user would like to change that then they can do by clicking the buttons at the top to change the order in which the posts are displayed.


Furthermore there is some text on a sidebar to inform the user what they can filter by and there is a search bar at the top of the dashboard for users to enter the information they want and this will filter the posts. Finally the last feature included on the dashboard is pagination, I have segregated the posts into pages, this helps keep the responsiveness of the program high as loading all the posts on one page can put a strain on users machines. There are two buttons at the bottom of the page, these buttons allow the user to navigate around the pages and they also change depending on what page you are on. Demo's of that will be shown below.

Atlantic Rail Message Board

[New post](#) [Profile](#) [Logout](#)

Sort By Accending

Sort By Decending




NewUser9

04 December, 2020

BlahBlah

Test Post




NewUser111

20 November, 2020

New

fasfewgwererw




Billy

20 November, 2020

Test Post

This is a test post!




BenB

20 November, 2020

Post100

Cumartesi sabahı sabah 7'de çimlerini kesip bütün mahalleyi uyandıran redditörler, bunu neden yapıyorsunuz?



BenB

20 November, 2020

VW Beetles

Volkswagen Beetles sahipleri, arabanızı sürdüğünüzde sayısız insanın ilk gören kişi olmak için birbirlerine yumruk attığını bilerek nasıl hissediyorsunuz?

Next

Last

Filter Posts

You can filter posts here

Author

Subject

Content

Date

Figure 1- Complete Dashboard

First

Previous

Next

Last

Figure 2 - Buttons on page 2

Every post is clickable so the user can view the post individually, to do that you click on the post subject and you can view that post separately. You will also notice as you hover your cursor over the subject it changes to an orange colour; this indicates that it is a clickable area and improves ease of use. An example of this is shown below



Figure 3 - Highlighted Subject

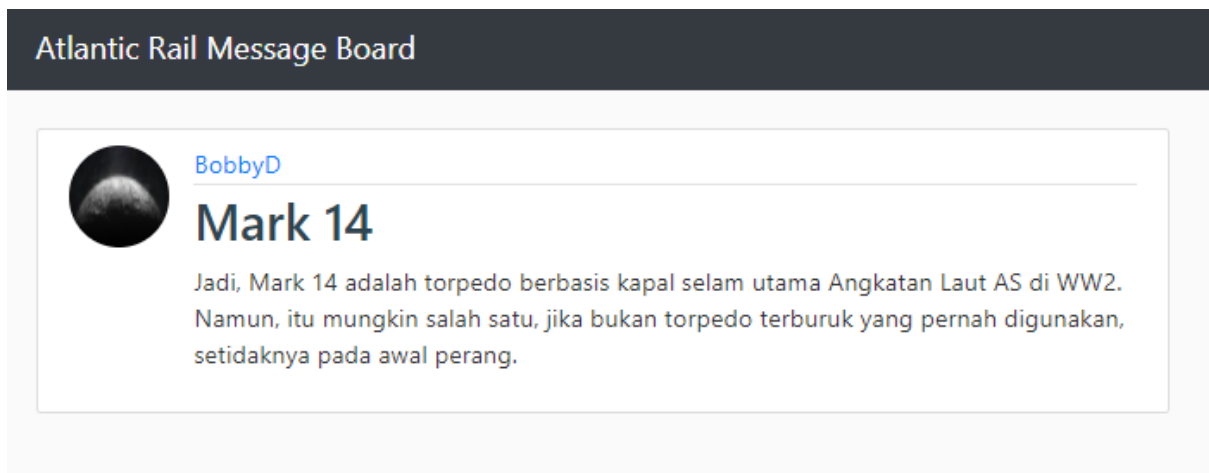


Figure 4 - Individual Post View

If you want to see all the posts posted by 1 author then you can click on that user's name and a page like this will show, displaying all the posts made by that user.

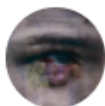
Atlantic Rail Message Board

Posts by BenB (10)

[BenB](#) 20 November, 2020

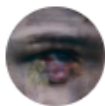
Post100

Cumartesi sabahı sabah 7'de çimlerini kesip bütün mahalleyi uyandıran redditörler, bunu neden yapıyorsunuz?

[BenB](#) 20 November, 2020

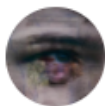
VW Beetles

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[BenB](#) 20 November, 2020

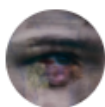
Django Project

hjksd\hbfjsdbfhjsdfhjefghjeGHJBHDFHFGDSHJAFGDFJKDFHGLKJ

[BenB](#) 20 November, 2020

Postststst

jfsdhjfhdsjknfjksdbfhjsdafghjgjd

[BenB](#) 13 November, 2020

Noooooooooooooooooooo

I cant get date to work :(

[Next](#)[Last](#)

Managing Posts

If you want to create a new post you can click the link in the nav bar called 'new post' to create a new post. Once you click that link you will be taken to a page like the one shown below.

Atlantic Rail Message Board

Message Post


Title*

Content*

Post

The date is automatically applied to the post and so is the author of the post as the program knows what user is logged into the application. Once you click post you will be redirected to a page where you can see your post individually, if you then want to go back to the main dashboard you just click the **Atlantic Rail Message Board** text in the nav bar as it's a hyperlink to the main dashboard. This follows modern website design and helps with ease of use as new users migrate to the application.

You also have the option to update/ delete posts if you own the post, to modify posts you just select the post you want to edit and click on the subject to view it independently from the rest. There you will see two buttons called 'Update' and 'Delete', An example of this is shown below:



BenB 20 November, 2020

Update

Delete

Post100

Cumartesi sabahı sabah 7'de çimlerini kesip bütün mahalleyi uyandıran redditörler, bunu neden yapıyorsunuz?

If you decide to update the post the button will redirect you to a page very similar to creating a post but the fields are already filled in for you to change what's there. An example is also shown below:

Atlantic Rail Message Board

Message Post

Title*

Content*

Cumartesi sabahı sabah 7'de çimlerini kesip bütün mahalleyi uyandıran redditörler, bunu neden yapıyorsunuz?

Manging Your Account

There is also options for you to further manage/ edit your account once its created, you can do this by clicking on the 'profile' link in the nav bar. On this page you can upload a customer profile photo, change your username and change your email. When you create your account a default profile photo will be set and the profile page will look like this once you create your account:

Atlantic Rail Message Board

**NewUser9**

newuser@gmail.com

Profile Info

Username*

Required. 150 characters or fewer. Letters, digits and @/./+/-/_ only.

Email*

Image*

Currently: [default.jpg](#)

Change:

 No file chosen