**COVER PAGE**

**Title:** Blaqmerchandise website documentation

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**BLAQMERCHANDISE E- RETAIL WEBSITE DOCUMENTATION**

**1.Introduction**

This report outlines the development and functionality of a prototype e-retail website designed for BlaqMerchandise, an urban fashion brand. The purpose of the system is to demonstrate the feasibility of an online business platform using web technologies such as PHP, MySQL, HTML5, and CSS3. The prototype simulates the customer purchase journey, including item selection, view cart or continue shopping options, checkout with VAT calculation, and order confirmation. It also includes basic administrative features for listing customer and purchase records.

**2. Website Functionality**

The prototype consists of several interconnected PHP pages:  
  
i) home1.php: A professional landing page with clear navigation to key system areas which are:

* item purchasing,
* customer list,
* purchase list.

ii)purchase.php: Displays all products from the items table grouped in four separate sections which are:

* Tops
* Trousers
* Caps
* hoodies

-Each item is shown with:

* Name
* Image
* Price

-It also has a clear navigation system to key system areas which are:

* view cart
* continue shopping
* home button

iii)caps.php: Displays the caps in the items list placed in the sql each item shown with:

* Name
* Image
* price
* an add to bag option.

Also has a clear navigation system which are:

* Home
* continue shopping
* view bag

iv)trousers.php Displays the trousers in the items list placed in the sql each item shown with:

* Name
* Image
* price
* an add to bag option.

Also has a clear navigation system which are:

* Home
* continue shopping
* view bag

v)tops.php: Displays the tops in the items list placed in the sql each item shown with:

* Name
* Image
* price
* an add to bag option.

Also has a clear navigation system which are:

* Home
* continue shopping
* view bag

vi)hoodies.php: Displays the hoodies in the items list placed in the sql each item shown with:

* Name
* Image
* price
* an add to bag option.

Also has a clear navigation system which are:

* Home
* continue shopping
* view bag

v)checkout.php: Displays selected items and calculates the total price excluding VAT, VAT (at 17.5%), and total including VAT.  
vi)confirm.php: Handles final transaction submission. The customer’s name is stored in the customers table, and each purchase is recorded in the purchases table.  
vii)list\_customers.php: Displays a table of all customer entries.  
viii) list\_purchases.php: Shows customer-item purchase pairs using an SQL JOIN query.

ix)cart.php: Displays the items selected from the purchase.php showing the item, price, quantity and the subtotal of the items chosen. To add on it contains a remove from cart option on every item chosen and a vclear navigation system to lead to checkout, continue shopping or to the home page.

x)add\_to\_cart.php: Adds items selected to the cart.

xi)remove\_from\_cart: Displays a button on each item selected in the cart giving the customer an option to remove the item from the cart before checking out.  
  
All pages are styled with CSS3 for consistency, with semantic HTML5 for structural clarity.

**3. Notable Features and Technologies**

- Database-Driven Product Display: Products are dynamically retrieved from MySQL, simulating real-world database integration.  
- AI UX Concepts: The design anticipates future AI-driven enhancements like personalized product recommendations.  
- Tax Calculation: The VAT logic is handled in checkout.php, rounding to two decimal places.  
- Data Validation: Required fields enforce proper user input.  
- Relational Database: Use of foreign keys reflects normalized database design.

**4. Issues and Areas for Improvement**

- Shopping Cart Feature: Currently not implemented. Adding sessions would improve the UX.  
- Login & Authentication: Admin access is open and would benefit from user authentication.  
- Image Hosting: Better served via server/CDN rather than external URLs.  
- Input Validation: More client-side validation could improve security and UX.

**5. Suggested Enhancements**

- Customer Login and Purchase History.  
- Admin Dashboard for editing products.  
- Payment Gateway Integration.  
- Responsive Design using media queries.

**6. Code Structure & Standards**

- HTML5 and semantic tags used.  
- CSS3 used for consistent styling.  
- PHP with prepared statements.  
- Code separation and commenting applied.

**7. Conclusion**

The BlaqMerchandise prototype demonstrates a functional e-retail system that aligns with the feasibility report’s objectives. It mimics essential eCommerce operations: browsing, selecting, purchasing, and reviewing customer records. This system showcases full-stack web development fundamentals and provides a foundation for future growth.  
  
Overall, the implementation applies theoretical module concepts and demonstrates how BlaqMerchandise could operate as a digital-first fashion retailer.