COSC 360



Forum Page User Guide

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Access Information:

Links:

Website Link: https://cosc360.ok.ubc.ca/zikd/COSC-360-Project---Forum/home page.php

Repository: https://github.com/COSC360/COSC-360-Project---Forum

Usernames and Passwords:

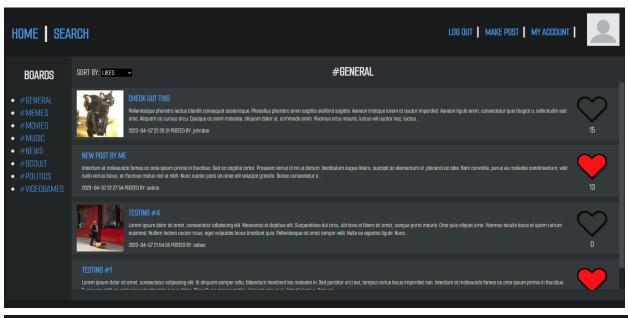
Administrators:

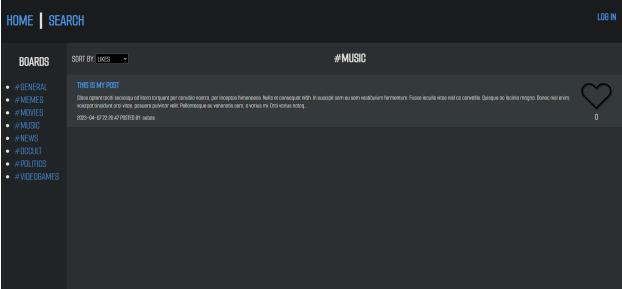
USERNAME	PASSWORD
topAdmin2023	adminpass

Users:

USERNAME	PASSWORD
johndoe	pa\$\$w0rd1
janebirch	pass123

Home Page:





The main page for the user experience. The center of the screen will display a scrollable display of all of the posts available in a board. They are sorted by 'Most Llked' by default, although the user may sort by 'Date' to see the newest post in that board.

Each post listing will display a preview of the text, the attached image, and information of who posted it and when.

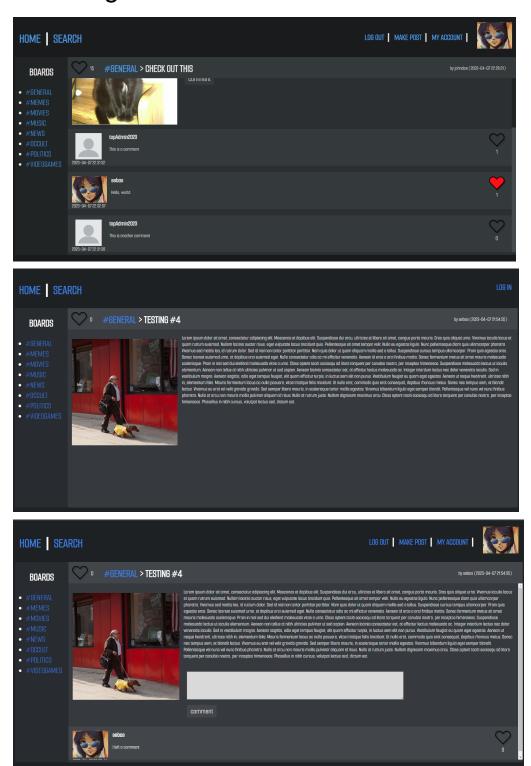
Each post can be liked, although the like will only be reflected in the database if the user has logged in. This is an account-specific feature. The likes will be reflected through the number and icon (button). This allows for users to curate the top posts.

The column to the left will display a list of admin-curated boards which separate the user-generated content into categorizing topics. Clicking the links will switch the list of posts available to see.

If the user has an account, or wishes to create one, they may click the Login button to the top right. The Home button will be in the top left at all times. The Search button is also to the top left which will open a page to allow for the user to search for a specific post.

If the user has already logged in, the link 'Log Out' will let them log out properly out of their account. In the top right, they may also click 'Make Post' to publish their own post unto the forum. Or they may click 'My Account' to view and customize their account details and settings.

Post Page:



The user (even without an account) can view a specific post to view its full text, image, and attached comments. To do so the user should click the appropriate link through the home page

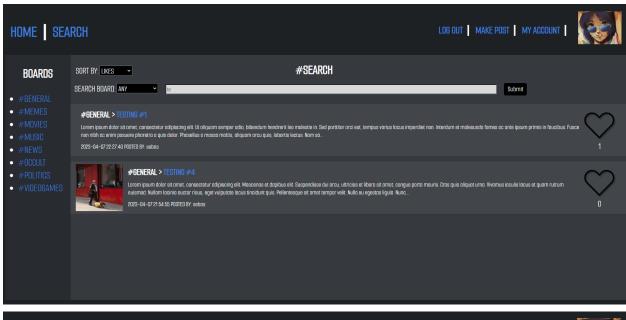
or search page. After clicking a post the user will see its full text and attached image. The information regarding who and when it was posted will also be attached.

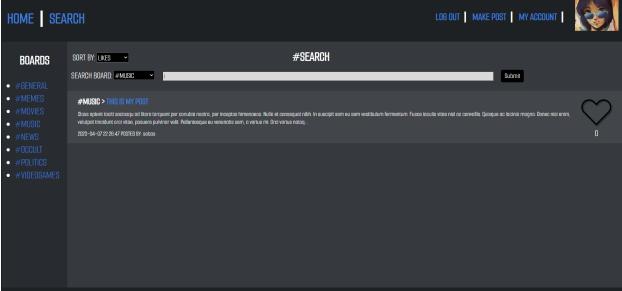
At the top, the title of the post will be displayed. It will also say in which board it was posted. A like button will also be available. However, only users with an account will actually increase the amount of likes for the post.

Scrolling down will reveal the comment section. Here any user with an account may comment. To be able to comment the user must log in into their account. The user should use the text area and submit button below the post. Empty comments are not allowed. All comments will be displayed and sorted by most likes. As always, attached information will be displayed regarding who posted the comment.

Yet again, navigation controls will be available in the header and right sidebar.

Search Page:





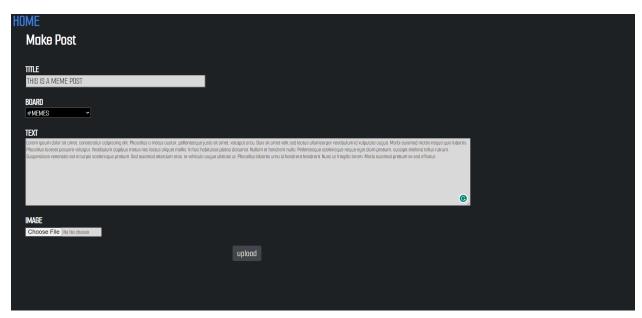
The search page will allow any user to search for a specific post based on the title of the post. To be able to do so, the user must use the text search bar and click submit. The search function can also be narrowed down by selecting a specific board to search under. Otherwise, 'Any' can be selected to search ALL posts.

To narrow down the search, the user can sort the search results by 'Date' (most recent) or 'Likes' (most liked).

The results from the search will be shown in a list of posts which can be accessed to go to the respective post page. It will also showcase which board the post was posted to.

Yet again, navigation controls will be available in the header and right sidebar.

Make Post:



To go back the user can use the 'Home' link.

Users which have an account may be able to create posts. To make a post the user must fill out all of the fields, except for a picture. They must include a title and a block of text to add to their post. They must also select a board to post it under, this should be a relevant topic that fits the content of their post.

If they wish to do so, the user may upload an image that will be saved in the database and displayed alongside their post.

Account Page:

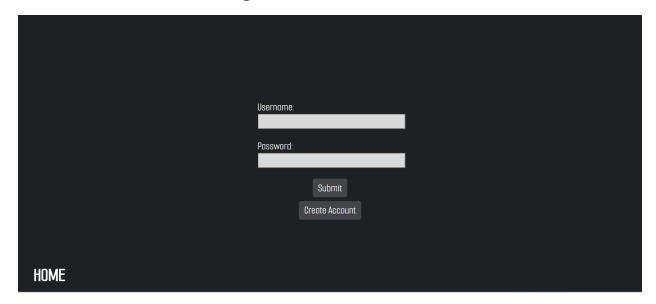


This page shows the users information on the website. The user has the option to see and edit the information used to create an account on the page. To edit their information, the user can click on the "Edit Profile" button.

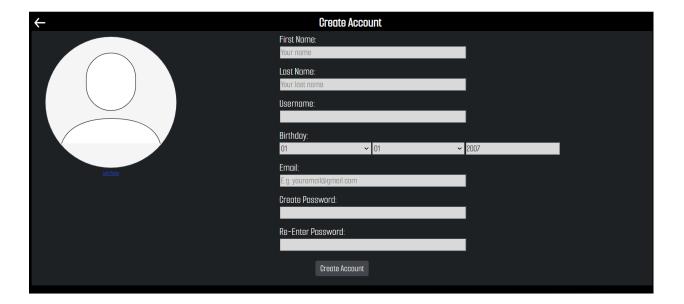


Once clicked the user is now able to change the shown fields along with their profile picture and save them or discard their changes. The top right corner provides a user a link back to the Home Page of the website.

Create Account Page:



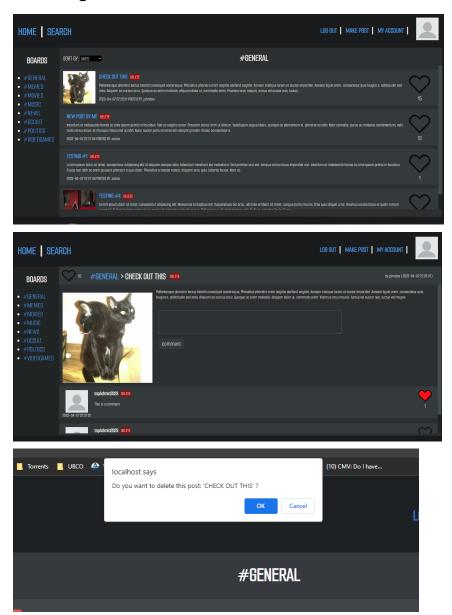
This page allows the user to create an account on the website. The user can access this page from the Login page. The user is then directed to the Create Account page where they can enter their information and create an account on the website.



Users are also provided the option of adding a profile picture or use the default picture provided. Once content with the input information the user is directed to the Home Page and can begin creating posts, leaving comments on other users posts and like posts they find interesting.

Admin Functionalities:

Deleting Posts and Comments:



If a user is an admin, they will have access to some minor moderation abilities after logging in. The administrators are able to delete posts and comments. They may delete a post from the home page or by using the search function to find a post. They may also delete a post after opening its post page. Administrators are also allowed to delete specific comments under a post. All of these actions have to be verified through an alert to prevent any accidents.