

# Introducing WebCatalog 8: Less for More



Quang Lam

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It has been almost a year and a half since I created the first version of WebCatalog. The app soon got tractions and I was so excited. With ambition, I planned to turn the app into a full-fledged profitable product: not just a simple desktop app but a platform, an app store, an alternative to web browsers.

I was not alone. During my summer internship, as I shared the project with Mark-my colleague, he was full of excitement and then joined the team. We were both young, inexperienced but we were well-motivated. Together, we set a plan to build a startup with WebCatalog as the core product.

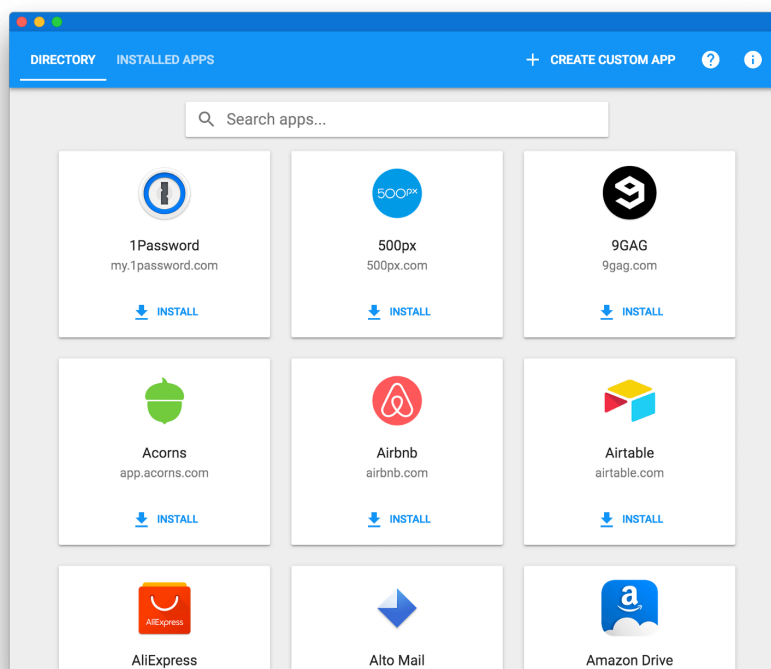
I did not drop out. Mark did not quit his job either. We worked on the project every night as our side project. We worked hard. And it took us only a few weeks to redesign the whole app.

But monetizing WebCatalog was more complicated than we expected: from establishing a business structure to integrating an authentication & payment system. People were willing to pay, but the user base was not large enough to justify those works. When we were looking for a solution for these issues, Mark abruptly quitted.

I managed to continue the development. But it was hard for a student like me to maintain such a big project. Thus, to keep the project running, I have decided to fully open source and streamline the project to keep it maintainable. Also, I have canceled my plans to monetize WebCatalog and **the app will remain free and open source indefinitely.**

Now, the simplified WebCatalog 8 is available. Many features, including the authentication system & the app rankings, have been removed. But there's good news: the app directory is now hosted openly on GitHub and it's possible to create custom apps.

As the developer, I really appreciate your amazing support for the app. And I hope you will enjoy the new version and continue to support WebCatalog!



WebCatalog 8



