CookIt, a Recipe-Sharing Social Media App

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**Project Overview:**

CookIt is a social media platform designed for food enthusiasts, home cooks, and professionals to share their favorite recipes, cooking tips, and culinary discoveries. Our goal is to create a vibrant community where users can share, discover, and discuss a wide array of recipes from around the globe. With focus on simplicity, accessibility, and performance, we plan to make cooking and recipe sharing an enjoyable and inclusive experience for everyone.

Our application allows users to share personal recipes, discover popular recipes, search through the database of dishes with keywords and tags, and follow creators to know what is happening in their kitchens. Our power search allows users to find an ideal dish based on a set of characteristics: food preferences, time/ingredients available, level of skills, cookware, rating, or plain keywords.

**Functional Requirements**

1. Users will be able to login to an account or create one
2. Users will be able to post recipes with the option to add images.
3. Recipes can have a difficulty rating based on how easy they are to make (can be provided once by the poster, or have reviews that contribute to the average difficulty rating)
4. Users will be able to add comments, rate, and share or bookmark the recipes
5. All information will be automatically saved to a database
6. Users will be able to view a “feed” that shows most liked, popular, and hot recipes
7. Users will be able to view a “homepage” that shows recipes from the followed users
8. Users can search recipes by tags
9. Users can follow others to get notifications when new recipes are uploaded by them.
10. Users can rate and review recipes

**Non-functional Requirements**

1. User should be able to register and login smoothly
2. The application should display pages and content within 1 second
3. The system should support at least 10,000 posts without degradation in performance
4. Searching recipes should load within a second
5. Hot/trending, most liked, and most popular recipes should automatically be updated
6. The application should have a large, clear, and easy-to-read font with high contrast between text and background
7. The images should include text descriptions so screen readers can be used to efficiently interact with the application

