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⇔ CRAVE ICE-CREAM: Project Documentation

1. Introduction

The CRAVE ICE-CREAM project is a small-scale dynamic website that transforms a fun, static UI into a fully functional ordering platform. It demonstrates the combination of interactive frontend design with a Node.js backend and a simple admin dashboard for managing orders.

This project is suitable for learning full-stack development concepts while delivering an engaging, playful user experience.

2. Objectives & Scope

Objectives

- Provide a visually attractive and playful UI for browsing ice cream flavors.
- Enable customers to place ice cream orders seamlessly.
- Provide an admin interface for monitoring and managing orders.
- Ensure responsiveness and cross-device compatibility.

Scope

- In-Scope:
 - Ice cream browsing
 - Dynamic order placement
 - Admin order confirmation/cancellation
 - Persistent order storage
- Out-of-Scope:

- User login/registration
- o Payment gateway integration
- Delivery tracking

3. System Architecture

• Frontend (UI Layer):

- o Built with HTML, CSS, JavaScript.
- Provides draggable flavor menu, floating emoji background, interactive cards, and order popup system.

• Backend (Application Layer):

- Node.js + Express server (server.js).
- o Manages API endpoints for flavors and orders.

Data Layer:

o JSON files used as lightweight storage (flavors.json, orders.json).

Admin Dashboard:

o admin.html for order management.

4. Technology Stack

Layer	Technology
Frontend	HTML5, CSS3, JavaScript (Vanilla JS)
Backend	Node.js, Express.js
Database	JSON file-based storage
Styling	Custom CSS animations, transitions

Deployment Localhost or any Node-compatible host (Heroku, Render, Azure, etc.)

5. Features

Homepage UI

- √ Vibrant ice cream-themed background
- ✓ Floating emojis that animate infinitely
- ✓ Draggable menu with flavors list
- √ Flavor cards with hover overlays (price + "Order Now")

Order System

- ✓ Orders stored dynamically in orders.json
- ✓ Popup feedback after order placement
- ✓ Prevents duplicate clicks with button disable feature

Admin Dashboard

- √ Table view of pending orders
- ✓ Buttons for confirm ✓ and cancel X actions
- ✓ Instant popup notifications after each action

6. Backend Services

Endpoints

- GET /flavors → Fetches all flavors
- POST /order → Places new order
- GET /orders → Retrieves pending orders
- DELETE /orders/:id → Confirms or cancels an order

Data Persistence

- Orders automatically saved in orders.json.
- Flavors are read from flavors.json at startup.

7. Deployment & Usage

Setup Instructions

- 1. Install Node.js.
- 2. Navigate to project directory:
- 3. cd crave-icecream
- 4. npm install express cors
- 5. Start server:
- 6. node server.js
- 7. Open index.html in browser (customer view).
- 8. Open admin.html in browser (admin view).

Deployment Options

- Host server on **Heroku / Render / Azure Web Apps**.
- Host frontend on Netlify / GitHub Pages / Azure Storage.
- Connect them via correct server URL in script.js and admin.html.

8. Security Considerations

- CORS enabled for local development.
- Input validation ensures orders require flavor & price.
- No authentication (future enhancement).
- Data stored in JSON, not production-grade database → suitable only for small-scale/demo use.

9. Testing & Validation

Frontend:

- Verified draggable menu works smoothly.
- o Confirmed hover overlay animations.
- Checked popup dismissal after 3s.

Backend:

- Tested API endpoints using Postman.
- Ensured orders persist across sessions.

Admin Panel:

- o Confirmed orders removed after confirmation/cancellation.
- o Popup feedback tested successfully.

10. Conclusion

The **CRAVE ICE-CREAM** project delivers a **fun, interactive, full-stack web application**. It bridges static design with real backend functionality, offering both **user ordering** and **admin management** capabilities.

It is a strong **learning project** for web developers, showcasing:

- Dynamic UI interactions
- Node.js + Express backend integration
- JSON file-based persistence
- Full-stack workflow (user → server → admin)