

Fooriend Website Report for Alpha Version

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Cook Together



Share Food



Restaurant Companion

Inspiration

It was tricky to find what kind of website we would like to do. There are so many interesting ideas in our mind. We planned to pick up three words which we are most interested in to form an inspiration circle and then tried to create something combining them together. The three words we finally chose are food, people and sharing.

Food and friends are all indispensable for us, why not bind these two beautiful things to build a special social network? You can make friends while enjoying delicious food!

Based on this thoughts, our Fooriend website is born. It is a word combination of "food" and "friend", aiming at building a social platform to connect people through sharing food. The basic working way is the user post an invitation and others join it. We create three scenarios for our users. The first one is "cook together", which means everyone including the host and guests should cook at least one dish and share together, so that everyone may have the opportunity to taste and cook foreign cuisine. The second one is "share food" when you cook too much. It may be common for those people who live alone, so our website provides a platform to share your excess food to avoid wastage. The last one is "Restaurant Companion". You can invite someone to go to a restaurant together, so you won't be alone any more.

How to use for alpha version

User Account

To post or join invitations, users must use an account to log in. In order to register, a user must provide his given name, surname, username (email) and password. Detailed information such as address line, city, zip code, country, telephone number can be added or edited later. Users can manage their post or join lists in its account. They can delete the post or cancel the join if they change their minds.

Cook Together Scenario

When the user wants to post a cook invitation, he needs to provide information of the list like title, date, time, address, dish name, dish description, dish category, number of guests and image of your kitchen or dish. To join a cook invitation, the participant should tell the host about the dish he will bring: dish name, dish description and dish category.

Share Food Scenario

Similar to cook together invitation, the user needs to provide title, date, time, address, dish name, dish description, dish category, number of guests and images of eating place or dish to post an invitation. However, it is not required for the guests here to bring any dishes, you just come and join.

Restaurant Companion Scenario

For the restaurant invitation, users need to provide restaurant name, date, time, address, restaurant category, number of guests and pic of restaurant. To join this kind of invitation, users don't need to provide any additional information.

Some Other Functions

In addition, users can be anonymous to search and browse invitations except they want to post or join one. They can input keywords (address, zip code, city) or select category of invitations and date to search the invitations. List is sorted by post time by default. When an invitation is complete which means there is no remaining space for guests, the invitation list will show a red "FULL" to remind user.

Methodology

Design Brief

After we confirm our topic and content, we drafted the design brief of the website, clarify the project objectives, sorting out the features and functionalities and planning the timescale.

The system functions mainly are:

- Users can post an invitation to cook together, share food and go to a restaurant.
- Users may be anonymous to search and browse invitations except they want to post or join an invitation.
- To post or join invitations, users must use an account to log in. In order to register, a user must provide his given name, surname, username (email) and password.
 Detailed information such as address line, city, zip code, country, telephone number can be added or edited later.
- Users can change passwords if they forget.
- To post a cook invitation, a user need to provide title, date, time, address, dish name, dish description, dish category, number of guests, pic of your kitchen or dish. One user can cook more than one dish.
- To join a cook invitation, a user need to provide information about the dish he wants to cook: dish name, dish description, dish category.
- To post a share invitation, a user need to provide title, date, time, address, dish
 name, dish description, dish category, number of guests, pic of eating place or
 dish.
- To post a restaurant invitation, a user need to provide restaurant name, date, time, address, restaurant category, number of guests, pic of restaurant.
- To join a share invitation or restaurant invitation, users don't need to provide any additional information.
- Users can input keywords (address, zip code, category of dish) or select category of invitations and time to search the invitations.
- List is sorted by time by default.
- If you search by address or zip code, it will be sorted by distance.
- When browsing, user can change the filter or sort rules.
- When an invitation is complete or expired, the poster will get a notification or
 message and it will be removed from the browsing list by default. But if the user
 chose to show them, it will be shown.
- User can manage their post or join lists in its account. He can delete the post or

cancel the join at least one day before.

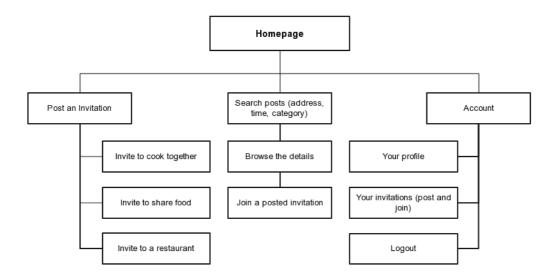


Figure1: function struction

Our time scale is:

Project start date	02/02/2017
Function/Interaction confirm	04/02/2017
Interface Design	07/02/2017
Front-end	17/02/2017
Back-end	27/02/2017
Site ready for testing/checking	28/02/2017
Alpha version	02/03/2017
Beta version	31/03/2017

Table1:Timescale

Wireframes

For the wireframe design, we defined our website's style simple and useful. We browsed some website's framework and took the Airbnb's design structure for reference.

According to our functions, basically we divided our website into three main parts: index, account and browse which are shown below.

index.php

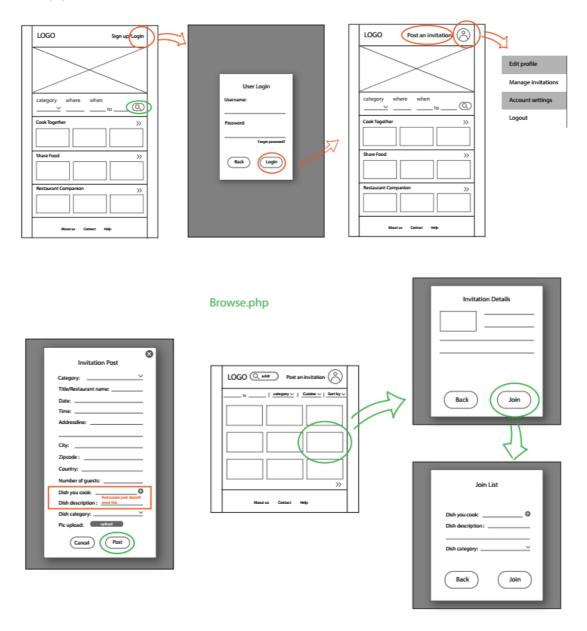


Figure2:Wireframes

Database Structure

Based on functions requirements analysis, we designed the database for the website. The E-R diagram is as followed.

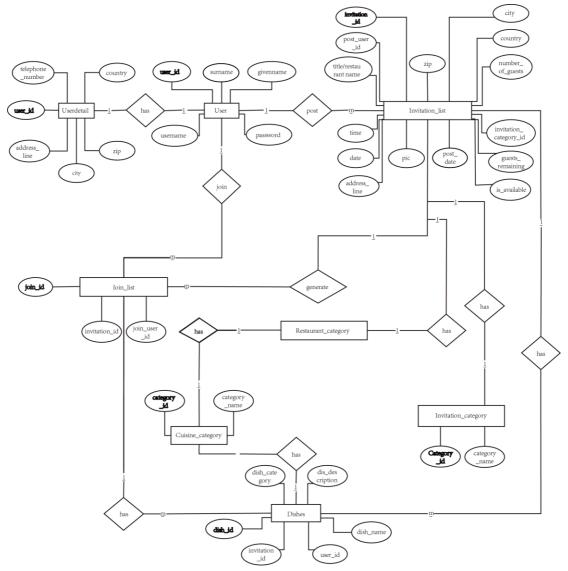


Figure3: E-R database diagram

Execution

This stage we mainly focus on realizing the functions part, so we don't spend a lot of time on the styles. For the interface design, we use AI and photoshop to design our logos and we use HTML, CSS, JavaScript to build the front-end, PHP and SQL to develop the back end. We totally created 16 php pages including a public function php file. The relationship of other 15 pages are shown below:

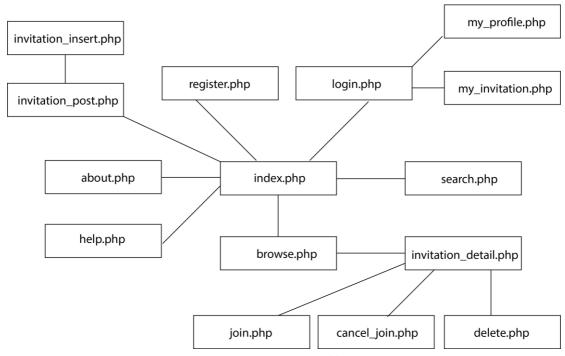


Figure 4: System files

The index page offers users three different category options to choose from cook together, share food, restaurant companion. The images on the homepage change every 4 seconds, which is coded witch JavaScript. Also, we create search bar on the index page, this function will be used for search the invitations depend on the category, date and location. Using CSS to layout the activities below, each row has three elements. The login and registration page relate the users' input and the database by PHP.

The final interfaces of our alpha version are shown below:

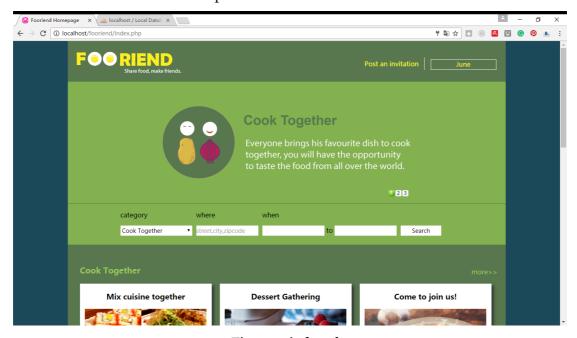


Figure 5: index.php

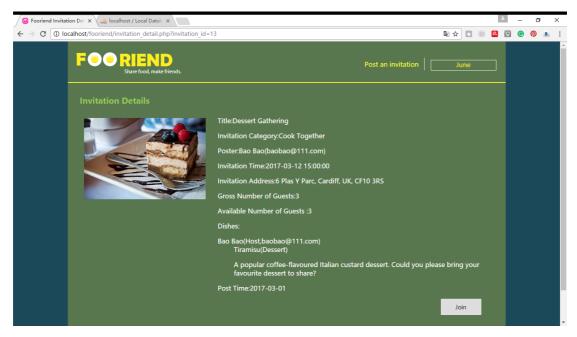


Figure6: invitation_detail.php

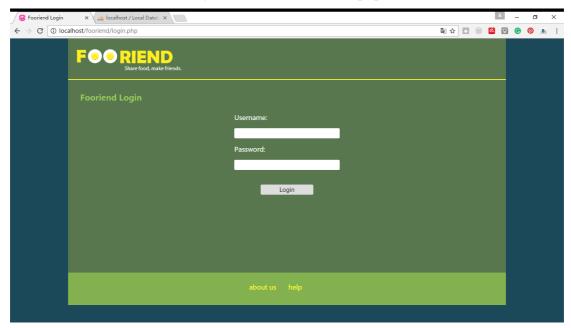


Figure7:login.php

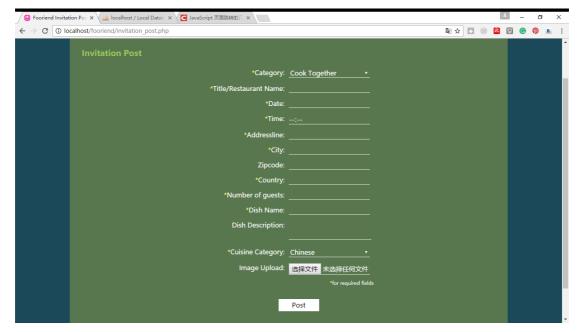


Figure8:invitation_post.php

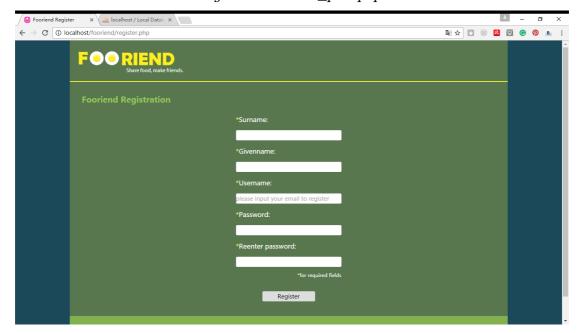


Figure9:register.php

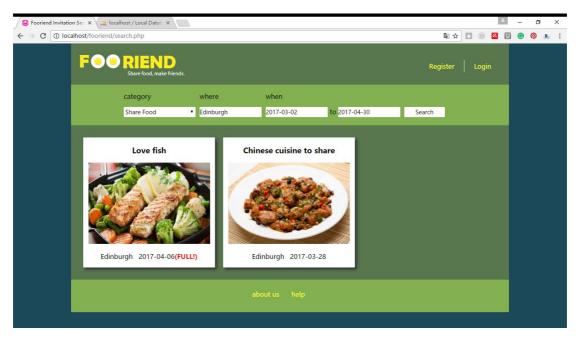


Figure10: search.php

Further development of the website

There are some details we want to improve in the next stage:

- ➤ If the user forgets the login passwords, how to find the passwords back and give the users authority to edit login passwords.
- > Users can edit its own post invitations
- > Form required fields or validity check
- Time check for availability of the post invitation (if the invitation data is expired, it should not be shown)
- Filter (distance, cuisine...) for search results, so that the users can see the results after ranking.
- ➤ Users can get announcements when information of an invitation he posts or joins changes (e.g. the invitation has been deleted by the poster)
- Record the previous page the user visited so that user can return to it after form submission
- Make the website more responsive
- Use the google map API to provide some position information to users
- Combine Bootstrap to improve the visual part such as the usability and interaction of the website

The roles

Xiangjun Liu for back-end development, Wenjing Chen for front-end development and Xinwei Du for interface design.

References

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