

YMD (You May Dig) is a website that allows gaming enthusiasts, casual or pro, to give ratings to games they have played. In turn, the website recommends new games for the user/s to try based on their tastes and preferences in regards to genres and platforms.

The website draws game data from eshop servers using web crawlers. Game titles, product identifiers, icons, gameplay screenshots and descriptions are some examples of the data that was pulled from the online store.

The main architecture components that were used were:

MySQL

Java

Java Servlets

Java Server Faces

Prime Faces

Java Script and AJAX

To sign up to the site, the user first clicks on the Sign up icon in the top right, they then input a username, email address and password, and clicks Sign Up. They will then be signed into the website.

To login, the user clicks on the Login icon in the top right, they then input their chosen username and password, and click Sign in.

To browse the user clicks on the Browse icon next to the YMD logo while logged in. They can then enter a search term within the search box and filter by genres and platforms prior to clicking the search icon. The results can also be ordered based on highest average rating, new releases, upcoming games or alphabetically.

In order to view recommended games, the user must first click on their username in the top right hand corner of the page while signed in and then click on settings from the drop down menu.

From the settings page the user can update their email address or select their favourite genres and characteristics. Once one or more preferences have been selected the user then clicks on the save preferences icon.

From here the user can then click on the view recommendation button to view their first game recommendation. From this page they can rate the game if they have already played it by selecting the appropriate star ratings on the right hand side and then selecting the rate button below this section. The game preview carousel, the description of the game and related genres can also be seen on this page to give the user a better understanding of the game in question. If the user would like to look at a different recommendation, they simply click on the next recommendation icon on the right of the page.

In regards to the admin side, there are several behind the scenes settings for administrators to use the website.

To enter the administrator settings, click your login, then from the dropdown select "Admin". You will then enter the default admin overview page, where you can see the overview of games, users, genres, characteristics and ratings. On the left-hand side of the page, there are three pages that you can navigate to. The default overview page, Genres management and Characteristics management. To change pages simply click on the appropriate icon.

On the default overview page, there is an input box that allows the admin to manually set the maximum number of games that the system will gather. To do this they enter a number and click the Gather button.

To manage the genres, the admin must select the Genres page from the navigation bar on the left-hand side of the screen.

Once on the Genres page the admin can tick each box for each genres they do not want to be gathered.

Additionally, under the black listed genres there is the same setup to manage the hidden genres. The admin can Tick a box next to a genre they want to be gathered, but a user not to be able to view.

To manage characteristic, the admin must Select the characteristics option from the left-hand side menu bar. This page will allow them to assign the different rateable values a genre will have. E.g. the "Racing" genre might need to be rated for "Realism", whereas an "RPG" does not need to be rated for realism as it would be fictional.

To give a Genre a characteristic, the admin needs to click the text box next to the genre e.g. Action. They Then type a characteristic they want to represent that genre e.g. Fun. they Then hit enter to confirm. To remove a genre they hit the small cross next to the characteristic