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Music review app

I am creating a web app designed to allow users to write and read reviews for music. I do not currently have a name for this app yet but am trying to figure one out. This app will function a lot like the website Rotten Tomatoes but with music instead of movies. I am going to have an interface that will allow users to create an account and login. This will be supported by a database containing the login information. Users will be able to read and write reviews about music. I will have a database containing all of the information for the music. I want to be able to have users use the app from their phones or from their computers.

Joey Carlisle is my sponsor. After speaking with Joey about his expectations for this project I have a better understanding of what is to come. He plans on seeing a working interface that can access the information that I have set in the database. He expects me to have a functioning database with the music information and the information of the users.

There will be three types of users, admin, those with accounts and those without. Admin users will be just me for now and will have access to the database itself. No other users will have access to that other than pulling information out to view. Users that create an account on the app will have access to all features in the app. They will be able to not only read but write reviews for the music. There will be a star rating for each album and song, only users with accounts will be able to vote towards this rating. They will also be able to write their own review and thoughts about the music below. Users that do not make an account will still be able to go to any album or artists page and view all of the ratings and reviews. But they will not be able to vote on the rating or write anything about the music. I wanted to have a critic section but I do not know any music critics so I am hoping that will be implemented in the future.

I am developing this app as a web app instead of using a hybrid or native approach. I thought about going the hybrid route but I will not need any local functions on the phones so I don't feel that it is necessary. I will only have users reading and writing reviews so a web app will be able to handle all of these functions fine. I will be developing the project on my Windows laptop but will be designing it to run on a phone or a computer. My app will consist of a user interface along with a database of the music and a database of users. For the user interface I will be using HTML and CSS to create my actual web app. I have done some research and have decided to use Ionic to help with the development of the interface. I will be using Ionic for another class so I have already been introduced to it and am familiar with the way it works. I will have to use some PHP as well.

I will be using mySQL to create and populate my databases. I will have a database with all users and passwords. Once a user creates their account it will be added to the database and they will be able to access those features. I will also have a database of the music. This will consist of tables including Genre, Artists, Albums, Users, and Songs. Every Friday I plan on adding the new songs that are released that day. This way users will be able to vote and write about songs the same day they hear them first. I have attached a picture of my layout for my database as of now. I will be adding to it soon after I get the initial setup complete.

When my project is finished users will be able to view the app from their phones or from their computer. I am developing it as a web app so it will be able to function on either one. Users will only have to have a type of web browser to be able to view my app. No extra software will be required for them to use the app. I will have to integrate the databases that I created into the final app to be able to display the music on screen for the user.

For testing my app I will be using Turing. I plan on hosting my database on Turing while I am developing it. I do believe that this database will eventually get extremely large so I have done some research about where to host it once it get to that point. I am looking into Google and Amazon but still have to weigh up the advantages of each comparative to the price. Implementing this to the market I would like to eventually get my app in the play store and app store. But for this project I would like to get it setup so that the public can start using it and would like to implement it into the local public to start.

My interface will have a home screen that will list the genres that users can choose from. They can also click up top in a search bar. There will be a pull out menu on the left that will allow users to click on the different pages such as Genres, Artists, or Settings. Once the user is on an album or song page they will be able to see the star ratings and reviews. From here they will be able to scroll down through the reviews and write their own. The star rating will function as an average of the rating that the users give an album or song. I want to add a feature that will list trending songs along with new releases on the homepage at some point. This will be added in the future once the main functions of the app have been completed. I have attached a picture of my transition slides at the end of the document. I have much more detailed versions of them but did not want to attach 5 pages of photos to the end of this paper.

I will be setting milestones along the way to try and keep a sense of progression. The first major milestone that I want to achieve is getting my databases set up and ready to be populated with data. I hope to have the databases created by February 28th. The next milestone is I would like to have the databases populated with data so that I can use them when I test my interface. I hope to have this done by March 3rd. I The next milestone would be to have a working interface so I can start to test the functionality of the main functions. I hope to have the home page done for this by March 3rd as well. Once I get to that point I would like to get the user logins working and able to log in and out by March 8th. Once the app is able to hold user information and allow users to access the pages for the various artists and music I want to focus on the rating and review system. I hope to have this implemented by March 24th. After that I would focus on more extras like the layout of the pages and making things look good and presentable. I am planning on trying to have everything done other than debugging testing by April 14th. That way I will give myself at least two weeks to get through all the testing and debugging.

After speaking with Joey and going through this assignment, I have a much better idea on how I am going to tackle this project. I am very excited and glad to have a better layout and sense of progression now.



