

Final Report

Home Together - Group B

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Project Description

HomeTogether is the non-profit hub for all things home sharing. Differing from other for-profit enterprises in the same space, HomeTogether aims to compete with nobody, by offering fair promotion of everyone. Members can freely and securely find the contact information of other members and post their own homes to share. Businesses can post listings via the classified system for a small fee which helps cover site costs, or even post for free if they are a home-sharing specific organization.

You can access the website for hometogether.ca at: <https://home-together-b.herokuapp.com/>

Links

GitHub repo:

<https://github.com/JadenBalogh/home-together-b>

Promo video:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1iLdeWsovyU_D3ksH4taQtFghST-o6h_-/view?usp=sharing

Presentation video:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1eJmkuCYjqlj1ib5YrxY2KC0vSkTLUY3/view?usp=sharing>

User Groups

Users who are looking for housemates

Example scenario: Andy wants to find someone to home-share with. He enters his personal information and registers on site. He searches the site for other members who match his criteria. Then he found a guy who matches his criteria. He decides to contact the guy by sending an email to him.

Users who are looking for services

Example scenario: Jerry wants to search the site for pet rental services. He found one that matches his criteria. He decides to contact the company by sending an email to it.

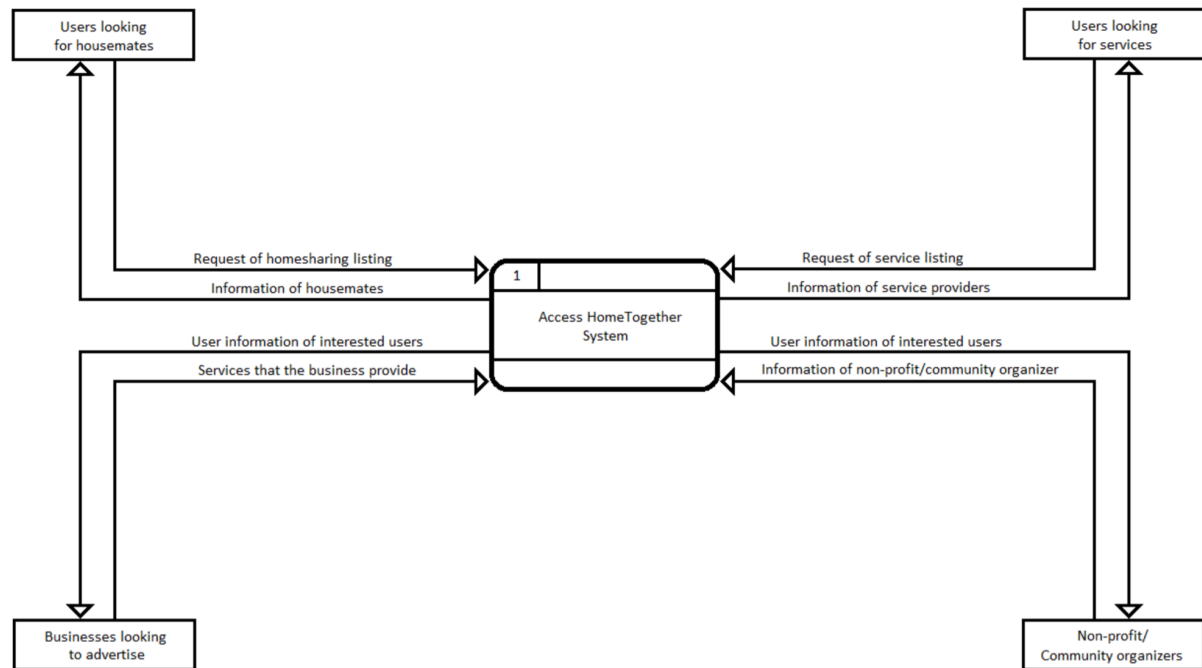
Businesses who are purchasing classified listings

Example scenario: Anna wants to list an advertisement for her company. She registers and verifies with the site before she is able to post any advertisement. She pays a small fee to list her advertisement which helps cover site costs. Then she lists the advertisement of her company.

Individuals and Organizations who are posting service listings

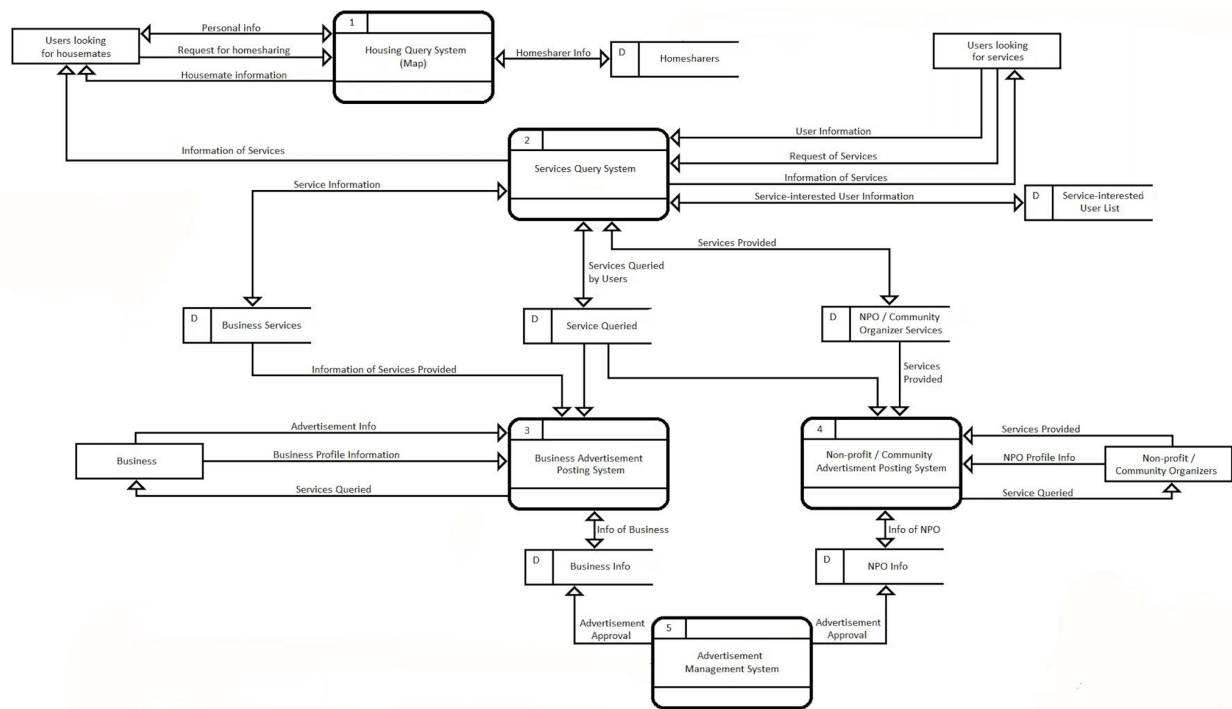
Example scenario: Ann is the owner of a non-profit organization. She signs up via a similar method as the business users and will also have to be verified service listings that do not require payment. After her registration is approved, she places an advertisement for free.

Level 0 DFD (see DFD0.png for full picture)



This is an overview of how HomeTogether's systems interact with the four user groups.

Level 1 DFD (see DFD1.jpg for full picture)



This is a lower-level description of how HomeTogether's systems interact with the user groups.

Functional Requirements

Implemented

User Group	Feature Description
Members	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• View the about page including website purpose, background of Home Together, the definition of home sharing, and contact info.• View the listings section of the website. This must have a way to select the category of listing you want to filter by, as well as using a map to search by location.• View the user search section of the website and filter users by some basic properties.• Create a member account, which includes a sign up screen asking for the user's personal information (NO identifying information is displayed to other users).• As part of the signup process, members must submit their searchable profile information.• View their own profile page and edit their personal and display information.• Click on and view other users' profiles from the user search results list.• View individual listing pages in the listings search results.• Post and edit listings in the Members with Homes to Share section of the listings page.
Businesses	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Make a business account which will require a set of business information.• Post and edit listings in every category except Members with Homes to Share.• View list of current listings on your business account.

Unimplemented

Except the map feature that is no longer required by the client, the remaining tasks are the ones we do not have time to do.

User Group	Feature Description
Members	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Report other users through a form accessed through the other person's profile.• Block other users through an option on the other person's profile.• Dynamic map integration that displays users and listings locationally(no longer required by the client).• Toggle their profile as active/inactive which determines whether they show up in search results.• Message other users through their profiles, with email notifications implemented.• Apply a rating (out of 5 stars) for other users.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Apply a rating (out of 5 stars) for listings. • On user profiles and listings, have a bookmark option to access quickly later in the bookmarked section of your profile.
Businesses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pay for classifieds through a Paypal payment process. • Wait for their listings to be approved before becoming public.
Admins	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Admins are given an admin account with a desired username and password, which they can log in with through the usual form. • Access the admin page through the site home page, on which they can access a variety of admin features: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ View active user reports, open and close reports. ◦ Option to export desired site usage information to file (members/businesses/listings). ◦ Review new listings and submit a verification form with approval or denial options with a written reason that gets sent to the business via email. • View the profiles of all users. • Ban any user through their profile with a form stating a reason which gets emailed informing the banned user.

List of technical specifications

Front-end

- React: JavaScript framework to manage state and client-side logic
- Material UI: Component-based UI framework based on Google standards

Back-end

- Node.js: JavaScript runtime used to create JavaScript-based server scripts
- Express: JavaScript web framework used to make a simple web API
- MySQL: Database solution used to store all user data

Hosting

- Heroku: Free web-hosting service used to deploy the website for testing
- ClearDB: Add-on for Heroku used to host our MySQL database online

Software Implementation

The existing implementation of HomeTogether.ca has been thoroughly tested and revised, and all core features should work as expected. Below you can find the requirements that have been fully implemented, as well as those we did not complete due to time or other constraints. At the bottom, you can find the results of our site reviews in the form of Known Issues.

Implemented Features

These are features that have been implemented to a point where its primary function works.

- About and contact information for HomeTogether

- Navigation bar with conditional rendering based on whether the user is signed in
 - Renders member search page for personal accounts, and create and edit listing pages for logged in accounts
- Signup form with working database connection and authentication
 - Two options to select from: personal or business account
- Login page integrated with Material UI and user account authentication
 - Merged login page for both personal and business accounts
- Member search page with advanced search options and dynamic filters using AJAX
 - Filter by variables inquired during signup
- Listings creation page
- Listings search page with advanced search options and dynamic filters using AJAX
 - Filter by listing location, title, or category
- Listing details component with rating system and contact information
- Profile view page for logged-in members
- Edit profile page with data validation for members
- Browser session caching for account state management

Unimplemented Features

These are features that have not been implemented or had been removed by the client.

- Dynamic map integration that displays users and listings locationally
- Rate/review a listing
- Message other users
- Rate other users
- Report users or listings
- Set account to invisible(unsearchable in members page)
- Block other users
- Account verification (phone, email)
- Payment Process
- Admin features
 - Ban accounts
 - View reports
 - Export list of users, businesses, and listings
 - Verify business accounts and listings

Known Bugs and Issues

These are issues or bugs found within the features through user testing and self testing.

- General
 - Site loses functionality after being left alone for too long, requiring a refresh
- Home and About page
 - Images get cut off on wider screens
- Signup form

- Radio buttons selection is not properly sent during signup, causing all selections to submit as “No”. Restriction text details (such as pet restriction explanation) is saved properly. Personal and business accounts affected.
- Business signup page does not check for duplicate username until submitted
- “Same as home address” toggle does not copy address/function properly
- Member search page
 - Some members seem to not display at all
 - Displays logged in user in the search page
 - Checkboxes cannot be selected by clicking their labels
- Listings search page
 - Category filters non-functioning
 - Search is affected by capitalization
 - Clear filters does not visually clear locations and categories, but does work
- Listing creation page
 - Radio buttons selection is not properly sent during creation, causing all selections to stay as “No” on submission
- Listing detail page
 - Members with homes to share listings show website, email, and phone number fields even though they are unused
 - Location of the business is not shown
- Manage listings page
 - No confirmation on listing deletion

Transition Guide

This is a step-by-step guide for taking over the HomeTogether.ca website created by Group B.

GitHub Repository

Essentially everything one will need to work on Home Together B can be found in the GitHub repository for this project at <https://github.com/JadenBalogh/home-together-b>. To take over the project and continue development from the current point, we would recommend [forking this repository](#) to your desired organization or individual to gain full control over the project.

Working with the Codebase

This section is for developers doing additional development on the project.

Once you have the GitHub repository forked and cloned to your local machine (a standard process for any software development project), there are a few setup requirements to follow in order to run the software on your machine. Follow the [environment setup instructions](#) in the GitHub repo to ensure you have all the prerequisite software installed.

When setting up your environment variables as per the setup instructions, use the following **secret** information - this should NOT be pushed to the GitHub repo:

```
PORT=3001
HOST="us-cdbr-east-03.cleardb.com"
USER="b4d068bb08422c"
PASSWORD="afbca212"
DATABASE="heroku_a16d99ac5b255b5"
SECRET="TOP-SECRET-KEY-192837465"
```

Once this is set up, you can test the app locally or update the live server using the instructions in the above link.

Maintenance and Accounts

The only part of the site that requires a transfer of accounts is the Heroku app (the development website). To take control of the app, you will need to create a Heroku account, and be added to the app as an admin via email address. Finally, you can be transferred full ownership in the settings from the current owner. All other aspects of the development are completely account-agnostic and there are no fees.

Testing Status

The site has been thoroughly tested in its current iteration; the detailed results of this testing are described in their own section in this report. As the site is still in-development, all pages are still subject to change and may require additional testing as more features are added. The view, edit and create pages for listings in particular still require an additional visual pass which did not have time to be completed for our final build.

Remaining Features

Compared to the original feature requirements, there are still a few major features which have not yet been implemented:

- Messaging system between users
- Listing rating system (stars/reviews)
- User blocking/reporting
- Payment methods for advertisements
- Admin functions (ban users, view reports and users, export site info, verify businesses)

Some of these features - such as the rating system - have some visual placeholders in the site but no actual functionality. See the [full list of planned requirements](#) in the GitHub documentation.