CappuCoffee

(https://github.com/JustGinger888/CappuCoffeeProject)

Hosting URL: https://cappucoffee-40101.web.app (https://cappucoffee-40101.web.app)
Github Repo: https://github.com/JustGinger888/CappuCoffeeProject (https://github.com/JustGinger888/CappuCoffeeProject)

Setup

Install Dependencies

npm install

Serving and running locally

npm run serve

Test Accounts

Username Password GroupID tester@test.com password lyFJC18ZXh7gAFWeGFuf

Introduction

While inteming at TouchBase Itd over the summer of 2019 one of my most frequent duties included preparing and serving coffee to the small team I was assigned to, a rather common task associated with the intem role in any field. The process would usually consist of me asking for their orders and noting them down on my phone, something that proved to be rather time-consuming as their orders would often differ on a day to day basis.

This proved to be a common occurrence not only for me but also for other friends who had the same experience in their internships. I ran a short survey among a focus group of ten interns and 8 of them said that they have been responsible for the preparation of coffee on multiple occurrences, a further 7 went on to agree that the team's orders would change frequently. The teams would often change the strength of their drinks and the amount of sugar they wanted based on the time of day and their overall feeling.

Hence why I decided to produce a web-based solution where employees can create and join teams to add and customize their respective coffee orders to a backend database. Allowing for easier access to the list for interns, as well as saving the time it would take for the team to discuss and give their orders to interns.

Design Decisions

I have decided to teach myself due to use as a framework for this project. This decision was mainly done due to me wanting to expand my own knowledge on single page web apps and their frameworks. But it does provide me with associated features such as:

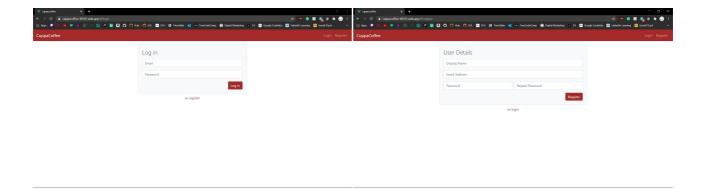
- No extra queries to the server to download pages.
- User-friendly design and navigation
- Performance improvement

As for my database decision, I opted to use firebase due to its ease of associated hosting and integrated authentication to make use of. Allowing me to more comfortably create associated user records and such. The security rule feature also makes it much more secure to use for the given use case when compared to solutions such as mongo atlas. Finally, the whole Firestore structure is Real-time and will load data dynamically no matter which user was to upload.

System Overview

Authentication

I have made use of firebases own auth services to allow for email and password login, this could in feature allow for easy OAuth methods with respective accounts. The reason for adding authentication is to improve security and create user-specific records that are unique to their needs. This also ensures that all groups can only be accessed and joined by registered members.

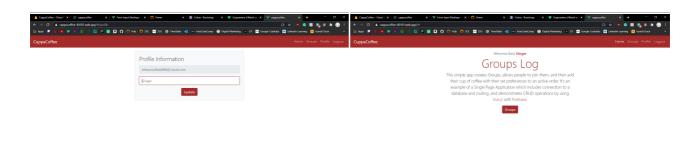


Web Interface

Profile

In the profile section, I make use of an update method to allow users to change their respective display name as required. This is then displayed as the new placeholder and on the home page above the introduction Log. This is how I make effective use of the update functionality found in the CRUD cycle.

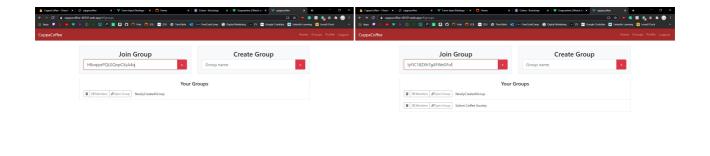




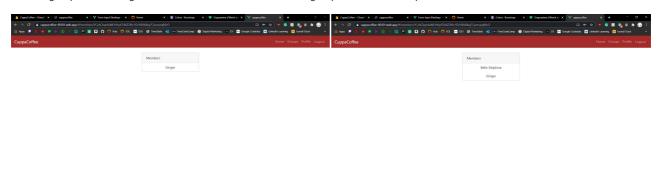
Groups

The group view is responsible for creating and joining a group. As well as listing them and their options below. The joining of a group would require you to know the ID of a group and then enter it to add it to the users joined group lists in the backend, displaying it after. Moreover, the creation of the group only requires you to add a name for the group and then it creates the reference in the user-groups collection and a new entry in the group's collection.





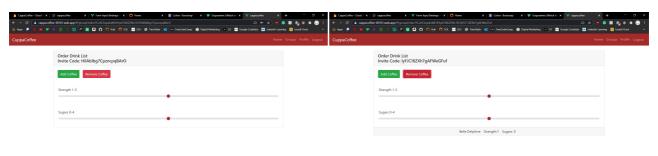
Moreover, each group that gets listed displays the name of the group and three buttons. The delete button is responsible for removing the group record from the user-groups collection and removes it from being displayed in the list. The member's button displays a list of users that are currently joined in the group and gets this from the groups-members collection. The view order gets the current user uid and the group uid to navigate to the associated drinks list of the group which will be explained next.



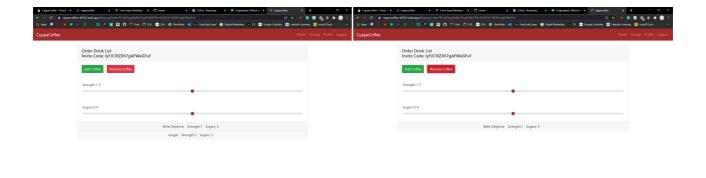
This page demonstrates the Create, Read and delete functionality of CRUD and is a clear demonstration thereof, further showing how two databases can be connected and create unique records for users.

Orders

The orders view uses, as mentioned above, the users UID and group UID to navigate to the associated view and display a drink list with two input fields to specify the strength and sugar of coffees. when these choices are made and the add button has been clicked the list gets populated with the drink accordingly. If any other changes are made to the drink the user would just have to click add again to dynamically update a drinks values.

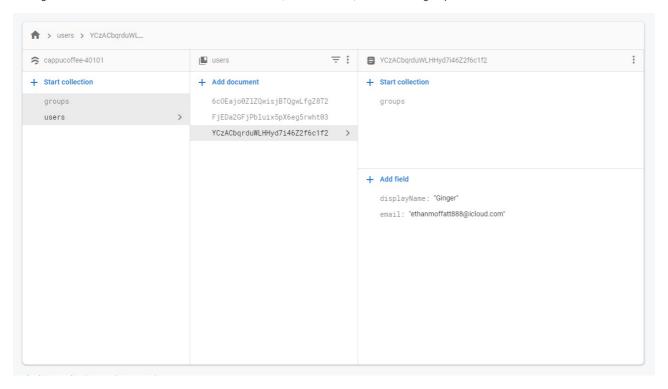


The remove button on the other hand deletes a user's specific drink from the database and allows then dynamically updates the list for all users. This would mean that this view singlehandedly demonstrates all CRUD functionality and allows for a clear use case thereof.



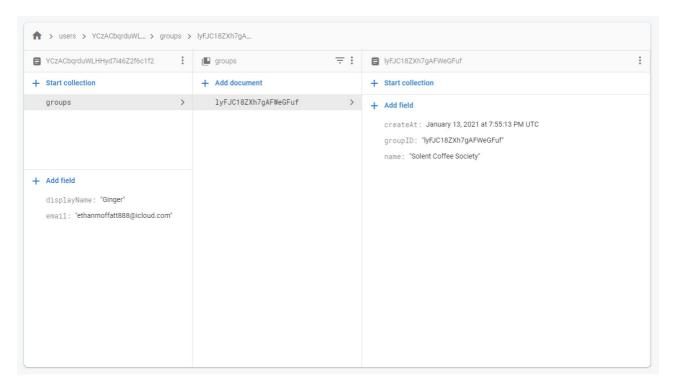
Database

For this project, I decided to use firebase as a backend database solution, as it proved to be a secure and scalable solution with built-in hosting. The database itself consists of 2 main collections, as seen below, of which the "groups" collection relies on the "user" collection.



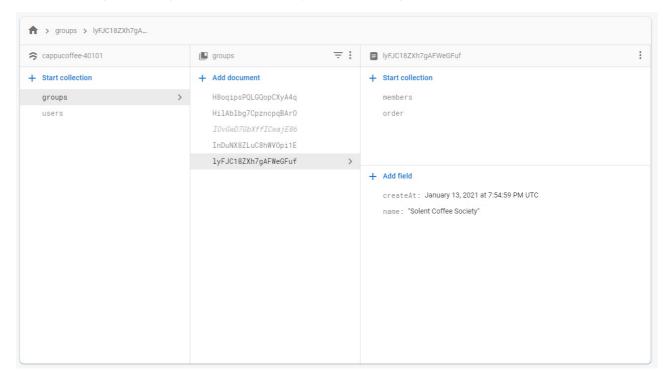
User Collection

The user's collection creates a record upon a clients registration where it stores the user's name and email respectively in a document identified by their UID. The user collection also has a "groups" sub-collection where a newly created or joined groups information gets stored, the document itself is again identified by the UID of the group and stores its associated name for display purposes. There is data duplication due to the GroupID also being present, but I added the field only for demonstration purposes as it would be redundant to make use of it in the production format.



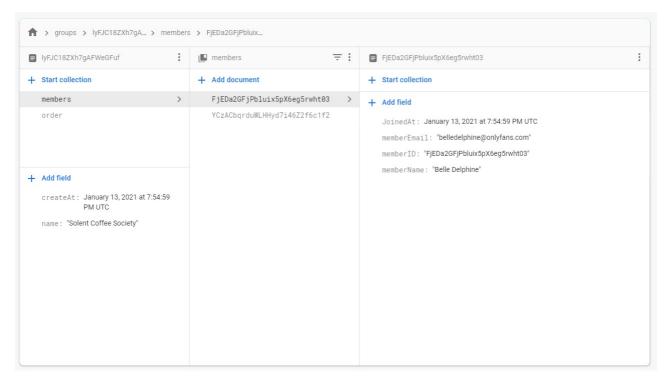
Groups Collection

As for the "groups" collection, it stores data that is relevant to the group and makes use of 2 sub-collections to display associated members and orders. This allows me to keep users independent from in case I wanted to expand the associated information for them. While also allowing for multiple groups to exist independently even if the founding member were to leave.



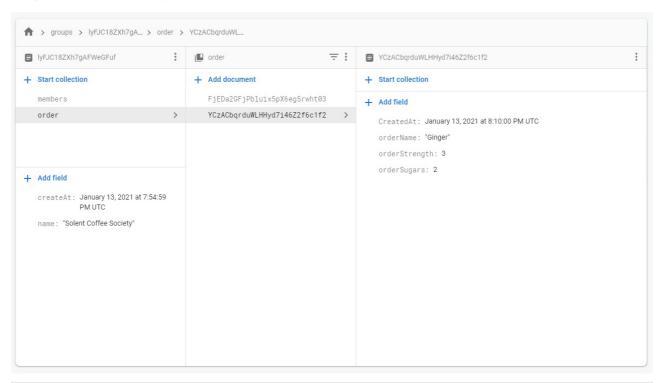
Members Sub-Collection

The member's sub-collection lists all members that have joined the group, storing a bit of redundant data that is only there for my own testing and demonstration purposes. It is also clear that the documents are all uniquely identifies using the joined users UID. This allows for easy access and removal of their data once they have left.



Orders Sub-Collection

This sub-collection contains all of the data associated with the coffee order the user has placed and again is stored in a document that contains the UID of the user to allow for easy updating or removal of data. Most importantly it stores the numbers of sugar and the strength of the drink to be displayed in the drink list.



Security

To ensure that only logged-in and authenticated users can read and write data to the firestorm, I ensured to write my own security rules that only users that have logged in and have a UID that matches with their own record UID can post and update user records. Hence ensuring that no data can be leaked or accessed by malicious people.

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Today • 8:12 PM

Yesterday • 6:48 PM

Today • 8:12 PM

Toda
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Conclusion

I believe that I have successfully achieved my goal of creating an interface for the above problem. As it can create and join groups without a problem and create drink lists in real-time. Setting out to complete all my initially stated goals. This also demonstrates an advanced application of CRUD as I can join any group that has been created.

I did make use of Firebase functions to enhance security and better features but had to get rid of them due to the payment plan associated with firebase functions now. this did mean I lose some security checks when it comes to the processing of data, meaning they could potentially be changed before the writing process.

If I were to improve this project further I would have removed redundant data used to demonstrate and test my database. As well as add a better interface, though this would be out of scope for this module. The security rules would also need to be updated slightly to ensure there is no vulnerability within the system.