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Lend A Tool

A Community Gardening Tools Exchange Website

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Problem statement

Usually, when someone has work to do in their garden, they go and buy a brand new tool for that specific task. Most of the time, the tool is used only once and then stored away in the garage or storage area. In many cases, it may not be used again for months or even years.

This behavior leads to several problems, including:

- **Loss of money:** People spend on tools that are rarely used, making the purchase inefficient.
- **Lack of storage space:** Garages and storage rooms become crowded with unused or rarely used tools.
- **Wasted resources:** Tools that could be useful to others in the community sit idle instead of being shared.
- **Environmental impact:** Over-purchasing of tools contributes to unnecessary manufacturing and waste.

Objectives

- Lay the foundation for a community tool borrowing system.
- Help people save money for other important life expenses.
- Build a user friendly website to simplify the tool lending process.
- Organize borrowing by district, city, and neighborhood.
- Ensure scalability to include other categories such as sports equipment, cooking tools.

Proposed Solution

The project will be a **website platform** where community members can list their unused or rarely used tools for others to borrow. The platform will be designed to work on both desktop and mobile devices for maximum accessibility.

Key features include:

1. Tool Listings:

- Users can create profiles and list their available tools.
- Each listing will include the tool's name, category such as (gardening, repair, cutting), condition, and availability.
- Photos can be uploaded for clarity.

2. **Geographic Organization:**

- The website will operate countrywide but will also be organized by districts, cities, neighborhoods, this makes it easy for users to find tools close to their location.

3. **Categorization:**

- Tools will be categorized by type such as (shovels, lawn mowers, hedge trimmers).
- Search and filter options will help users quickly find the tool they need.

4. **Borrowing System:**

- Users can reserve tools online.
- Notifications/reminders will alert both the lender and borrower about pickup and return deadlines.
- A borrowing history log will keep track of activity.

5. **Scalability:**

While the first focus is on gardening tools, the website system can expand to include other categories such as (repair tools, sports gear, cooking equipment).

Timeline and budget

Timeline (12 weeks):

Weeks 1-2: Planning and Front-end design.

Weeks 3-4: Back-end and core website development (Accounts, Tool listing).

Weeks 5-6: The borrowing system (Booking, Notifications).

Week 7: Add community features and Admin dashboard.

Week 8: Testing and Bug fixing.

Week 9: pilot launch (launch for a limited group of people).

Week 10: Collecting feedback.

Week 11: Full deployment (launch the website countrywide).

Week 12: Start launching marketing campaigns for the borrowing system in general and specifically for the website.

Budget (500\$):

Domain and Hosting: \$100

Front-end Design: \$100

Database and Backend: \$100

Marketing: \$150

Unexpected Expenses: \$50

Conclusion

This is a community project at its core, designed to meet a real need. Many people already practice small-scale exchanges of gardening tools within their neighborhoods. Instead of creating something entirely new, this project builds on that humble foundation and expands it into a structured, countrywide system. By turning casual borrowing into an organized online platform, the project empowers communities to save money, reduce waste, and strengthen connections, while laying the groundwork for future growth.