

Paws For Cause

Team 'Pawsome' - August 2024

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The Pawsome vision (AG)

- Paws For Cause provides an easy-to-use platform for shelters to manage their pet adoption listings.
- Shared team interest in 'tech for good'...and animals!
- User-centric features based on real-life experiences
- Supporting shelters to increase their online reach animals from small shelters deserve just as much attention as large organisations with bigger platforms

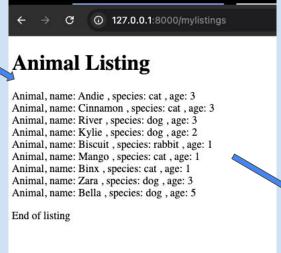
Our Team Workflow (SD)

- We implemented the Agile Methodology throughout the project:
- 3 daily meetings: morning stand-up (9:30), blockers check (12:15) and afternoon stand-down (16:00)
- Planning for features, code reviews and important decisions were done as a team.
- We reflected on our progress each day, ensured that everyone was doing well and keeping up, and discussed steps forward.
- We used tickets to break down features into small tasks

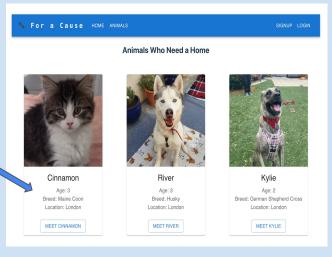
From imagination to application...



Sprint 1: Planning & Brainstorming



Sprint 2: Getting to Minimum Viable Product



Sprint 3: Developing features, styling, and components

Imagination to application (cont)...

• Sprint 1 Sprint 2 Sprint 3

User stories from real-life experiences

Identifying solvable problems

MOSCOW prioritisation

Defining site flow for user

Mapping out database models

Defining routes - what kind of data do we need and how will it be saved?

What kind of functionality do we need to achieve our user stories?

Can a user successfully create an account and post an adoption listing?

Styling

Continued feature development

Testing & bug fixes

Code compartmentalisation

Highs and Lows (RJ, MS)

Challenges

- Familiar languages, unfamiliar mix
 - Combined a frontend in React with a backend in Python/Flask, along with a PostgreSQL database. We hoped to capitalise on our familiarity with these environments.
 - We can think about this (stack) like a three tier cake you might not normally bake.
- Re-evaluated stack at Day 3 and dropped Mongo DB for Postgres and SQLAlchemy.
- We spent a lot of time collaborating on getting the 'framework' in place
 - Daily meetings were held to 'unblock' each team member.
 - We had to sacrifice additional functionality in order to deliver the MVP.

- Highs

- We all contributed our ideas about how we wanted the application to work and challenged each other to deliver the best application we could in the time we had.
- We persevered through challenges and once we overcame our difficulty with the stack we achieved a lot in a short time frame.
- We treated bugs as an opportunity to learn about the application.

What we have learned

- If you fail to plan, you plan to fail
- Communication is key!
- The power of perseverance and teamwork
- Worked towards same goal





Paws For Cause

Thank you

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