**🎬 MOVIE MENTAL — Movie Recommendation System**

**1. 📖 Project Overview**

**MOVIE MENTAL** is a local web application that helps users discover movies based on their preferences — including actor and genre. It uses the **TMDb API** to fetch movie data like titles, overviews, and popularity rankings. The app runs entirely locally, using a simple Flask backend and a creative frontend interface.

**2. 🧰 Technologies Used**

| **Component** | **Technology** |
| --- | --- |
| Frontend | HTML, CSS, JavaScript |
| Backend | Python, Flask, Flask-CORS |
| API | TMDb (The Movie Database) |
| Others | Virtualenv (Python environment manager) |

**3. 🗂️ Folder Structure**

movie-mental/

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├── backend/

│ ├── app.py # Flask server

│ ├── tmdb.py # TMDb logic

│ ├── requirements.txt # Python dependencies

│ └── venv/ # Python virtual environment

│

└── frontend/

└── index.html # UI interface

**4. 🔑 TMDb API Setup**

1. Go to: <https://www.themoviedb.org/>
2. Sign up / log in → Go to **Settings → API**
3. Apply for an **API key (v3 auth)**:
   * App Name: Movie Mental
   * App Type: Hobby/Personal
   * App URL: http://localhost:5000
   * Use Case:

"I am building a local personal movie suggestion app that helps users discover movies by actor and genre using the TMDb API. It is not hosted publicly and is for educational/personal use only."

1. Copy the API key and paste it in backend/tmdb.py:

TMDB\_API\_KEY = "your\_actual\_key\_here"

**5. ⚙️ Installation & Setup**

**🪟 For Windows:**

**📌 5.1. Navigate to Project**

cd E:\Exclusive\movie-mental\backend

**📌 5.2. Create & Activate Virtual Environment**

python -m venv venv

venv\Scripts\activate

**📌 5.3. Install Python Dependencies**

pip install flask flask-cors requests

Alternatively, create a requirements.txt:

flask

flask-cors

requests

Install with:

pip install -r requirements.txt

**6. 🚀 Running the Application**

**✅ Start Backend Server**

From your virtual environment:

python app.py

You should see:

Running on http://127.0.0.1:5000/

**✅ Open Frontend**

1. Go to: movie-mental/frontend/
2. Double-click index.html to open in your browser
3. Input **actor** and **genre**, click **Get Suggestions**
4. View the movie recommendations dynamically loaded

**7. 🧪 Features**

* 🎭 Search by **Actor Name**
* 🎞️ Filter by **Genre**
* 🔝 Returns top 5 most popular matches
* 🧠 Easy-to-use, creative UI (local browser)
* 🔒 No user login or hosting required

**8. 📈 Flowchart Summary**

User Input (actor + genre)

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Frontend JS calls backend: /recommend

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Flask processes request

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TMDb API fetches actor/genre info

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Returns top 5 matching movies

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Frontend displays results

**9. 🔮 Future Enhancements (Optional)**

* 🖼️ Display **posters** and **trailers**
* 🎭 Add **mood-based** recommendations (e.g., feel-good, heartbreak)
* 📺 Filter by **OTT platforms** (via JustWatch, uNoGS)
* 🗣️ Add **speech input** for actor/genre
* 💾 Save favorite movies locally

**10. 🧽 Cleanup (optional)**

To deactivate virtual environment:

deactivate

To delete:

rd /s /q venv