**Web Application Requirements**

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**Description:**

In this project, we will build a web application to let users create their own website or blog very easily.

**Purpose:**

The similar tools on Internet are all very heavy or complicate for normal users. We want to supply a much easier tool for users to create their own website or blog.

**Marketing:**

As our project product is in beta development, we plan to first introduce it to our friends and let them be the beta testers. After that, we will use the following methods to promote our website:

* Promoting it on some social websites like Facebook and Twitter.
* Using Search engine optimization (SEO) to increase our website’s ranking in searching results.
* Everything is free.

**Target Audience:**

Those people who want to have their own website or blog, who want to share their thoughts of life or technical knowledge, who want to keep valuable information persistent.

**Competition / Examples:**

About.me

Flavors.me

WordPress.com

**Technical Requirements:**

1. Server type: The development environment will be our computers, the production environment will be AWS EC2.
2. Hypervisor: VirtualBox (Laravel Homestead)
3. Web Server: Nginx
4. Database: MySQL
5. Scripting Language: PHP
6. Support Libraries: Not decided yet.
7. Framework: Laravel
8. Access to server: SSH
9. Access to database: mysqlnd(MySQL native driver for PHP)
10. Security / Authentication: How do you plan to encrypt passwords, and authenticate users?

After user registered, we store all users’ information into MySQL and key information like password or phone number will be stored by hashing using a [key derivation function](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Key_derivation_function). We will use HTTPS connection to let users send their password and username to login. Once user log in, system will send back to the client a persistent login cookie with an authentication token that will be used from then on.