

Full Stack Development with MERN

1. Introduction

- **Project Title:** GrocerGo: MERN Stack based Grocery Store Application
- **Team Members:**

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2. Project Overview

- **Purpose:** GrocerGo is designed to provide a seamless and efficient e-commerce platform for online grocery shopping. Its primary goal is to deliver an intuitive interface for users and a robust backend system for managing products, orders, and users.
- **Features:**
 - ★ **User Registration and Login:** Secure user authentication using JWT.
 - ★ **Product Catalog:** Organized by categories with search and filter options for easy navigation.
 - ★ **Shopping Cart:** Add, update, and remove items in real-time with automatic price calculations.
 - ★ **Order Management:** Users can view their order history, track order status, and receive updates.

3. Architecture

- **Frontend:**
 - ★ Built using React for a modular, component-based architecture.
 - ★ Handles routing with React Router for seamless navigation between pages like the home page, product details, cart, and checkout.
 - ★ Uses state management libraries like Redux for handling global application state.
 - ★ Integrated with CSS Modules to ensure styling consistency and scalability.
- **Backend:**
 - ★ Built with Node.js and Express.js to expose RESTful APIs.
 - ★ Middleware implemented for authentication, authorization, and error handling.
 - ★ Service-oriented design with separation of concerns for controllers, services, and routes.
 - ★ APIs handle CRUD operations for products, users, and orders.

- **Database:**

- ★ MongoDB is the database used to store all application data.
- ★ Collections include users, products, orders, and sessions.
- ★ Mongoose ORM facilitates schema validation and efficient data operations.
- ★ Data is indexed where necessary for faster queries, especially for product search and user-specific data retrieval.

4. Setup Instructions

- **Prerequisites:**

- ★ **Node.js:** Ensure v14 or higher is installed.
- ★ **MongoDB:** Set up a local instance or connect to a MongoDB Atlas cloud database.
- ★ **Git:** For version control to update project repository.

- **Installation:**

1. **Clone the repository:**

- `git clone https://github.com/Shyami31/GrocerGo.git`

2. **Navigate to the project directory:**

- `cd GrocerGo`
- `cd GrocerGo-main`

3. **Install dependencies for both frontend and backend:**

- `npm install`

4. **Configure environment variables in a .env file**

- a. `CONNECTION_URL` = <Your MongoDB Connection String>
- b. `JWT_SECRET_KEY` = <Your JSON Web Token>
- c. `JWT_AUTH_TTL` = <Authorization Time To Live in seconds - Typically 1 hour (3600s)>
- d. `JWT_CHECKOUT_TTL` = <Checkout Time To Live in seconds - Typically 15 minutes (900s)>
- e. `STRIPE_PRIVATE_KEY` = <Your Stripe Private API Key>

5. **Database Initialization:** To seed the database with initial data

- `npm run seed`

6. **Run the application:**

- 1) Open two terminals on the client and server side.
- 2) Enter the following command on both terminals : `npm start`
- 3) Run the server first, followed by the client.

5. Folder Structure

- **Client:**

- ★ **/src/components:** Houses reusable UI components like Navbar, Footer, ProductCard, and CartSummary.
- ★ **/src/pages:** Includes main application screens such as Home, ProductDetails, Cart, and Checkout.
- ★ **/src/redux:** Redux slices for managing application state (e.g., user authentication, cart items).
- ★ **/src/assets:** Contains static assets such as images, icons, and stylesheets

- **Server:**
 - ★ **routes/:** Defines API endpoints (e.g., /products, /users, /orders).
 - ★ **controllers/:** Contains logic for processing API requests and responses.
 - ★ **models/:** Mongoose schemas for MongoDB collections.
 - ★ **middleware/:** Includes authentication middleware for protected routes.
 - ★ **utils/:** Utility functions for token generation, hashing passwords, and error formatting.

6. Running the Application

- **Frontend:** Navigate to the client directory and run the following command to start the development server:
 - ★ npm start
- **Backend:** Navigate to the server directory and run the following command to start the server:
 - ★ npm start
- **Concurrent Development:** To run both servers simultaneously (requires a configured package.json)
 - ★ npm run dev

7. API Documentation

Authentication Endpoints:

- POST /auth/register
Registers a new user.
 - ★ Request body: { "email": "user@example.com", "password": "password123" }
 - ★ Response: { "message": "User registered successfully" }
- POST /auth/login
Authenticates a user and issues a JWT.
 - ★ Request body: { "email": "user@example.com", "password": "password123" }
 - ★ Response: { "token": "<jwt_token>" }

Product Endpoints:

- GET /products
Retrieves all available products. Supports filtering by category.
 - ★ Query parameter: ?category=fruits
 - ★ Response: [{ "id": 1, "name": "Apple", "price": 2.5, "stock": 50 }]
- POST /products (Admin only)
Adds a new product to the catalog.
 - ★ Request body: { "name": "Mango", "price": 3.5, "stock": 100, "category": "fruits" }
 - ★ Response: { "message": "Product added successfully" }

Order Endpoints:

- POST /orders
Places a new order.

★ Request body: { "userId": 123, "items": [{ "productId": 1, "quantity": 2 }] }

★ Response: { "orderId": 456, "status": "pending" }

- GET /orders/

Fetches all orders placed by a specific user.

★ Response: [{ "orderId": 456, "status": "completed" }]

8. Authentication

Authentication is handled using **JSON Web Tokens (JWT)**:

- Tokens are generated during login and stored in the client's local storage or cookies.
- Protected routes validate the token in the authorization header.
- Passwords are hashed using **bcrypt** for secure storage.

9. User Interface

Screens and Features:

- **Home Page:** Displays featured products and promotions.
- **Product Details:** Offers comprehensive details about a product, including stock availability.
- **Shopping Cart:** Allows users to view and update items, with a real-time total price calculation.
- **Checkout:** Secure payment processing with integrated gateways.

10. Testing

Testing Tools:

- **Frontend:** React Testing Library for unit testing React components.
- **Backend:** Mocha and Chai for API testing.
- **API Testing:** Postman to validate all endpoints manually.

Test Cases:

- User authentication flow.
- Product search and filter functionality.
- Cart operations (add, update, remove).
- Order creation and retrieval.

11. Screenshots or Demo

Link to Demo:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1pO2MV8O6H2ALr_V_vwAYDEaqQE318mKk/view?usp=sharing

12. Known Issues

- Product filtering could be optimized for better performance under high traffic.
- No support for real-time notifications (e.g., low stock alerts).

13. Future Enhancements

- Add user reviews and ratings for products.
- Real-time inventory updates using WebSockets.
- Multi-language and currency support for global users.