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Mobile App Programming

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Professor Levkowitz

Short Project Report

The Problem

The idea that spawned this project was the time when me and my girlfriend were building Ikea furniture and she suggested that we search on the Ikea page for any videos to build some of the product. We noticed that the website did not have any videos corresponding to what we were building and thus this gave me an idea on how to build a unique app that hasn’t been done before. A Video app that has Ikea information and videos on how to build these pieces of furniture.

Goals

The goals that I wanted to accomplish were to create a simple to use app firstly. I know how it feels to have an app that seems to do more harm than good. Secondly, I wanted this project to be very easy to update with information preventing the app from getting outdated. Lastly it was also very important that I created something visually intuitive because I really didn’t want any of my users to have to look for information on the app itself.

Alternative Approaches

When I was working on the app there was an approach that I was thinking of that I did not like once I delved into it more. This was an app where I simply have a search bar with a subset of YouTube videos that only has Ikea furniture videos. I decided against this because it seemed to be both redundant and legally grey. YouTube seems to do a good enough job with its search function to narrow the results down to what you are looking for and I had 0 clue if this was legal at all.

Chosen Approach

The reason as to why I choose my current approach which is where I have an API of all the furniture and the furniture themselves have a link assign to them is it was the best of both worlds. This app was a completely unique app, and it was simple to use. There were also no issues with legality so that was also a boon. The uniqueness aspect was also very important because having an app that is essentially a glorified search bar is not particularly unique and it also doesn’t teach me much about designing both a visually appealing and technically intensive app.