# Use Case Template

(Courtesy of your friends at [Accompa, Inc.](http://www.accompa.com/) Teams at more than 100 companies – from Fortune 500s to growing startups – use our affordable web-based software to create use cases like these easily, via customizable templates)

**Template:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| ID: | [Unique ID of this use case] |
| SUD: | [The System we’re developing in the project for which we’re writing the use case] |
| Title: | **[Enter the goal of the use case - as a short, active verb phrase]** |
| Description: | [Describe the goal and context of this use case. This is usually an expanded version of what you entered in the "Title" field.] |
| Primary Actor: | [A person or a software/hardware system that interacts with your system to achieve the goal of this use case.] |
| Pre-condition: | [Describe the state the system is in before the first event in this use case.] |
| Main Success Scenario: | [Describe the flow of events from pre-condition to post-condition, when nothing goes wrong. This is the meat of the use case.] |
| Alternative flows: | [Describe all the other scenarios for this use case - including exceptions and error cases.] |
| Post-condition: | [Describe the state the system is in after all the events in this use case have taken place.] |

**Example:**

This example uses this template to write a use case for a consumer buying a book. The system under design (SUD) is an Online Bookstore.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| ID: | UC-1 |
| SUD: | Online Bookstore Website. Referred to as “Bookstore”. |
| Title: | **Buy a book, using search** |
| Description: | Consumer searches for a book and buys it. |
| Primary Actor: | Consumer |
| Pre-condition: | Consumer is on a computer connected to the internet. |
| Main Success Scenario: | * 1. Consumer visits a page on the Bookstore using a web browser on an internet-connected computer.   2. Bookstore displays the page, which includes a search box.   3. Consumer searches for the book he is looking for: Using author, ISBN and/or title.   4. Bookstore displays a list of matching books.   5. Consumer adds one or more books to the shopping cart.   6. Consumer repeats steps 3-5 until he has added all the books he wants to purchase to the shopping cart.   7. Consumer initiates checkout.   8. Bookstore prompts consumer to enter or select billing & shipping addresses.   9. Consumer enters addresses.   10. Bookstore prompts consumer to enter or select payment information.   11. Consumer enters payment information and places order.   12. Bookstore processes the order and displays confirmation & cross-sell information to consumer. |
| Alternative flows: | * 1. (Extensions to search)      1. **No matches found**         1. Bookstore does not found any matches, and prompts the consumer to revise his search terms.         2. Consumer revises search terms and repeats step 3 of MSS.      2. **Match found, but book is out of stock**  1. Bookstore informs consumer that the book is out of stock, and is not available for purchase. 2. Consumer adds the book to his “Alert List”, so that Bookstore can email him once it is available. 3. (Extensions to order processing) 4. **Payment information is invalid** 5. Bookstore finds the payment information invalid, and prompts the consumer to re-enter payment information. 6. Consumer re-enters payment information and repeats step 11 of MSS. |
| Post-condition: | Consumer has successfully placed the order. |