Permu-Tater

Will's Ideation Project

Introduction

The following website idea is in regard to the preparation of meals:

Everyone has to eat, and not everyone is good at coming up with meal ideas for themselves; leading many people to fall back on unhealthy foods which are highly processed. The purpose of the Permu-Tater website is to provide a generator of food recipes which the user can input either at random, or based on what's in their kitchen stock, and will generate simple recipes for them to follow. Permu-Tater will have a list of features, including:

A)A Random Recipe Generator

a) This will include options which are:

1. Randomly selected base components (excludes previously generated recipes)

2. Selectively random based on the users inputs of food, herbs, spices, etc.

b) The justification for this feature is so novel recipes can be explored, which, perhaps most people wouldn't have considered (ex. Chicken with fennel seed, or chinese five powder spice).

B)A Recipe Catalog

a) The purpose of the catalog will be to store previously generated recipes, and will allow users to rate them accordingly.

1. Aside from highlighting good recipes, bad combinations will also be highlighted and if someone is casually wondering if a peanut butter and mayo sandwich would be good (and common sense alone doesn't prevent them) then they could look up the combination and see what others think.

C) An Interactive Forum

a) The interactive forum will allow users to either post about a recipe from that recipe's page, or to freely post and interact with the cooking community. Users will also be able to create polls for voting to change the content of a recipe by will of the majority (ex. Instructing/editing some aspect of preparation, or a food component).

1. Providing a social hub in regard to the generated recipes allows for collaboration and learning tips and tricks from cooks of all backgrounds.

2. Allowing the option for users to edit a recipe is simply an improvement on the product, and allows for feedback on how to make Permu-Tater a better generator.

Market Survey (with hyperlinks)

A market survey was performed to search for existing websites similar to the proposed idea. Below Is a list of the websites which were found to closely match the basic concept of the Permu-Tater concept:

(1) SuperCook

This website displays containers with pills on the left-hand side which you can select available ingredients from. While this doesn't generate new recipes, it does present existing ones based on some* of the ingredients you check off.

It appears to intelligently present these recipes, even if they lack some of the intended ingredients, which is a little different than what I've suggested; although very practical.

The user can also create an account in order to track what is available from their food stock (labeled pantry) which is similar to the Permu-Tater concept. However, no forum appears to exist.

(2) ## RecipeGenerator.AI

One of the plainer, but more fascinating websites I've found, RecipeGenerator.AI presents only a search bar for the user to input a few potential food items. The website then (I assume) either finds a matching recipe— or actually generates one —and displays both the ingredients, and the method of preparation in a plain text format.

RecipeGenerator.AI states that it is "powered by OpenAI" which is an organization that seems to design AI for many purposes. The method of generation is not well explained on the website.

This site lacks community support, however, and doesn't seem to maintain a catalog of existing recipes.

(3) ## FoodCombo

Although this site is less intuitive to navigate, it appears very similar to the SuperCook website, as it contains: a pantry for selecting present ingredients, and a repository of existing recipes. Actually, the recipes it presents are pulled from many external sources, which is different than what I initially proposed, but may be a useful feature.

In addition, FoodCombo also has suggested ingredient pairings, such as complimentary herbs, spices, or general food mixes. However, it lacks community support.

(4) ## CalculatorMix

This is actually a multi-purpose website; not just for food recipes. A bit of a misnomer, this website actually pulls recipes at random from a pre-constructed list they have stored in the server.

All you have to do is hit the "generate" button and it pulls one up. This is similar to part of the Permu-Tater concept, but the site doesn't generate it's own recipes, and lacks community support.

(5) [MyFridgeFood](#)

This is one of the few websites I've found that offers community support. MyFridgeFood appears to allow users to submit recipes to their catalog, has some feedback mechanism, and offers cooking tips.

Otherwise, the site is very straight forward. The front page has a fairly comprehensive list of ingredients which the user checks; a roaming container next to this list displays the available ingredients you've selected, and a "find recipes" button.

This button takes the ingredients into consideration, and pulls pre-existing recipes that may contain one or more of the listed ingredients. In a way, this is all very similar to the proposed Permu-Tater site design, except it doesn't actually generate any recipes on its own, and there is no forum.

References

A) SuperCook Website
   https://www.supercook.com/#/desktop

B) RecipeGenerator.AI Website
   https://recipegenerator.ai/

C) FoodCombo Website
   https://foodcombo.com/

D) CalculatorMix Website
   https://www.calculatormix.com/generators/random-recipe/

E) MyFridgeFood Website
   https://www.myfridgefood.com/