

BakeBuddy — Online Bakery Ordering Platform (MERN)

A modern full-stack bakery ordering app where customers browse desserts, add items to cart, place orders, and track status — while the admin manages products & orders. The project includes a secure user login system, enabling customers to save their order history and preferences, and enabling admins to access management features.

Status:  In Development

Tech: **MongoDB + Express + React + Node (MERN)** | Auth | Admin Panel | Cart | Order Tracking

Features

Customer Portal

- Browse bakery menu (cakes, pastries, buns, cookies)
- View product details (price, calories, ingredients)
- Add items to cart
- Place order & track status
- View order history
- View personal order history after login

Admin Dashboard

- Login as admin
- Add / edit / delete bakery products
- Upload images
- Manage orders (Placed → Preparing → Ready → Delivered)
- View customer list
- Update order status

Objectives

- Deliver production-grade backend using Node.js + Express
- Implement MongoDB database with secure schema
- Provide role based (Customer / Admin) authentication & authorization using JWT
- Include ordering system with tracking
- Create minimal, clean React UI for customer & admin

Project Scope

In-Scope:

- User Authentication (Customer + Admin)
- Product catalog (CRUD)
- Cart & Checkout
- Order history & status updates
- Admin management dashboard

- User Registration & Login system to allow customers to save order history and preferences

Out of Scope:

- Real online payments (may add later)
 - Third-party delivery systems
-

UI Mockups (Concept Design)

Real screenshots will replace these once built

Customer Menu Page

Product Detail + Add to Cart

Cart + Checkout Page

Admin Dashboard (Products + Orders)

System Architecture

React (Frontend)

↓ Axios

Express API (Node.js)

↓ Mongoose

MongoDB Atlas

Database Models

Model

Fields

User name, email, passwordHash, **role: “customer” | “admin”**, address {street, city, state, zip},
createdAt

Product name, price, category, calories, description, imageUrl, inStock, createdAt, updatedAt

Cart userId, items [{productId, qty, priceAtAdd}], updatedAt

Order userId, items [{productId, qty, unitPrice, subtotal}], total, address, **status: Placed → Preparing → Ready → Delivered**, paymentStatus, createdAt, updatedAt

Detailed JSON-style Model Format

User Model

Handles both customer & admin accounts using role field

```
User {  
  name: String  
  email: String (unique)  
  passwordHash: String  
  role: "customer" | "admin"    // default: "customer"  
  
  address: {  
    street: String  
    city: String  
    state: String  
    zip: String  
  }  
  
  createdAt: Date  
}
```

Product Model

```
Product {  
  name: String (required)  
  price: Number (required)  
  category: String  
  calories: Number  
  description: String  
  imageUrl: String  
  inStock: Boolean (default: true)  
  
  createdAt: Date  
  updatedAt: Date  
}
```

Cart Model

```
Cart {  
  userId: ObjectId(User)  
  items: [  
    {  
      productId: ObjectId(Product)  
      qty: Number (min 1)  
      priceAtAdd: Number  
    }  
  ]  
  
  updatedAt: Date  
}
```

Order Model

```
Order {
  userId: ObjectId(User)
  items: [
    {
      productId: ObjectId(Product)
      qty: Number
      unitPrice: Number
      subtotal: Number
    }
  ]
  total: Number
  address: String

  status: "Placed" | "Preparing" | "Ready" | "Out for Delivery" | "Delivered" |
  "Cancelled"
  paymentStatus: "Pending" | "Paid" | "Refunded"

  createdAt: Date
  updatedAt: Date
}
```

Key Notes (paste this too)

- Only **one User model** is used — admin and customer are identified via role
- Improves scalability & security (#industry practice)
- Makes authentication & session management easier
- Supports multiple admins if needed later

Tech Stack

Category Tech

Frontend	React, Tailwind/Bootstrap, Axios
Backend	Node.js, Express
Database	MongoDB Atlas, Mongoose
Auth	JWT, bcrypt
Deployment	Vercel (client) + Render (server)
Tools	GitHub, VsCode,



API Endpoints

Auth

- POST /api/auth/register → Create Account (Customer / Admin)
- POST /api/auth/login → Generate Login Token (Role Based)

Products

- GET /api/products (*customer*)
- POST /api/products (*admin*)
- PUT /api/products/:id (*admin*)
- DELETE /api/products/:id (*admin*)

Cart

- GET /api/cart
- POST /api/cart
- PUT /api/cart/: itemId
- DELETE /api/cart/: itemId

Orders

- POST /api/orders
- GET /api/orders/me
- GET /api/orders (*admin*)
- PATCH /api/orders/:id/status (*admin*)

NOTE - Since both customers and admins share many attributes, the system uses a single User model with a role field, instead of multiple tables. This improves scalability and follows modern MERN-stack architecture practices.



Installation & Run

Backend

```
cd server
npm install
npm run dev
```

Frontend

```
cd client
npm install
npm start
```

Testing

- Postman collection included (*coming soon*)
 - Frontend UI test flow
-

"How does the backend magically know if this user is admin or customer? Am I supposed to type admin somewhere?"

Answer:

 Yes — we store a field called **role** in the user in database.

That's how backend knows.

There is **NO magic**.

You tell the system once when creating the user.

When someone registers

Regular customer signup  **role = "customer"**

This happens **automatically** during normal registration.

Example incoming signup data

```
{  
  "name": "Yash",  
  "email": "yash@example.com",  
  "password": "123456"  
}
```

Backend assigns role: "customer" by default:

```
role: "customer"
```

So, this gets stored in MongoDB:

```
{  
  "name": "Yash",  
  "email": "yash@example.com",  
  "role": "customer"  
}
```

👑 But what about the Admin?

Admins are **not created by normal signup**.

2 ways to make admin:

✓ Method 1: Manually in database (most common for projects)

You insert a record in MongoDB like:

```
{  
  "name": "Bakery Owner",  
  "email": "admin@bakery.com",  
  "passwordHash": "xxxxx",  
  "role": "admin"  
}
```

or update an existing user role in MongoDB Compass/Atlas:

role: "customer" → role: "admin"

✓ Method 2: Admin Creation via backend route (Optional)

You (developer) call a special route once:

Example:

```
POST /api/auth/create-admin
```

With body:

```
{"email": "owner@bakery.com", "password": "admin123"}
```

And backend sets:

```
role: "admin"
```

✓ Method 3: Simple default logic for class project

We assign admin in code:

```
if (email === "admin@bakery.com") {  
  role = "admin";  
}  
else {  
  role = "customer";  
}
```

So, people who login using this email become admin.

Summary

Who decides the role?

How

Customer	Automatically on signup
Admin	Manually set in DB OR by specific admin route OR by predefined email rule



In simple words:

When someone signs up normally → they become **customer** automatically.

You create admin user separately and set their role to **admin**.

Backend reads that role from database every time user logs in.



Timeline

Week Milestone

- | | |
|---|---------------------------------|
| 1 | Database + Auth + Product APIs |
| 2 | Cart + Orders + Admin APIs |
| 3 | Frontend UI + Test + Deployment |
-



Future Enhancements

- Stripe payments
 - Real-time notifications
 - Delivery tracking map
 - Discounts / Coupons
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