

It was a very fulfilling experience building a full stack application. I am glad I got to implement this project as a prototype for a longer-term project my partner and I were thinking of. What I enjoyed the most was iterating on the front-end making the visual style more consistent and user friendly. No feature by itself was particularly difficult, but I faced some issues when first trying to connect my frontend to the backend, because I developed a good chunk of my front-end using data directly loaded into the JS. One feature that I never completed implementing (that I tried to), was associating a user account with their cart.

I found the MDN css and javascript documentation very useful for when I did not remember how to use certain JS methods or CSS rules. It also helped that the documentation linked from VSCode, so it integrated really well into my workflow. I also relied on the cheat sheets on JS and Node.js to get templates for my own work, and for quick references on syntax and definitions.

If I had more time to work on the store, I would add a recommended items feature on the product view, and implement some algorithm to find similar items in the backend. I would also add an endpoint for filtering the data in the backend to separate that concern from the frontend. I think that is more appropriate especially with a larger database of items. I would also use a mySQL database to store the coffee information and store responses from the different forms on the site.

I worked with Eden on the backend of the project. It was very helpful being in a team because it made the backend much easier to build, allowing me to invest a little more time in the UI of my frontend. We shared the same core backend, after each deciding on what we wanted to present in our frontends. In the end, I ended up changing some of my frontend requirements and had to alter and add to the backend endpoints.