IDM 232 Case Study

The Overview

For this project, I was tasked with creating and developing a recipe builder website. Although this was a class project, I wanted to make this project as a gift to my grandma and family. My grandma is the main cook in the family and has so many Salvadorian dishes that have been passed down through generations. That problem is that many of these dishes have only been passed down by word-of-mouth and are not written down anywhere. Because of this, I wanted to use this site as a way to store and document her recipes and give my family a place to add new recipes.

Context and Challenge

This project was programmed in PHP and used SQL as its database. The main users for this site are my family members which mostly consist of women in their 30's and 40's and my grandma who is in her 60's. One of the main challenges in building this site was being able to make is usable and understandable for my grandma who is not very familiar with technology while also still keeping the structure and design interesting for other users.

Process and Insight

When designing this project, I wanted to use colors that my grandmother liked. I used her favorite color, purple, and complimented it with gold tones. I also chose a font that I remember seeing often in her kitchen.

I first wireframed the site in Figma. Afterwards, I created the functionalities of pulling the recipe data. While doing this, I used test data to make sure everything was working correctly. After finishing the functionality, I styled my site and added the recipes into my database.

The Solution

The final product was a website where users can add and edit recipes using the admin page, read about my grandma in the home page, and look at all the recipes on the recipes page. Additionally, users are able to use the search bar to search through recipes by name, title, details, ingredients, tools, and directions.

The Results

Currently, I am still waiting to see how my family feels about the website and if it alleviates our general pain point of not having written recipes. I'm also planning on implementing a log in system and re-vamping the styles within the next month. Overall, I'm very satisfied with this project and I'm looking forward to doing more projects using PHP and SQL.