Project Charter - Wooden Spoon Recipe Sharing Platform

Identification

Project Title: Wooden Spoon – A Modern Recipe Sharing Platform

Team Name: L04 SegFaults

Team Members: Samira Almuallim, Estella Arnott, & Aakash Singh

Date: September 24 2025

Project Overview / Background

The Wooden Spoon project is a web app designed to simplify the process of uploading, finding, & sharing recipes. Many existing recipe sites are cluttered with ads, have poor filtering tools, and overall make browsing difficult. Wooden Spoon offers a focused, dynamic platform with simple roles & clean design.

Project Purpose (Objectives)

Build a user-friendly recipe sharing app with upload, view, save, and interaction features.

Provide role-based access (User, Admin) to maintain platform safety and quality.

Integrate modern UX features such as filtering by ingredients, time, and difficulty.

Deliver a functional MVP within the term, aligned with project requirements and deadlines.

Business Needs or Opportunities (Needs)

Centralization: Users often rely on scattered recipe blogs; Wooden Spoon provides one organized hub.

Improved UX: Reduce reliance on ad-heavy, cluttered platforms - Wooden Spoon will have no adds

Community Building: Create an accessible, ad-less environment where creators and home cooks engage directly.

Future Potential: An algorithm to recommend new recipes, as well as LLM integration

Scope

Functional Regs:

User Features: Login, post recipes, browse/search, filter by ingredients/difficulty/time, & rate recipes.

Admin Features: Moderate content, manage tags, handle reports, feature or delete recipes, ban users

System Features: Role-based access, responsive UI, secure backend with SQLite database, dynamic pages (home feed, profiles, recipe detail pages, collections, admin dashboard)

Optional Features (Stretch Goals): LLM integration - Al summarization and recommendations

User Requirements

Easy navigation and recipe discovery.

Reliable filters for dietary needs and allergies.

Smooth uploading and editing of recipes.

Safe environment maintained by admins

Key Stakeholder Summary:

End Users/Home Cooks: Access and engage with recipes.

Recipe Creators/Bloggers: Upload and showcase content.

Admins/Moderators: Ensure quality and trust via moderation.

Project Team Members: Development and delivery of MVP.

Teaching Staff/TAs: Oversight, feedback, and assessment.

Project Milestones

- Week 1–2: Requirements gathering, design mockups, database schema
- Week 3–4: Backend setup (Flask n SQLite), user authentication
- Week 5–6: Core features: recipe upload, browse/search, collections
- Week 7: Admin tools, bug fixes, system testing
- Week 8: Final polish, documentation, deployment, and demo

Big Deliverables/Milestones:

Design documentation and mockups

Flask + SQLite backend with authentication and data storage.

Web frontend with recipe upload and search features.

Admin dashboard with moderation tools.

Final report, demo, and project handoff.

Assumptions

Team members will contribute 5 hours per week outside of lab.

Hosting will be done via self-host or free service (e.g., Heroku, Render)

Initial user base will be small (team, TAs, limited testers)

Al tools may be used to assist development (coding, summarization) - but only with attribution

Constraints

- 8-week timeline with limited resources.
- Team of 3 developers with varying experience levels.
- Limited budget for hosting and optional AI integration.
- MVP must be live by December 5, 2025 for sign-off.

Charter Acceptance

By approving this charter, stakeholders acknowledge alignment on scope, purpose, and objectives:

Signed:

Aakash Singh: Aakash

Estella Arnott: Estella

Samira Almuallim: _Sami