

# Reflection



# Issue Record

Version	Date	Notes
1	15/6/21	Added a reflection on the project including challenges faced

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## What did I learn?

During the last 18 weeks I have learned many things, but I can confidently say that the most important thing I learned is that there isn't always a "best way" of achieving something. Whether you are creating a RESTful api or a javascript application that consumes it, there are many options and as long as you can justify why you chose a certain one then that's okay.

## What challenges did I face?

One of the biggest challenges I faced during the project was not being able to manage my time properly, whether it was taking on too many tasks for one sprint or treating all the tasks as if they would require the same amount of effort, I struggled. Some of the tools/ways I overcame this issue with, were the GitLab issue board and assigning story points. Another challenge I encountered in this project was integration. Learning to have a react application consume my api, while my api also communicated with an external api was difficult, and took lots of time. Previous projects I've worked on were all very one dimensional, a simple forms app with a database connection that has CRUD functionality, or a console app that prints something, so this semester was a huge step up.

## What am I most proud of?

Out of all the features and functionality added, I can easily say that what I am most proud of is the Spotify API integration. Communicating with an external api taught me about CORS, spring resttemplate and bearer/basic authentication. A close second would have to be the websocket chat feature.

## What would I do differently next time?

Plan ahead. This project I overestimated my ability to keep track of dates, deadlines and tasks. It took me 2 full sprints before it set in that using a project management tool would be needed even if I was the only person working on it. Planning ahead could also prevent situations where I realise 10 weeks after starting that I would need more features than I had at first anticipated.