

What I feel about my accomplishments in this project.

Working through this project has been quite fulfilling for me, as each step in building this project required time and effort to learn and understand before applying. From learning new technologies and frameworks, to applying them to the project, to troubleshooting and debugging, before finally having a completed working project, each step has its own fair share of problems, but I did learn a lot about web development through this process. While there were times frustrating times when a problem couldn't be solved even after many tries, I realised it was helpful to take a break and approach the problem from another angle afterwards. Eventually, when the problem was finally solved, there would be a great sense of accomplishment and relieve.

I think that it was helpful to build the project part by part, rather than trying to accomplish everything that was planned for in one go. On React, this meant working on one component, making sure it works, troubleshoot and debug before moving on the next. I found that this way of doing things really helps me keep the goal in mind. Repeating the same process over and over again for every part, the whole project slowly grows and come together.

Overall, I feel quite proud of myself for learning various different technologies, like React, Redux, Rails, SQL, and Typescript, and be able to successfully apply them into a working web project. It was hard to see how all these technologies come together when reading about them, but working on the project really helped me see how they fall into place. I'm happy to have been able to complete this project and successfully deploy it online, as the first website that I have created myself.

Short user manual

While the content on this project can be accessed by users regardless of whether they are logged in or not, some functionality is hidden for users who have are not logged in.

For users that have not logged in, the following actions can be performed.

1. Log in/Register. On the navigation bar at the top of the page, select "Log in" or "Register". Fill in the fields of the modal accordingly and click on "Log in" or "Register" respectively.
2. Sort post according to desired order. On the homepage, users can click on any of the buttons just below the navigation bar to select the order that they would like to see the posts in.
3. Search for posts by categories. Each post comes with the option to be tagged with 0 or more categories. Users can enter the categories that they would like to search for in the search bar inside the navigation bar and click on the magnifying glass button to search.
4. View full post/View post replies. Each post summary comes with a button with an expansion symbol at the top right corner of the summary. Users can click on the button to expand the post. Options to sort replies are provided just below the post body text.

5. View sub replies. For replies with existing replies, the word “See replies” will be shown. Users can click on the word to show all replies to the select reply. Clicking on the words again will hide the sub replies.
6. View profiles. The username of the creator of each post is displayed in both the summarized version and the expanded version of the post as a blue link. Users can click on the link to view the profile of the creator. The creator’s posts and replies can be viewed. The option to sort the posts and replies are also provided. User can select the buttons provided just below the username to toggle between posts and replies.

For users that have logged in, more functionality is provide for them. The following lists the actions that can be performed, in addition to those that are available to the non-logged in user, with the exception of Log in and Register

7. Create new post. Logged in user are allowed to create new posts. Users can select the “New Post” option in the navigation bar. Users can then fill in post title, body, and categories accordingly. Categories are to be only separated with a space.
8. Like/Dislike/Save posts. In both the summarised post and the expanded post, the option to like, dislike and save posts are provided. Users can click on the “Thumbs-up” symbol to like, “Thumbs-down” symbol to dislike and “Bookmark” symbol to save. A filled symbol means that the action has been performed. Users can then select the same symbols to undo the option and a hollow symbol indicates that the action has been undone.
9. Reply to a post. To reply to a post, users must expand the post first. Users can then fill in the provided field and select reply.
10. Reply to a reply. Like point 9, the post must be expanded. Each reply will have a reply option provide. To reply to the selected reply, users can click on the word reply, which the shows the field to fill in. Select the reply button when done.
11. Like/Dislike replies. The options to like and dislike a reply are also provided with the same symbols and functionality as point 8.
12. Edit posts/replies. For posts/replies that are created by the current user, the option to edit them are provided. Users can select the “Pencil” symbol will be redirected to a page where fields have been prefilled with the post/reply contents. Users can make changes as desired and click on the edit button when done.
13. Delete posts/replies. For posts/replies that are created the current user, the option to delete them are provided as well. Users can select the “Thrash bin” symbol and deletion will be performed. No option to recover deleted posts/replies is provided.
14. View current user profile. The current user can view his/her own profile by clicking on his/her username in the navigation bar. The user will be able to view his own posts, own replies, liked posts, disliked posts, and saved posts by clicking on the respective buttons just under his/her username. The option to sort is also provided.
15. Log out. Users are able to log out by selecting the log out button provided in the navigation bar.