

Project Documentation

CookBook

1. Introduction

- Project Title: cookbook

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2. Project Overview:

The primary purpose of CookBookDB is to serve as a comprehensive, digital recipe management system. It aims to connect users with a vast collection of recipes and provide them with the tools to organize, discover, and interact with culinary content

Project Objective:

The primary goal of the MongoDB Cookbook project is to build a flexible, scalable, and efficient recipe management system where users can store, retrieve, update, and search for cooking recipes. By leveraging MongoDB's NoSQL document-based structure, the system can handle diverse and nested data formats that are typical in recipe storage (e.g., ingredients, steps, categories, user ratings).

Flexible Schema: Recipes may have varying numbers of ingredients, steps, or tags — MongoDB's document model handles this naturally.

Embedded Documents: Ingredients and instructions can be stored within the main recipe document, making it easier and faster to retrieve the entire recipe.

Scalability: As the number of recipes and users grows, MongoDB can scale horizontally to handle large volumes of data efficiently.

Indexing & Search: MongoDB supports text indexes and compound indexes, making it ideal for building fast

3. Architecture

- Frontend: React.js with Bootstrap and Material UI
- Backend: Node.js and Express.js managing server logic and API endpoints
- Database: MongoDB stores user data, project information, applications, and chat messages

4. Setup Instructions

- **Prerequisites:** – Node.js – MongoDB

– Git – React.js – Express.js – Mongoose – Visual Studio Code . Install Node.js

Node.js is required to run JavaScript outside the browser and to use npm (Node Package Manager).

Steps:

Download Node.js:

Go to <https://nodejs.org>

Choose the LTS (Recommended) version (Long-Term Support – stable version).

Run the Installer:

Open the downloaded file.

Follow the installation steps:

Accept the license agreement

Choose installation location (keep default)

Check the option "Automatically install the necessary tools" if prompted

Click Install.

Verify Installation:

Open Command Prompt (CMD) or Terminal.

Type:

`node -v`

You should see a version number (e.g., v20.x.x).

Check npm (Node Package Manager):

`npm -v`

You should see a version number too (e.g., 10.x.x).

✓ Node.js and npm are now installed.

2. Install Visual Studio Code (VS Code)

VS Code is a code editor used to write, debug, and run JavaScript/Node.js programs.

Steps:

Download VS Code:

Go to <https://code.visualstudio.com>

Download for your OS (Windows, macOS, Linux).

Install VS Code:

Run the installer.

Select options like "Add to PATH" and "Open with Code" during installation (recommended).

Finish installation.

Open VS Code:

Launch the app.

You'll see a welcome screen.

3. Setup VS Code for Node.js

To make coding easier, install some useful extensions:

JavaScript (ES6) Snippets – for faster JS coding.

Node.js Extension Pack – for debugging and running Node apps.

Prettier - Code Formatter – to keep code clean and well-formatted.

How to Install Extensions:

Open VS Code → Go to Extensions (left sidebar icon or Ctrl+Shift+X).

Search for the extensions above and click Install.

4. Test Setup

Create a Folder:

Create a new folder, e.g., node-test.

Open in VS Code:

Open VS Code → File → Open Folder → select node-test.

Create a File:

Create a file called app.js.

Add this code:

```
console.log("Node.js is working!");
```

Run the File:

Open VS Code Terminal (Ctrl + ~).

Run:

```
node app.js
```

5. Folder Structure

SB-Works/

|-- client/

|__components/

L__ pages/

|__ server/

|__routes/

|__ models/

|__ controllers/

React frontend

Node.js backend Windows (using the MSI installer):

Installation Directory: C:\Program Files\MongoDB\Server\<version>\

Data Directory: C:\Program Files\MongoDB\Server\<version>\data\ (often a custom path is chosen during installation)

Log Directory: C:\Program Files\MongoDB\Server\<version>\log\

6. Running the Application

Frontend:

cd

client

npm start

Backend:

cd server npm

start

Access: Visit <http://localhost:3000>

7. API Documentation

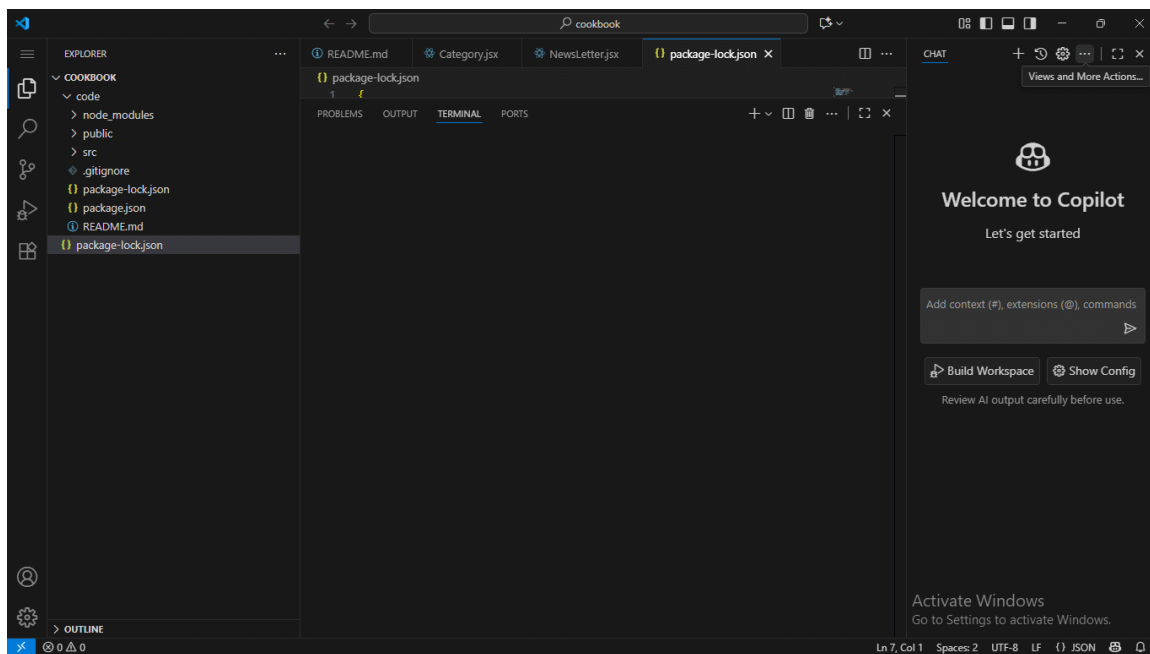
- User: – /api/user/register – /api/user/login
- Projects:
 - /api/projects/create – /api/projects/:id
- Applications: /api/apply
- Chats: – /api/chat/send – /api/chat/:userId

8. Authentication

- JWT-based authentication for secure login
- Middleware protects private routes

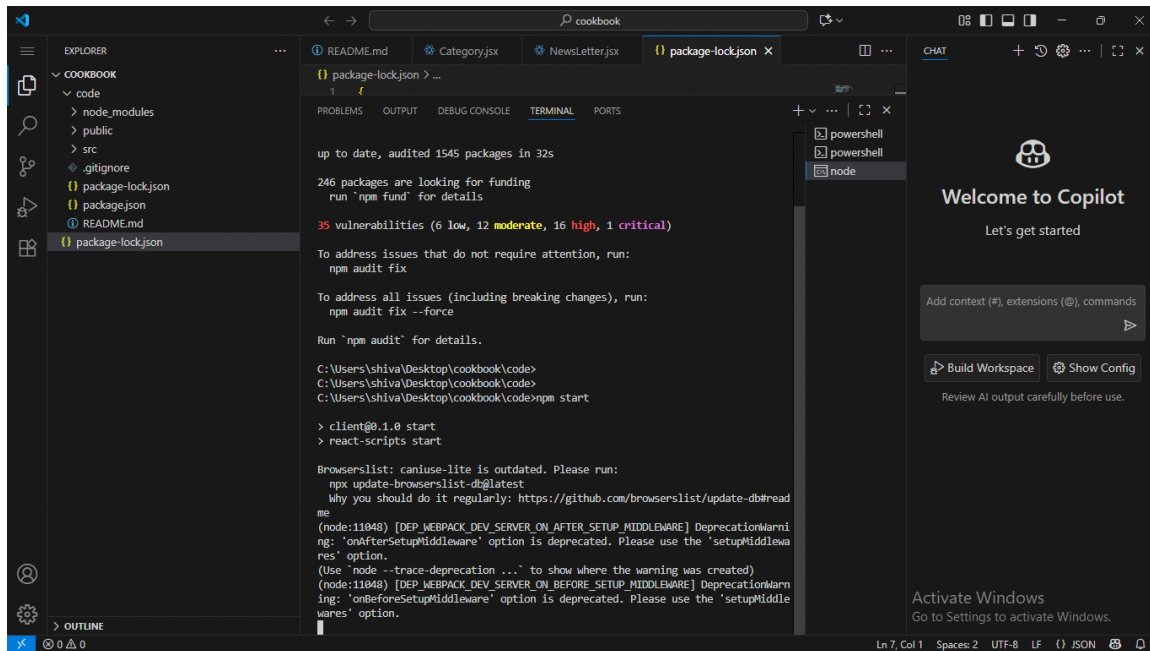
9. User Interface

- Landing Page :vs code



- Freelancer Dashboard
- Admin Panel

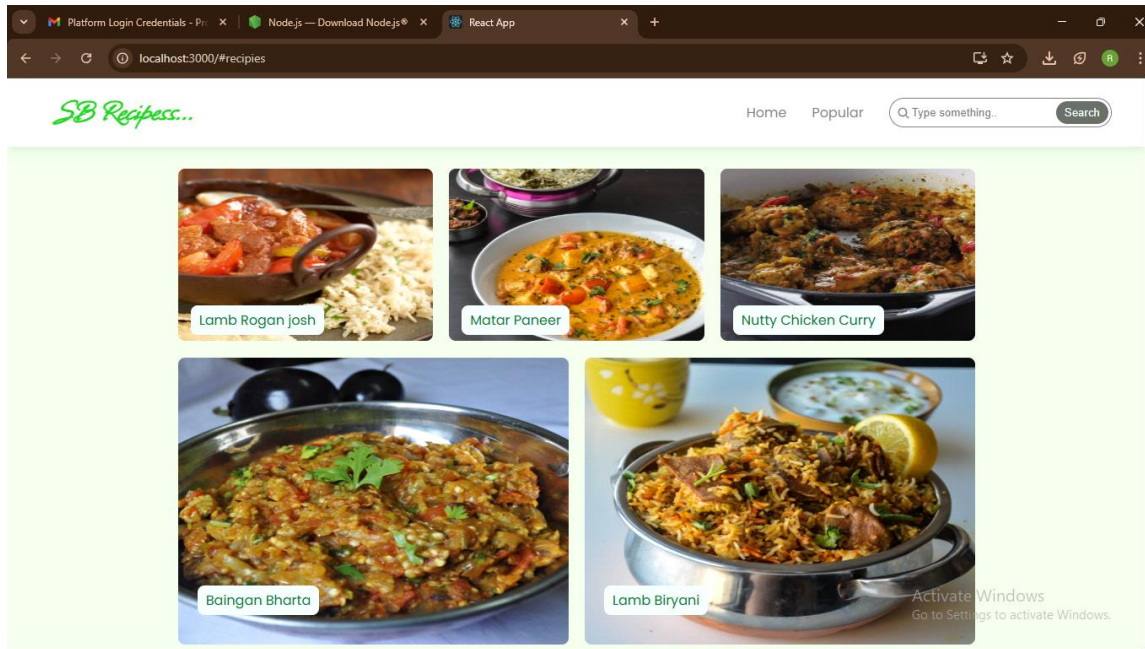
- Project Details Page



10. Testing

- Manual testing during milestones
- Tools: Postman, Chrome Dev Tools

11. Screenshots or Demo



12. Known Issues :

1. MongoDB Connection Issues

Symptoms:

MongoServerError: bad auth : Authentication failed

MongoNetworkError: connect ECONNREFUSED orTIMEDOUT

Causes & Fixes: Wrong connection string – Make sure your MONGODB_URI is correct.

Example: mongodb+srv://<username>:<password>@cluster0.mongodb.net/<dbname>?retryWrites=true&w=majority

Unwhitelisted IP address – Go to MongoDB Atlas → Network Access → Add your current IP (0.0.0.0/0 for public access in dev).

Wrong database name – Use the exact database name you created (case-sensitive).

– URL encode passwords with special characters (@, #, !, etc.). ✓ Password special characters

2. Node.js Driver Version Mismatch

Symptoms:

DeprecationWarning: current Server Discovery and Monitoring engine is deprecated
Driver fails to connect or throws unexpected errors.

Fixes:

Upgrade to latest driver:

```
npm install mongodb@latest
```

If using Mongoose:

```
npm install mongoose@latest
```

3. VS Code Environment Issues

Symptoms:

Environment variables not loading in process.env

Code works in terminal but not in VS Code debugger.

Fixes:

Create a .env file and load it with dotenv:

```
npm install dotenv
```

```
require('dotenv').config();
```

Check VS Code launch configuration (.vscode/launch.json) to include "envFile":

```
"${workspaceFolder}/.env".
```

13. Future Enhancement

1. Real-Time Collaboration and Notifications

Enhance the platform by introducing real-time features.

Live Updates: Implement WebSocket technology (e.g., Socket.IO) to push real-time updates to the

UI. When a freelancer marks a task as complete, the client's dashboard would update instantly without a page refresh.

App Messaging: Add a chat feature within the Project Details page to facilitate instant communication between clients and freelancers. This would likely involve a separate `messages` collection in MongoDB, possibly using a capped collection for performance with a high volume of message Set up a system to send push notifications for key events, such as new messages, project invites, or payment confirmations.