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Group 16
CS 3744 Project 5

PC Helper

Our web application, PC Helper, is a helpful tool for users to build a desktop computer. With PC Helper, there is a database of computer parts, sorted by part type, that users can look through. The user can pick a part type from a drop down menu, and then browse through a list of parts of the specified part type. Each part will have the Amazon price listed alongside it. The user can then add a part to his or her build. The user also has the ability to create multiple builds and view these builds. The user will also be able to see the total price of each build.

In Project 5 we continued on from Project 4 and added a social to our web application, PC Helper. As of Project 4, PC Helper was designed for a single user to search through computer parts and create a computer build. In Project 5, we are expanding for a multiple user experience. We added the function for users to search for other users and follow his or her activity. Users will be able to see when other users edit a build, finish a build, a build is liked, a build is commented, and when a user has a new follower.

We also added a different levels of user to our web application. There will be unregistered users, that can only access the signup page. There will be registered users, which will be the standard user. This type of user can create and edit builds, and follow other users. The last type of user will be an administrative user that has the additional permission to view all users on PC Helper as well as delete users. There will be a search bar for users to search for other users.

Since the user is not allowed to change his or her username, we thought it would be best to make the username the emails of the user. The user would not be changing his or her email, but would potentially want to change the username, which they are not allowed to do. By just having the username be the email, the user will be less likely to want to change his or her username. This prevents the user from being let now and not being able to change his or her username. In the current state of our web application, the refresh button currently causes issue with the database. If a user refreshes the page, the most recent action will be repeated. We plan to fix this issue in the next project.

The current location of the system is http://ec2-52-36-182-247.us-west-2.compute.amazonaws.com/Bens-Dumb-Idea/ . The reasoning of the name was to allow the group to work on the project on Github, but not attract any attention to the project to avoid honor code violations. To run our web application locally, the user would unzip the compressed folder containing our web application into the following location C:\xampp\htdocs. The user would then open the XAMPP control panel and start Apache and MySQL. Finally the user would visit localhost/<NAME OF FOLDER>, where the name of the folder is whatever the user named the folder location the file was unzipped to. From there, the user would be able to use the web application.

Above and Beyond.

We have continued to improve upon the styling in on our web application. In addition, we added the search capability to allow users to browse for other users to follow. We thought it would be more user friendly than having users type in the exact id of the user they want to follow.