

Case study Men's Fashion

Why Entity Framework is used as an ORM if applicable?

Entity Framework is used as Object/Relational Mapping framework in order to facilitate working with relational data as objects rather than writing unnecessary data access code to retrieve data from the database. Entity framework has allowed the program to the use of several functionality such as:

- Auto-generation of models from an existing database (built from the SSMS)
- Use of LINQ queries, providing "intelliSense" and compile-time syntax validation

Why the integration of a 3rd party component (e.g. a 3rd party UI framework) has been used?

FontAwesome was used primarily used to create right-pointing chevrons easily for the dropdown list.

Bootstrap was used to use some of its base UI styling and eliminate the need to write CSS classes just for the sake of positioning and size.

Jquery loaded for the sake of shorthanded javascript (even though barely any JS code was written)

How a specific implementation approach makes the system more flexible.

The system was implemented using partial views where possible as to make the system more dynamic; such as the *_featured.cshtml* and *_specials.cshtml*.

Design principles used.

The *separation of concerns* design principle was followed in order to maximize modularity and minimize redundancy.

SourceTree was used as a GUI for git management, although kept offline.

Techniques in the code might differ since this was a learning experience and a lot of experimenting had been undergone, especially when concerning retrieval of data from the database tables.

Although there are some non-vital bugs, the main requirements of the case study where completed in a manner which I hope is suitable for professional use.

The following are the pages requested and ways to navigate through the website:

Homepage – */Home/Index*

- The homepage is the first page you see. Alternatively, you can navigate back to the homepage by clicking the logo (Men's Fashion) or by clicking the *Home* hyperlink near the 'Shop By Category' drop-down.

All product page - */Product/showproducts*

- All of the products can be viewed by navigating to the link provided '*/Product/showproducts*' or by clicking the *search* button while the field is empty.

Product page (dynamic) - */Product/ProductByCatId?catId=1*

- The dropdown menu available on the left allows the user to direct him to specific categories, according to the category ID. Products with the same categories are grouped together and displayed on a single page.
- Also, the search bar can be utilized to display specific products which has a particular string in their name.

Shopping cart - */ShoppingCart/Cart*

- The shopping cart will be navigated to whenever a user adds a product to the cart. Alternatively, the shopping cart can be accessed at any time from the *cart* image or link (which also displays the number of products you currently have in the cart) in the navigation bar.