1. Single Page Applications (SPA)

A SPA is a type of web application that loads a single HTML file initially and then, via JavaScript, dynamically updates the content as needed. There is no need to reload the entire page or perform full server navigations, resulting in a faster and smoother user experience.

Key Features:

Dynamic Interactivity: Uses frameworks/libraries like React, Angular, or Vue.js to handle interface updates.

Better Performance: Initial loading may be slower, but subsequent interaction is faster because it doesn't require multiple HTTP applications.

Similarity to Native Apps: They offer smooth transitions and a modern user experience.

Use Cases:

Email services (e.g., Gmail).

Video streaming platforms (e.g., Netflix).

Collaboration tools (e.g., Trello or Asana).

2. Multiple Web Applications (Multiple Web Applications)

This approach refers to building multiple independent applications that may or may not be connected to each other. Each application has its own code base, purpose, and potential different development technologies.

Key features:

Technological flexibility: Each application can be developed using different technologies, depending on the use case.

Modularity: Allows large systems to be separated into smaller, more manageable parts.

Independent development: Different teams can work on different applications without interference.

Use cases:

Business ecosystems, where each module covers a specific aspect such as user management, finance, or analytics.

Large corporations with decentralized platforms (e.g. Google with YouTube, Maps, Drive).

3. Animated Web Applications

This type of application focuses on visual design and the use of animations to enhance user interaction. Animation can be functional (such as giving feedback) or purely aesthetic.

Key features:

Engaging interactivity: Animated elements are used to capture attention or guide the user.

Key Technologies: Heavy use of CSS3, JavaScript, WebGL, and libraries like GreenSock (GSAP) or Three.js.

Technical Challenges: Require optimization to maintain performance and ensure mobile compatibility.

Use Cases:

Promotional or marketing sites.

Creative portfolios of designers or agencies.

Interactive in-browser apps and games.

4. E-Commerce Apps

These apps are specifically designed to enable the buying and selling of products or services online. Their development involves not only an attractive design but also a robust architecture to handle payments, shopping carts, and product databases.

Key Features:

Shopping Cart: Allows users to select, store, and purchase products.

Payment Gateway Integration: Support for multiple payment methods.

Inventory Management and Analytics: Tools for administrators to monitor business performance.

Use Cases:

Amazon, eBay, Shopify.

Small stores operating on platforms like WooCommerce or BigCommerce.

5. Portals

Web portals are centralized entry points for accessing multiple resources, applications, or services. They are used to provide a unified interface, especially in enterprise environments or communities.

Key features:

Access management: They can include single sign-on (SSO) for users to access different services with a single credential.

Customized content: They offer information or tools tailored to users' specific needs.

Application integration: They allow communication between diverse systems.

Use cases:

Employee portals in companies.

Educational platforms that bring together learning tools.

Sites like Yahoo! or MSN.

6. Progressive Web Apps (PWA)

PWAs are a hybrid between web apps and native apps. They combine the best of both worlds, offering advanced capabilities (such as push notifications or offline use) and direct accessibility from the browser.

Key features:

Optional installation: Users can “install” them as a native app on their devices, but they do not require downloading from stores like the App Store or Google Play.

Offline operation: Through service workers, they cache data to be accessible without internet.

Universal compatibility: They work in any modern browser.

Use cases:

News apps.

Online stores with repeat customers (e.g. Starbucks PWA).

Lightweight social networks like Twitter Lite