# MOBILE APP - UTILITY, CMS LIFESTYLE (MOBILE/TABLET OR WEB)

MEDIA 2025 - Instructor: Tyler Higgs By Hanieh Mardani - A010049879

#### **PROJECT OVERVIEW**

This project is a comprehensive analysis and redesign of the Hacker News website, a popular platform for technology enthusiasts to share and discuss the latest news in tech and startups.

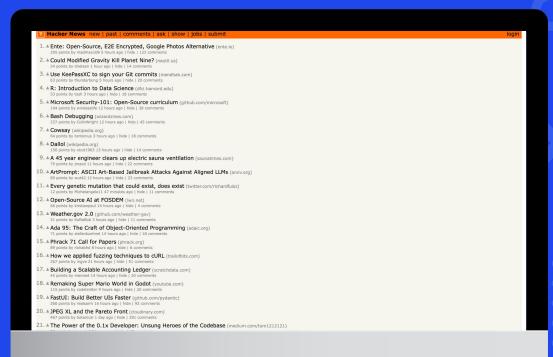
The primary focus of this portfolio assignment is to apply modern web and mobile application practices to enhance user experience and interaction on the Hacker News platform, without altering its original branding and visual identity.

The upcoming slides will showcase before-and-after comparisons to illustrate the enhanced user experience.



#### **WEBSITE'S DESIGN OVERVIEW**

The site's design has often been described as outdated, primarily due to its text-heavy layout and minimalistic approach, which while functional, may not align with the visual and interactive expectations of today's internet users.

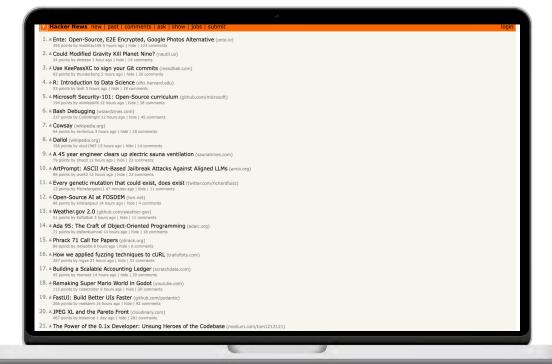


#### **ORIGINAL DESIGN**



#### Minimalistic, text-heavy interface







#### ORIGINAL DESIGN COMPONENTS



Guidelines | FAO | Lists | API | Security | Legal | Apply to YC | Contact







Search:



More



**BUTTONS** 

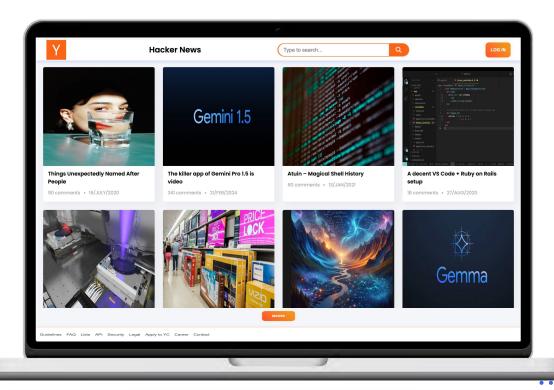


#### REDESIGN



## Incorporates vibrant images, dynamic content blocks, and a modern color scheme for improved visual engagement







#### **REDESIGN COMPONENTS**





**Hacker News** 

Type to search...



Guidelines FAQ Lists API Security Legal Apply to YC Career Contact



**FOOTER** 





MORE



**BUTTONS** 





#### SIDE BY SIDE NAVIGATION BAR COMPARISON

#### **ORIGINAL**

Functional yet outdated with limited visual cues for navigation.



#### REDESIGN

Introduces a clearer, more intuitive navigation structure with prominent search functionality and log-in options.



**Hacker News** 

Type to search...

LOG IN





#### ORIGINAL DESIGN NAV BAR

Y Hacker News new | past | comments | ask | show | jobs | submit

login

In the original design, both "login" and "submit" options redirect users to the same page, which can be confusing and hinder the user experience by not differentiating between distinct actions. Additionally, the presence of numerous links in the navigation bar contributes to a cluttered appearance, making it difficult for users to quickly identify and access the information they're interested in. This design issue could overwhelm users and detract from the site's overall usability.



#### **REDESIGN NAV BAR**



#### **Hacker News**

Type to search... Q

LOG IN

In the redesign, the new and past options were removed since the page layout already organizes news from newest to oldest, enhancing content relevance. The jobs section was relocated to the footer under a "career" link, streamlining the main navigation and focusing user attention on core content. Additionally, the comments link was removed from the navbar because users can now comment directly on news items by clicking on them.

These changes simplify navigation, reduce clutter, and prioritize user engagement with the content, improving the overall site usability and experience.

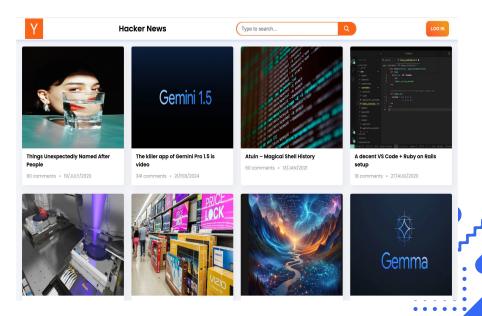


## **SIDE BY SIDE CONTENT PRESENTATION**

#### **ORIGINAL**

#### Hacker News new | past | comments | ask | show | jobs | submit 1. A Ente: Open-Source, E2E Encrypted, Google Photos Alternative (ente.io) 2. A Could Modified Gravity Kill Planet Nine? (nautil.us) 24 points by dnetesn 1 hour ago | hide | 14 comments 3. ≜ Use KeePassXC to sign your Git commits (mendhak.com) 4. ≜ R: Introduction to Data Science (dfci.harvard.edu) 5. A Microsoft Security-101: Open-Source curriculum (github.com/microsoft) 6. A Bash Debugging (wizardzines.com) 237 points by ColinWright 12 hours ago | hide | 45 comments 7. ≜ Cowsay (wikipedia.org) 8. A Dallol (wikipedia.org) 9. A 45 year engineer clears up electric sauna ventilation (saunatimes.com) 10. ▲ ArtPrompt: ASCII Art-Based Jailbreak Attacks Against Aligned LLMs (arxiv.org) 89 points by wut42 12 hours ago | hide | 23 comments 11. A Every genetic mutation that could exist, does exist (twitter.com/richardfuisz) 12. ▲ Open-Source AI at FOSDEM (lwn.net) 13. A Weather.gov 2.0 (github.com/weather-gov) 51 points by KoftaBob 3 hours ago | hide | 11 comments 14. Ada 95: The Craft of Object-Oriented Programming (adaic.org) 15. A Phrack 71 Call for Papers (phrack.org) 89 points by rishabhd 8 hours ago | hide | 6 comments 16. A How we applied fuzzing techniques to cURL (trailofbits.com) 17. A Building a Scalable Accounting Ledger (scratchdata.com) 45 points by memset 14 hours ago | hide | 20 comments 18. A Remaking Super Mario World in Godot (youtube.com) 20. ▲ JPEG XL and the Pareto Front (cloudinary.com) 21. ≜ The Power of the 0.1x Developer: Unsung Heroes of the Codebase (medium.com/tom1212121)

#### **REDESIGN**





## ORIGINAL DESIGN CONTENT PRESENTATION

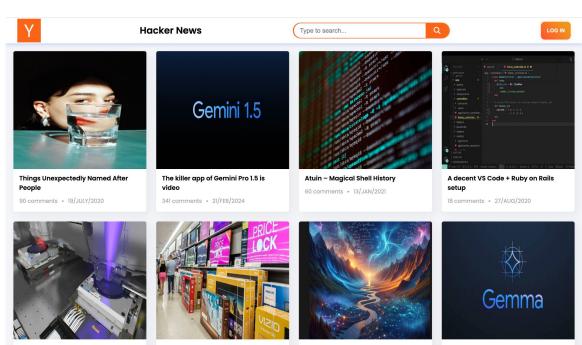


Linear, text-based content presentation.

The original design focuses on delivering information in a simple, text-based format, avoiding the use of images or graphics. This makes it easy for users to quickly read through headlines, although it might not capture their attention as effectively as more visually appealing websites. This approach prioritizes text content over visual interest, which may not fully meet the expectations of users accustomed to more engaging web experiences.



#### REDESIGN CONTENT PRESENTATION



Utilizes a grid layout for content, making it easier to browse and interact with stories. Each post is accompanied by relevant imagery to provide context at a glance.

Each story is paired with images that give a quick visual summary, enhancing the user's ability to find interesting articles quickly. This design not only makes the site more attractive but also improves the ease with which users can engage with the content, providing a richer browsing experience.



#### SIDE BY SIDE FOOTER COMPARISON

#### **ORIGINAL**

Minimalistic, primarily text-based, Including a search bar in the footer is generally not considered best practice and could hinder discoverability.

Guidelines   FAQ   Lists   API   Security   Legal   Apply to YC   Contact	
Search:	

#### **REDESIGN**

The search bar has been removed from the footer to streamline design and user focus. A Career"link is now included in the footer, relocating it from the navbar for a cleaner, more organized look.





#### **CONCLUSION**

The redesign of the Hacker News website introduces significant improvements, focusing on usability, aesthetics, and functionality. By reimagining the layout, navigation, and content presentation, the new design offers a more engaging and intuitive user experience. Key changes, including the removal of the search bar from the footer and the addition of a career link, contribute to a cleaner, more streamlined interface. These enhancements reflect a thoughtful approach to meeting modern web users' expectations, ultimately making the site more accessible and enjoyable to navigate.



