

Design Document

Hemang Murugan

September 2025

1 Project Description

The goal of this project is to design and implement a personal homepage using modern front-end technologies including **HTML5**, **CSS3**, and **ES6+ JavaScript**. The site serves as a portfolio and introduction to who I am, showcasing my background, skills, and projects in a clear, responsive, and visually engaging way.

The primary audience includes:

- **Recruiters and Hiring Managers** — who want to quickly learn about my technical skills and view my featured projects.
- **Potential Employers** — who may be evaluating me for internships or full-time roles and want to review project details.
- **General Visitors** — who may be curious about my work and want an aesthetically pleasing and easy-to-navigate homepage.

A key differentiator of this homepage is its **creative parallax hero section** that reacts to user scrolling, giving the page a sense of depth and interactivity. In addition, the site includes a well-organized project gallery and a dedicated credits page for attributions. The entire implementation is front-end only, uses semantic HTML5 for accessibility, and follows best practices for responsiveness and maintainability.

2 User Personas

This homepage is designed with several distinct types of visitors in mind. The following personas represent the primary user groups and their goals.

Persona 1: Recruiter

Role Technical recruiter evaluating candidates.

Goals Quickly review a candidate's skills, projects, and resume to determine whether to advance them in the hiring pipeline.

Frustrations Slow-loading pages, hidden resume links, or overly complex navigation.

Scenario The recruiter receives a job application, clicks the portfolio link, scans the skills and top projects, and downloads the resume - all within a minute.

Persona 2: Potential Employer

Role Hiring manager or team lead reviewing potential hires.

Goals Assess the candidate's technical depth, problem-solving ability, and communication skills.

Frustrations Unstructured project information, missing context about technology choices, or lack of responsiveness on mobile.

Scenario The employer browses the project gallery, checks detailed descriptions of at least two projects, and decides whether to schedule an interview.

Persona 3: Tech Enthusiast

Role Design-minded visitor or peer developer.

Goals Explore creative layouts, animations, and UX design patterns for inspiration.

Frustrations Sites that feel generic, have no personality, or provide a poor visual experience.

Scenario The visitor scrolls through the homepage to interact with the parallax hero, hovers over project cards, and bookmarks the site for inspiration.

Persona 4: Professor

Role Academic instructor or mentor assessing work quality.

Goals Verify project completeness, proper citations, and adherence to web standards.

Frustrations Disorganized navigation, missing credits, or inaccessible design that fails WCAG or semantic checks.

Scenario The mentor checks the credits page for proper acknowledgments and uses the site as an example of good project documentation and structure.

Persona 5: Collaborator

Role Peer developer, open-source contributor, or startup founder looking for potential collaborators.

Goals Identify compatible skill sets and quickly reach out for collaboration.

Frustrations Sites that hide contact information or do not clearly state areas of expertise.

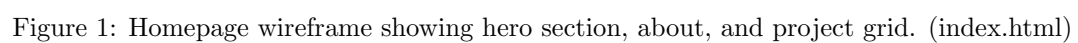
Scenario The collaborator reviews the skills section, confirms shared tech stacks, and clicks the contact link to initiate a conversation.

3 User Stories

The following user stories capture the main ways different visitors interact with the homepage:

1. **Recruiter:** As a recruiter, I want to quickly see a summary of skills and a showcase of top projects so that I can decide within seconds if the candidate fits an open role.
2. **Recruiter:** As a recruiter, I want a clearly visible option to download the resume so that I can save and share it with the hiring team without navigating multiple pages.
3. **Potential Employer:** As a potential employer, I want to navigate to a well-organized projects page so that I can review technical depth and problem-solving ability before scheduling an interview.
4. **Potential Employer:** As a potential employer, I want the site to be responsive and load quickly on mobile so that I can view it seamlessly during a commute or on-the-go.
5. **Tech Enthusiast:** As a visitor interested in design, I want to experience a visually appealing parallax hero section so that the site feels modern and memorable.
6. **Tech Enthusiast:** As a visitor interested in design, I want smooth animations and clear visual hierarchy so that browsing the site feels enjoyable rather than distracting.
7. **Professor :** As an academic reviewer, I want a dedicated credits page with acknowledgments so that I can verify that external resources and contributions are properly cited.
8. **Professor :** As an academic reviewer, I want the site to follow semantic HTML5 and accessibility best practices so that I can use it as a model for good development standards.
9. **Collaborator:** As a collaborator, I want a clearly displayed skills section with recognizable technology logos so that I can quickly assess if we share compatible technical stacks.

- ## 4 Mockups / Wireframes



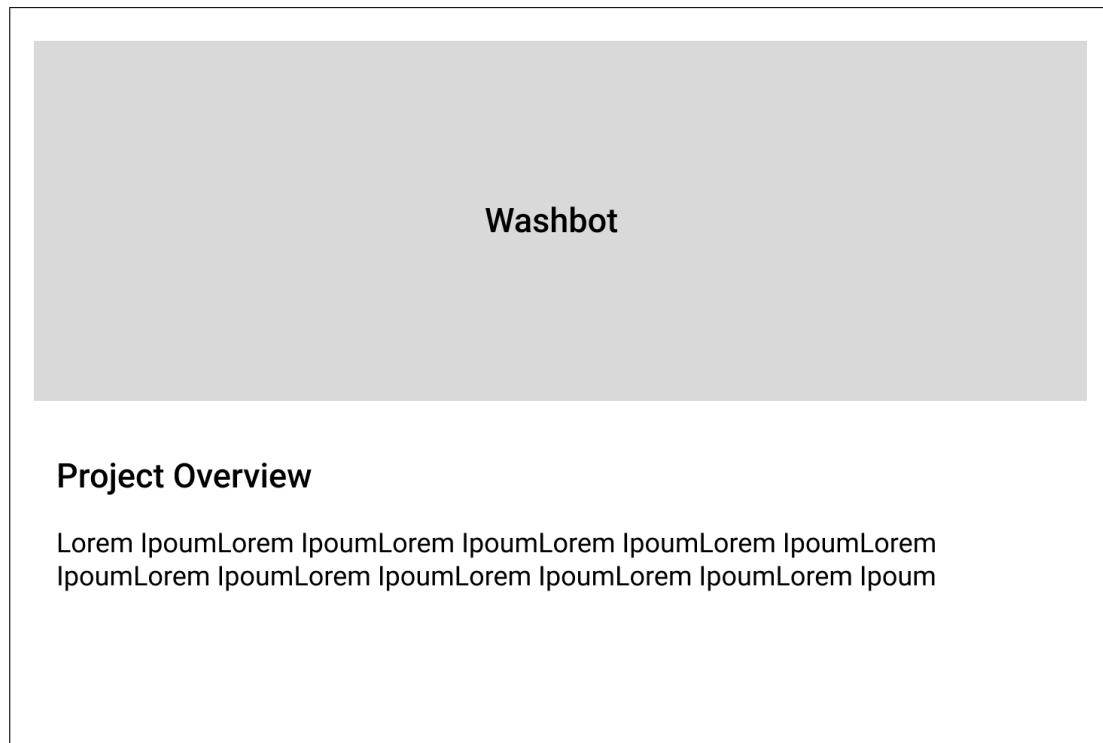


Figure 2: Project page layout with dynamic project details. (project.html)

Explanation: This page opens when a particular project is clicked.

5 Conclusion

This design successfully meets the project goals by presenting information in a clear, organized, and visually engaging way. It addresses the needs of recruiters, employers, and general visitors through responsive layouts, intuitive navigation, and an interactive hero section. Together, these elements ensure that the homepage is both professional and user-friendly, making it well-suited for its intended audience.