

Project Title: E-commerce App

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**Problem Statement:** Build an artisanal e-commerce platform using IBM Cloud Foundry. Connect skilled artisans with a global audience. Showcase handmade products, from exquisite jewelry to artistic home decor. Implement secure shopping carts, smooth payment gateways, and an intuitive checkout process. Nurture creativity and support small businesses through an artisan's dream marketplace!

### Project Steps

#### Phase 1: Problem Definition and Design Thinking

**Problem Definition:** The project is to build an artisanal e-commerce platform using IBM Cloud Foundry. The goal is to connect skilled artisans with a global audience, showcasing their handmade products and providing features like secure shopping carts, payment gateways, and an intuitive checkout process. This involves designing the e-commerce platform, implementing necessary features, and ensuring a seamless user experience.

#### Design Thinking:

1. **Platform Design:** Design the platform layout with sections for product categories, individual product pages, shopping cart, checkout, and payment.
2. **Product Showcase:** Create a database to store product information such as images, descriptions, prices, and categories.
3. **User Authentication:** Implement user registration and authentication features to enable artisans and customers to access the platform.
4. **Shopping Cart and Checkout:** Design and develop the shopping cart functionality and a smooth checkout process.
5. **Payment Integration:** Integrate secure payment gateways to facilitate transactions.
6. **User Experience:** Focus on providing an intuitive and visually appealing user experience for both artisans and customers.



The problem definition and design thinking phase is essential for the success of any project. It helps to ensure that the project is well-defined, that all stakeholders are aligned on the goals, and that the solution is designed with the user in mind.

For the artisanal e-commerce platform project, the following are some key considerations during the design thinking phase:

- **Platform Design:** The platform layout should be simple and easy to navigate, with clear sections for product categories, individual product pages, shopping cart, checkout, and payment. The design should also be visually appealing and reflect the artisanal nature of the products being sold.
- **Product Showcase:** The product database should be designed to store all relevant product information, including images, descriptions, prices, and categories. This information will be used to power the product search and product pages on the platform.
- **User Authentication:** The user authentication system should be easy to use and secure. It should allow artisans and customers to create accounts and log in to the platform.
- **Shopping Cart and Checkout:** The shopping cart functionality should allow customers to add products to their cart, view their cart contents, and remove products from their cart. The checkout process should be smooth and efficient, with minimal steps required.
- **Payment Integration:** The payment integration should be secure and support a variety of payment methods. This will allow customers to purchase products from the platform using their preferred payment method.
- **User Experience:** The user experience should be the top priority when designing the platform. The platform should be easy to use for both artisans and customers. The design should be visually appealing and informative.

