Bartr: A Comprehensive Guide
Yan Lin Feng

Introduction

Bartr is a website that enables students to trade goods within their college communities. Users can make and respond to posts for food, textbooks, dorm furnishings: anything they might need. From there, users can communicate using the websites messaging system to establish a mutually agreeable exchange. The functionality thrives on the notion that people within the same campus share a common set of necessities, that what you need, someone else will have, and vice versa.

Bartr can be accessed at the URL https://ide50-yf95.cs50.io and lives in the CS50 IDE. A showcasing video can be found at https://youtu.be/_YVVeUePaUc.

Registering & Logging In

If you are a new user, click the "Register" link on the home page (below the log in fields) to access the registration form. Select the institution you attend from the drop down list. Next, fill out all fields properly. Ensure you have entered your *university e-mail*: Bartr will validate that it is in fact an e-mail at your university. After completing the form, click the "Register" button. If the username is already taken, your e-mail is already in use, or any of the fields are not filled out correctly, you will not be registered and should try again. However, if you submitted a valid form (ie. With matching e-mails and passwords, fields within the given boundaries, and a valid e-mail address), you will be redirected to the "Current Offers" page of the site.

If a returning user, simply log in using your username and password. To be directed to the "Current Offers" page.

Viewing & Responding to Offers

After registering or clicking the "Current Offers" tab (or the logo), you will see a table containing a list of all offers made by users registered to your school. In this table, you'll be able to see the poster's username, whether they are looking to "Give" or "Want" a certain item, a description of the item itself, a photo of the item, the number of people who responded to the post, and the time the post was made. Clicking the link "View Photo" will show you an image of the item (if one was posted). If you are interested in the offer, you can click "Respond" to open a modal window that will allow you to send a message to the user about the offer. Additionally, using the search bar above the table, you can search for current offers that contain a specific search term.

Making an Offer

To make an offer, click the "Post Offer" item in the menu. This will direct you to a short form. Specify whether you are "Giving" or "Wanting" an item, and then describe what the item is. If applicable, upload a photo along with the post. The file must be of type .jpg, .jpeg, .gif, or .png. Your offer will now be publicly viewable to all users under "Current Offers."

Managing Your Offers

To view and manage your own offers, click on the "My Offers" menu item. Here, you will see a list of all offers you have made: its type, what it is, its photo, when it was posted, and how many people have responded to it. If you want to delete the post, simply click "Delete" and it will be removed along with any messages you have received from users about that post. If any users have responded to your offer, you may click on the number of responders (which will become a link if it is >0) and a modal window will open displaying a list of all users who have responded to the selected offer. After (hopefully) thoroughly discussing the offer with responders via messaging, you can come to this window to "Confirm" which user you have decided to make a transaction with regarding said offer. Confirming an offer will delete the offer and all messages pertaining to it, and will also post a "Transaction" in the website's history, logging that your transaction was confirmed.

Viewing Past Transactions

Once an offer has been confirmed, both users will have a permanent notification in their "Transactions" tab that lists all of the transactions they have made in the past. A new transaction listing will automatically be posted upon confirmation of an offer.

Messaging

Messages can be sent to the user by clicking "Respond" next to an offer under "Current Offers" or next to a conversation under the "Messages" tab. Users can type a message of up to 150 characters. After clicking "Send," the message will be delivered to the user.

To view your messages, click on the "Messages" menu item. Here, you will be able to see a table of all active conversations you have. Each row of the table will indicate who the conversation is with and what offer it is about. Additionally, each row will allow you see the entire conversation by clicking "View Conversation." Conversations initiated by you will also be displayed here if the recipient has not yet replied to your initial response.