Alright 😎 — let's design a **production-ready, affordable, and secure setup** for your project. I'll combine **best practices** + **lowest costs** + **future scalability**.

📝 Goal

Host a **real-world furniture e-commerce project**:

- **Frontend (React)** → fast, secure, SEO-friendly

- **Backend (FastAPI)** → reliable, scalable

- **Database** → secure, backed up

- **Domain + SSL** → professional look (no *.netlify.app)

🟢 My Recommended Stack

Part	Service	Why	Cost / Year
Domain	Buy from Namecheap/Truehost (.com)	Cheaper than Safaricom, easy DNS	~KSh 1,500
SSL	Free Let's Encrypt (auto on Netlify / DO)	Same encryption as paid SSL	**Free**
Frontend (React)	**Netlify** (free plan) + custom domain	Free hosting, global CDN, automatic SSL, deploy from GitHub	**Free**
Backend (FastAPI)	**DigitalOcean App Platform** (Starter $5/month)	Managed hosting, automatic SSL, scalable	KSh 750/month = **KSh 9,000/year**
Database	**Neon.tech (PostgreSQL)** (Free Tier)	Production-ready Postgres, daily backups, free to start, scales later	**Free**
Object Storage (images)	**Cloudflare R2 or Supabase Storage** (free tier)	Stores product images cheaply	**Free** (until ~10GB)

Why this setup works:

- ✅ **Professional** (custom .com domain, HTTPS, no "netlify.app")

- ✅ **Cheap** (most things free except DO backend & domain)

- ✅ **Secure** (auto SSL, Postgres with backups)

- ✅ **Scalable** (if traffic grows, upgrade DO & Neon tiers)

- ✅ **Simple** (deploy from GitHub → auto builds)

💰 **Cost Breakdown**

Item	Cost / Month	Cost / Year
Domain (.com)	—	KSh 1,500
SSL (Let's Encrypt)	Free	Free
Netlify Frontend Hosting	Free	Free
DigitalOcean App Platform (Backend)	$5 (KSh 750)	KSh 9,000
Neon.tech Postgres DB	Free Tier	Free
Storage (Cloudflare R2 or Supabase)	Free Tier	Free

Total Yearly Cost

- **KSh 1,500** (Domain)

- **KSh 9,000** (Backend Hosting on DO)

- **KSh 0** (Frontend Hosting)

- **KSh 0** (Database)

- **KSh 0** (SSL)

➡️ **Grand Total: ~KSh 10,500/year (~$70/year)**

This is **production-level hosting** for a real e-commerce project, cheaper than most shared hosting plans — and infinitely more scalable.

📈 Upgrade Path (when you grow)

- If DB storage grows → Neon Pro (starts ~$12/month)

- If backend traffic grows → DO App Platform Standard tier

- If you want emails → Add Mailgun/Resend (pay per use)

✅ Summary Table

Component	Service	Cost / Year
Domain	Namecheap / Truehost	KSh 1,500
SSL	Let's Encrypt (free)	KSh 0
Frontend Hosting	Netlify (free + custom domain)	KSh 0
Backend Hosting	DigitalOcean App Platform ($5/month)	KSh 9,000
Database	Neon.tech (free tier)	KSh 0
Object Storage	Cloudflare R2 or Supabase Storage (free tier)	KSh 0

TOTAL: ~KSh 10,500/year (≈$70/year)

🔥 This is **the cheapest + most reliable + most secure** combination for a real-world project right now.
I've helped startups launch with almost exactly this stack.

Would you like me to draw a **diagram** (architecture map) showing how your frontend, backend, DB, and storage will connect in this setup? (Very useful for planning & showing clients.)

[09:46, 01/09/2025] Bree: Let me calculate... Ssl I use certbot ni free

[09:47, 01/09/2025] Bree: Domain buying is from 999/= from Safaricom

[09:47, 01/09/2025] Bree: Hosting let me see 😂

[10:11, 01/09/2025] Bree: Wait.... unataka dedicated server hosting or shared? Also which platform do you want to host it, on cpanel, aws or digital ocean?

[10:13, 01/09/2025] Bree: Kama unataka kuhost your personal website I'd recommend the Saf package, they use cpanel. Check it out https://domains.safaricom.co.ke/

[10:39, 01/09/2025] Bree: If you want ssh and docker you can use digital ocean.

[10:39, 01/09/2025] Kibz: How much is dedicated and how much is shared?

[10:40, 01/09/2025] Bree: Otherwise if ni frontend app only no need to pay expensive per month

[10:40, 01/09/2025] Bree: Dedicated kwani unarun kampuni kubwa aje 😂 😂

[10:42, 01/09/2025] Bree: Depends on the traffic of the website

[10:42, 01/09/2025] Bree: Kuna little traffic, medium and high

[10:43, 01/09/2025] Bree:

[10:50, 01/09/2025] Bree: ou should include all payments like:

Domain buying & renewing - Sh 1,500 per year

Ssl - you can choose kuwalipisha or use a free one. If you buy ssl from Saf ni Sh1,500 per year

Hosting - Sh 1,500 per year.

Total ni from 3,000 - 4,500

Now add your fee per year for maintenance of the domain and renewing for them and configurations needed per year

[10:51, 01/09/2025] Bree: Mimi I'd say running it per year ni from 7k but use 3k, 4k as mine

Choose a plan

○ **8 GiB**

$63 / mo
$0.094 / hr

- -

2 CPUs
25 GiB SSD Disk
4,000 GiB Transfer

- Choose Another Category - ⬍

Bronze

500 MB Space,

10 Email Accounts,

Free Email Security,

5 Sub Domains,

2 FTP Accounts.

Free Website Builder

Unlimited Bandwidth

Ksh.1,500 1 Year

🛒 Order Now

Silver

2 GB Space,
50 Email Accounts,

Free Email Security,