The eBay website currently has no sense of community. There is no way to view what other users have purchased, what items they prefer, nor what they recommend. This is unlike Amazon, an arguably better business interface.

Currently, there are only reviews with no way of seeing further details about the person reviewing the product. This is an impersonal way of determining whether an item is right for you or not.

Solution

The solution is to create a web portal which would be personalized for the user. It will allow the user to browse through the eBay products and keep a track of the ones a user likes. The user can also see the popular products that other users are viewing.

This solution is a basic UI that will allow users to login to their profiles, and have shopping preferences, favorites and recommendations. This will be implemented through the eBay API, which is the data source, and then store the specifics such as a user's likes and recommendations in the local database.

API

The eBay API is being used in two different ways. They are as follows.

Url: http://developer.ebay.com/Devzone/finding/Concepts/FindingAPIGuide.html

This end point allows to query the eBay database using keywords and the API returns a list of products with some of their details in either JSON or XML. I am using JSON for this project.

Url: http://developer.ebay.com/DevZone/shopping/docs/CallRef/GetSingleItem.html

This end point allows to get details of a single product. When user lands on the homepage, they can search for products. If they click on a particular product, they can view the details of that product. This API is used for the landing page of the individual product.

Technology Stack

Database: MvSQL

Back End: Java and Java Rest Services Front End: HTML and JavaScript.

Use Cases:

- 1. Log in. A user needs to log in to the portal. Only registered users can log in.
- 2. Search. A logged-in user can search products using a keyword. The user lands on a results page where all the products matching to the given keyword are displayed
- 3. From the list of products displayed, a user can click on any of the products to view specific details of that product.
- 4. Search User. A user can search for any other user.
- 5. Like. A user can like a particular product.
- 6. Follow. A user can follow any other user so that they can view the other user's activity
- 7. Comment. A user can comment on any product.
- 8. Homepage. A user logs in and lands on the home page. Home page lists the user's recent activity.