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St David’s Marist Inanda 2020

PAT Phase 1

Fire reviews

Summary

Finding a good video game that you will want to play is difficult because there are so many video games available. A platform that is dedicated to providing simple, honest reviews for video games is needed.

My program will allow users to view and post reviews about video games for any platform. Users will be able to post reviews for any game out there, including new games and games on different platforms.

Specifications of Program Function

Login screen Button “Go to (login/register) screen”

Register screen

Login – take to main screen (if valid user and valid fields)

Register account to database (if fields are valid)

Main app

Display reviews from database (according to the filters; if default values are in the filters then all reviews are displayed).

Filters in Main app

Change filters (combo boxes, text fields)

The game combo box displays all the distinct game names from the database. (The database has duplicate data because games can have more than one platform).

Apply filters – displays the filtered reviews (toStringSort in ReviewArray)

Creating reviews

Add a game – If the game they user wants to make a review for a game that is not already in the database then the user can enter the name and platform of a game to add it to the database.

Create review – the user selects/enters the game’s name, platform, rating out of 5 and adds a comment. It is posted and added to the database so that it can be displayed on the main screen. The game name and platform has to match in the database otherwise an error is displayed.

Admin tools (button that takes to another screen; only visible to admins)

A combo box that displays all of the distinct game names from the database.

Delete game – deletes the selected game and all reviews associated with it from the database.

Help buttons on every screen that provides a pop-up with information for users to help them use the program.

Logout – takes user to login screen.

Logout and exit – closes the program.

Specifications user interface

When the program is run there is a log in screen with buttons and text fields to enter the user’s details.

When the user has logged in the main screen is opened.

Main screen

- Reviews are displayed on a text area.  
 - Filter panel with combo boxes, a text field and a button.

Buttons that lead to new screens:  
 - “Create a review”  
 - “Admin tools” (only visible to admins)  
 - “Help” (opens help pop-up)  
 - “Logout”  
 - “Logout and exit”

Admin tools screen

- Combo box with all games.

- Button to remove game.

Create a review screen

- Back button.

- Game, platform, stars rating combo boxes.

- Comment text area.

- Button to post the review.

- Button to the Add a game screen.

Add a game screen

- Combo boxes for platform and game.

- Add game button.

On every screen there is a help button.

Specifications of Help

Internal Help

Help will be presented in the form of text instructions and additional pictures/diagrams will be provided where applicable.

The program will contain a help button on every possible “screen” the user will see. When the user presses the help button: a screen will be generated with links (buttons) to the help information for the features relevant to the screen the user is on (context sensitive help).

Additionally, on every help pop-up there will be a button that generates the “All help” screen where they will find all of the help information in the program. This all help screen will be a similar format to an external help pdf.

All of the help pages will be pre-written and stored as text on the database. More info under “Specifications of data storage.”

Here is a list of all the help available (“All help”):

* How to login.
* How to register an account.
* How to make a review.
* How to add a game.
* How to use the filter panel.
* How to remove games. (admins only)

External Help

A full manual regarding all program help will be available to users in the form of a pdf document.

Specifications of data storage

Help

Help information will be stored on the database as text. This will allow the programmer to edit help information for all users without having to update the information on each user’s device.

Each unique help message will be assigned a number that will be used to identify the help message. This will be used to send the correct message as a String to the program to be displayed depending on which help button they press.

User account

Usernames and passwords are stored on the database as strings.

Reviews

- The review ID.

- User ID of the user that made the review.

- Game ID that the review is about.

- Upload date.

- The rating given.

- The comment.

Pictures/icons used will be stored in the program’s files. Such as the logo.

Hardware and software requirements

These are the minimum system requirements. Any newer versions of operating system or more powerful hardware are also compatible.

Hardware

Microsoft Windows Vista SP1/Windows 7 Professional

* Processor: 800MHz Intel Pentium III or equivalent
* Memory: 512 MB
* Disk space: 750 MB of free disk space

Ubuntu 9.10

* Processor: 800MHz Intel Pentium III or equivalent
* Memory: 512 MB
* Disk space: 650 MB of free disk space

Macintosh OS X 10.7

* Processor: Dual-Core Intel
* Memory: 2 GB
* Disk space: 650 MB of free disk space

Software

* JDK 8u101 or later
* MySQL 5.2 or later
* Mysql-connector-java-5.1.6-bin

(For development NetBeans IDE 8.1 or higher is required).