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Project Direction Overview

I would like to create a web application designed to track a user's media consumption across several different mediums. The application, which I will call "TunedIn," will be a place where users can log the different media they're currently consuming, have consumed, or plan to consume. The media in question can be movies, TV shows, books, music (in album form), and video games.

I believe an application like this is important because an overall media tracking system does not appear to exist, leaving people to log their consumption on multiple different websites dedicated to only a specific medium (think Letterboxd or MyAnimeList), or create a Twitter thread or blog dedicated to tracking, or alternatively not track their watches/reads/listens at all. As someone who considers herself to be scatterbrained, I also often jump from media to media without finishing a series or completing a playthrough, and I forget what episode I left on or what chapter of a book I was on, and sometimes I completely forget that I was in the middle of watching or reading something. When people ask me what I've been watching or reading or playing, or what my favorite movie or show is, I often blank and fail to answer the question. I can safely presume that I am not the only one with this issue, and therefore an application dedicated to tracking the status of someone's varied media consumption is a convenient solution. I also believe that tracking media consumption encourages users to think more critically about what they are consuming and how they feel about it, rather than finishing a series or book or game and simply moving on to the next one.

TunedIn will offer a place for users to input information about a piece of media, the main focus being on a name, a rating (if completed/desired), and a status on the consumption. Additional information can be added based on relevance, such as author information for a book, or the URL for something consumed online so it can easily be provided to a friend when recommending the media to them, or a link to another existing database-esque website which may contain a blurb/critic ratings of the media (again, think Letterboxd or MyAnimeList or IMDB, etc), and more. Users will be able to log what chapter of a book they are on, or what episode of a show they are on, so that if they drop it and choose to resume it later, they can easily pick up from where they left off. Additionally, users can track when they started and finished a piece of media, to log past watches, and/or determine if it might be time to revisit something they previously consumed and enjoyed. Through my multiple project iterations, I will be able to refine my scope and determine what information is most necessary and relevant for the user to have logged, and create the most useful version of my database.

Use Cases and Fields

Here are 5 use cases for TunedIn:

Use Case #1: Account Setup

Because TunedIn will be a web application, it will be necessary to register to keep track of each individual user's media.

Field	What it stores	Why it's needed
username	This stores a username associated with each account	Users can share usernames to see what another user is consuming, and users can also

		have multiple accounts if they would prefer
first_name	This stores the user's first name.	This can be displayed on screen and shared with other users.
last_name	This stores the user's first name.	This can be displayed on screen and shared with other users.
account_created	This stores the date on which the user created the account.	Users may want to know how long they have been using the application to track their media consumption.

Use Case #2: Logging a Movie

A movie will be one of the media types that the application will encourage users to log, and has fields that are specific to it.

Field	What it stores	Why it's needed
movie_name	This stores the name of the movie.	This is necessary for the user to know what movie they watched.
movie_genre	This stores the genre of the movie.	This can be used to track what kind of movies the user typically consumes, for their consideration and for better organization.
rating	This stores a number rating for the movie out of 10.	This helps the user track their enjoyment of what they have consumed.
watch_location	This stores where the user watched the movie, be it a URL, the name of a streaming service, or in a theater.	If the user has a URL or knows the streaming service it is available on, it is easier for them to find the movie again in the future or share it with someone
review	This stores a user's review of the movie, either as text entered in the application itself or a URL to another website, such as a blog or Letterboxd.	This allows a user to track their thoughts on a movie or compile previously written reviews on another website by leaving the link here.
date_watched	This tracks when the user saw	Users can look back on when

	the movie.	they watched movies and determine if they want to rewatch based on how long it has been since the first watch.
status	This tracks the watch status of the movie.	Users can denote whether they're watching a movie, have watched it before, or want to watch it in the future to keep track of their consumption.

Use Case #3: Logging a TV show

A TV show will be one of the media types that the application will encourage users to log, and has fields that are specific to it.

Field	What it stores	Why it's needed
show_name	This stores the name of the show or series.	This is so users can see what show they're tracking.
show_genre	This stores the genre of the show.	This can be used to track what kind of shows the user typically consumes, for their consideration and for better organization.
rating	This stores a number rating for the show out of 10.	This helps the user track their enjoyment of what they have consumed.
watch_location	This stores where the user watched the show, be it a URL, the name of a streaming service, or on cable.	If the user has a URL or knows the streaming service it is available on, it is easier for them to find the show again in the future or share it with someone.
review	This stores a user's review of the show, either as text entered in the application itself or a URL to another website.	This allows a user to track their thoughts on a show or compile previously written reviews on another website by leaving the link here.
status	This tracks the watch status of the show.	Users can denote whether they're watching a show, have watched it before, or want to watch it in the future to keep

		track of their consumption.
date_started	This tracks when the user starts watching the show.	Users can look back on when they started the show and determine if they want to rewatch based on how long it has been since the first watch.
date_completed	This tracks the date when the user finishes watching the show.	Users can look back on when they completed the show and see how long it took them to watch the show to determine if it's worth revisiting or worth the time spent on it.
current_season	This tracks what season of the show the user is currently watching, if applicable.	Users can know which season they left off on or have finished.
episodes_watched	This tracks the last episode the user watched.	Users can see if they've watched all episodes or see which episode they watched last and pick up from there.

Use Case #4: Logging a Book

A book will be one of the media types that the application will encourage users to log, and has fields that are specific to it.

Field	What it stores	Why it's needed
book_name	This stores the name of the book.	This is so users can see what book they're tracking.
book_genre	This stores the genre of the book.	This can be used to track what kind of books the user typically consumes, for their consideration and for better organization.
rating	This stores a number rating for the book out of 10.	This helps the user track their enjoyment of what they have consumed.
author_name	This stores the name of the author of the book.	Users can keep track of the author of the book as that is relevant information and also

		useful when recommending the book to others.
read_location	This stores how the user reads the book, physically, with an ebook URL, or as an audiobook.	If the user has a URL for an ebook or the audiobook, it is easier for them to find the book again in the future or share it with someone.
review	This stores a user's review of the book, either as text entered in the application itself or a URL to another website, such as a blog or GoodReads.	This allows a user to track their thoughts on a book or compile previously written reviews on another website by leaving the link here.
status	This tracks the reading status of the book.	Users can denote whether they're reading the book, have read it before, or want to read it in the future to keep track of their consumption.
date_started	This tracks when the user starts reading the book.	Users can look back on when they started the book and determine if they want to reread based on how long it has been since the first read.
date_completed	This tracks the date when the user finishes reading the book.	Users can look back on when they completed the book and see how long it took them to read the book to determine if it's worth revisiting or worth the time spent on it.
pages_read	This tracks the last page the user reads.	Users can compare the length of books they've read, or see the page they left off on when picking the book up again to complete it.
chapter_read	This stores the last chapter the user read.	Users can see what chapter they left off on, which can be more helpful than page number in certain book formats (such as comics/manga).

An album will be one of the media types that the application will encourage users to log, and has fields that are specific to it.

Field	What it stores	Why it's needed
album_name	This stores the name of the album.	This is so users can see what album they're tracking.
album_genre	This stores the genre of the album.	This can be used to track what kind of music the user typically consumes, for their consideration and for better organization.
rating	This stores a number rating for the album out of 10.	This helps the user track their enjoyment of what they have consumed.
artist_name	This stores the name of the artist of the album.	Users can keep track of the artist of the album as that is relevant information and also useful when recommending the artist or album to others.
listen_location	This stores how the user listens to the album, physically or on a streaming service, such as Apple Music or Spotify, or on another website.	If the user has a URL for the album, it is easier for them to find the album again in the future or share it with someone.
review	This stores a user's review of the album, either as text entered in the application itself or a URL to another website.	This allows a user to track their thoughts on an album or compile previously written reviews on another website by leaving the link here.
status	This tracks the listening status of the album.	Users can denote whether they're first listening to the album, have listened to it before, or want to listen in the future to keep track of their consumption.
date_released	This tracks when the album was released.	Users can see how old or recent the music they have been listening to is, and see how trendy their music taste is

favorite_track	This tracks the user's favorite track on the album.	Users can see what track they like the most and use it to determine the overall quality of the album and offer recommendations to others.
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Summary and Reflection

The web application I want to create is called "TunedIn" and it is for tracking media consumption across multiple mediums. The goal of this application is to store a user's media consumption across most mediums in a database and allow them to reference the things they've consumed, are consuming, or plan to consume. Users are able to enter many pieces of relevant information for each movie, book, TV show, etc that they log in the TunedIn database, and use this information to become less forgetful and more conscious and critical about the things they watch/read/play. Additionally, users can use the application to make recommendations and find pieces of media they've previously input.

Ultimately, creating this document has made me realize that I need to think more about whether all of the fields in the use cases are necessary, or whether or not there are other ones I will need to add in the future. I also wonder about adding more use cases for tracking other more niche media, such as Youtube video essays, or online news articles/essays, or other things that don't necessarily fall under the umbrellas of the media I've already made use cases for. I will have to focus on refining the scope of my database/application to address these issues. I would appreciate any and all feedback given on the concept, scope, and implementation of my project and I look forward to learning a lot about databases as I continue to flesh it out and build it.