

CPSC 471: Database Management Systems

PROJECT PROPOSAL

Group 8

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Introduction

Definitions. These defined terms are used during our proposal

- *Rent:* the act of the user paying someone for the use of their place.
- *Owners/landlords:* Whoever owns the piece of property to rent.
- *Post:* Advertisement of property given by the owner.
- *Renters/tenants:* Whoever is interested in renting a property from an owner/landlord.
- *Budget:* The user's willingness to pay when renting out a place.
- *Convenient:* A spot with amenities which perfectly fits with the user's needs or wants.
- *Housing/place/spot/property:* Refer to a particular rental location on the market
- *Lifestyle:* The user's favorite leisure activities or pastimes in which significant time and money is spent.
- *Need/necessity(s):* When the user requires essentials amenities for survival
- *Want/desires(s):* When the user wishes to have non-essentials amenities to incorporate into their lifestyle.

It's difficult to find an organized and cost-effective implementation where both owners can post their ads regarding their property, and that renters can effectively browse through those ads. Thus, our group has chosen to work on a database system that will assist its users(tenants/landlords) in being able to find or post a place to rent, while using clever searching criteria which will satisfy user necessity and desires. With this project, we plan to help any users search for any specific type of spot to rent or advertise in any particular convenient area. As such, we aim to create a website where renting users can quickly access an extensive database from which they can easily choose between numerous rental property of their liking and budget. Our website will also incorporate an extensive database for property landlords where they can efficiently upload and update their place for the renters to see. Since it's very difficult to either post or find a lower budget and reasonable rental spot using local methods, our implementation will provide an extensive interface to create a convenient and user-friendly environment where they can easily decide or post any relevant property.

Problem Definition

Our project's purpose finds its problem in the notion that all renters and landlords are very restricted with the resources and assistance to being able to, easily and quickly, find or post a rental with their specifications. Furthermore, most sources of help are offered on back ended sites with very poor detailing and usually in brochures which takes too much time, and is limited in rentals offered. Interestingly, the market is over-saturated with countless properties that are often priced higher than most spots, and users are limited to what they can choose during time to time. Despite that setback, naturally there will be people who are very specific in spot rentals and want one that meets their needs but often compromise. Also for property owners, the procedure of putting up their investment rental spot is a tedious and risky endeavor because it's not always clear as to what exactly needs to be prepared. Furthermore, scammers reduces the efficiency of users who wants valid and reliable information posted. As such, we find that its very intimidating task to look or publish for a rental place, and those who gives an attempt usually want one where they can specify some legit and definite criteria and have an extensive search option. The problem occurs when users are searching different websites in order to find or report a housing rental that fits their necessities. Currently, there are many different sites that offer housing rental. They will provide a list of rentals offered in a specific area. However, there are very limited websites that provide such users with detailed and accurate search engines, including the option for landlords to conveniently advertise their rental property. In particular, we have found a website that is quite similar to our proposed project, which is "rentfaster.ca". That website contains a system where housing seekers find legitimate postings, and owners can display their ads with a fee; yet the website can be improved such as removing the costs.

Proposed solution

The aim of this project is to be able to build a functional and user-friendly website that will provide users who are willing to find a housing or other spot rental, which also has an accessible database with lots of options to choose from to satisfy their needs. Also a platform for landlords to post advertisements and details about their property which will be available to be viewed and searched by seeking rentals, including an in depth search criteria(Area, community, No. Of rooms, budget and so forth). We will deliver to users an informative, organized website where they will be able to navigate throughout any pages with relative ease and satisfaction. We will have many different features of this website and its accompanying database will be as follows:

Relational Database :

- User profiles
- AD details or House/apartment info(No. Of rooms, Bathrooms, square footage)
- Amenities details
- Geographic info(Address, Community)

GUI/User Friendly Interface :

- Post ads for rental property
- View or search House/Apartment listings
- Ability to filter listings
- Check availability
- Set favorites
- Contact landlord

Motivation section

Our group strives to provide our users with the best and most convenient access to a database full of properties whether that's condos, apartments, rooms, and offices, etc. Both renter and landlord users would be able to select and choose spots according to their specific preferences, needs and lifestyles. We believe our group proposed project is unique and very much needed in this area of property rentals and postings as it will be of help towards users of all around the world. We aim to produce a comprehensive website that will make a straightforward, effortless and orderly contribution towards our renting and posting property users. We will ensure that we accommodate our user's preferences according to their needs whether its pricing, amenities, lifestyle, or location. Our planned project will aim to give users an extensive resource.

Conclusion section:

It's a necessity for humans to have a place to live. While there are resources available on the internet we decided to make something similar and hopefully better. The site that caught our eyes was a website called Rentfaster.ca which we want to create a similar site. As such, we aim to build a website that will help individuals find a place to rent. We plan to meet deadlines and have work done weekly to meet requirements and specification for this project. Most importantly we plan to at least work early and efficiently so we have accurate and a complete project. Our website and its accompanying database will indeed be able to create a good experience for our users and stakeholders.