



vFlashCards

Flashcards at your fingertip. 

Study aids on the go. 



What & Why?

- Full stack web application virtual flashcards. Built on PostgreSQL, Express, React, Node.js.
- Because everything can be organized in one place.
- Convenience of study aids for students on the go.
- Not easily misplaced.

UI/Mockup

vFlashCards

Flashcards at your finger tip :)

Log In

No Account? [Sign up](#)

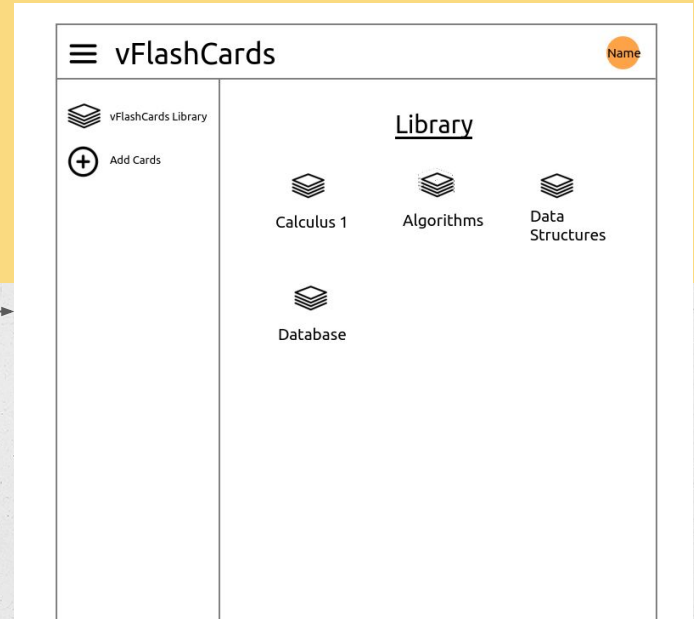
vFlashCards

Sign up

Home / Landing
page

Signup

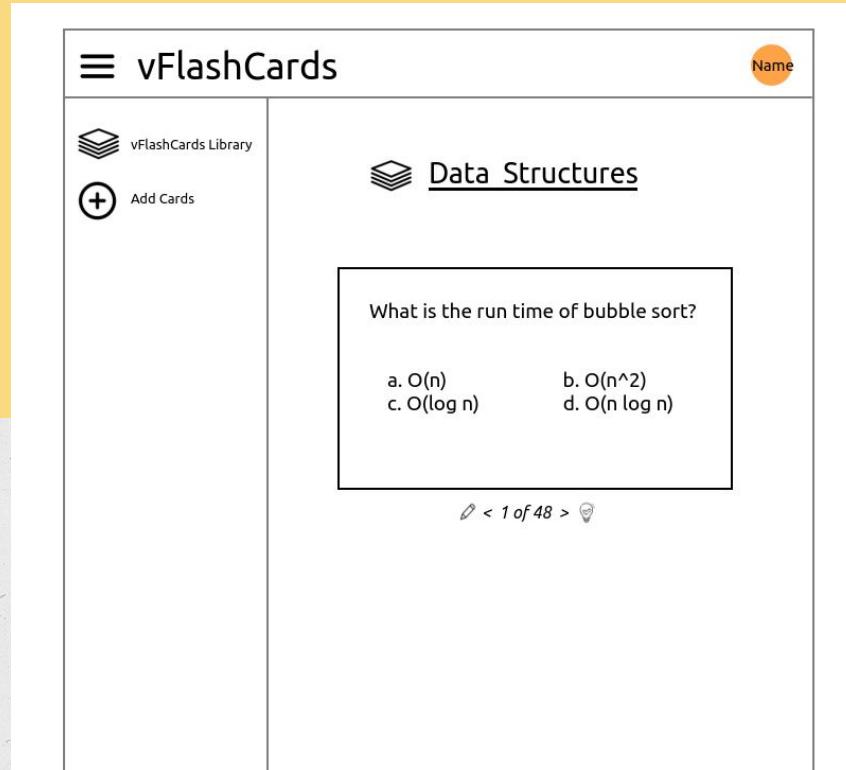
UI/Mockup



Profile

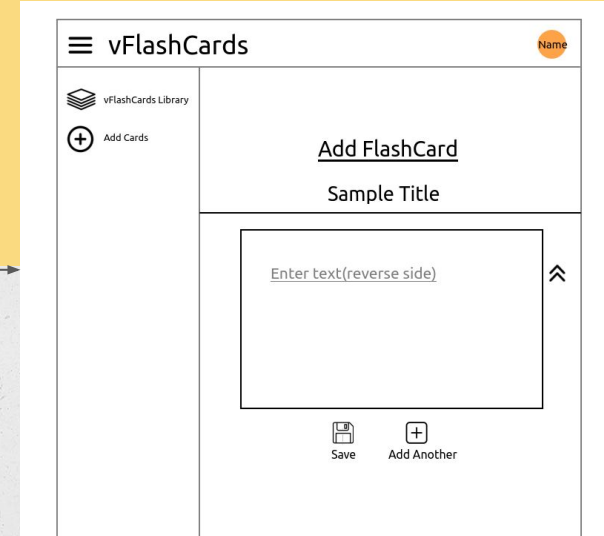
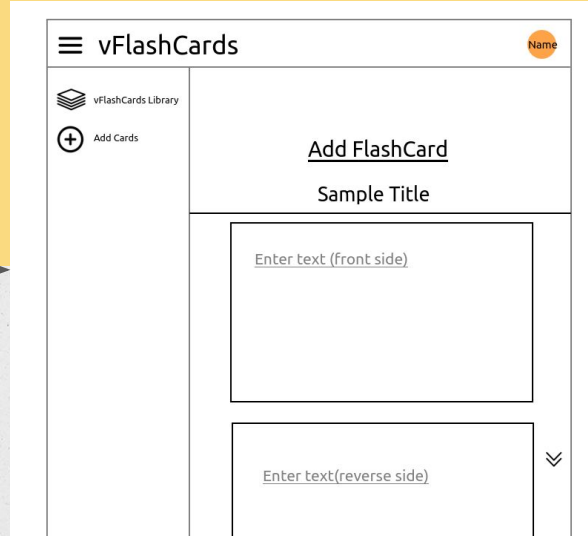
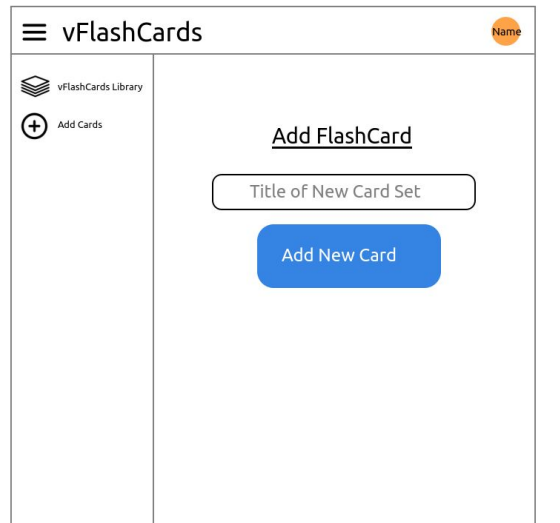
Library

UI/Mockup



Flashcard

UI/Mockup



Add card set

Add question

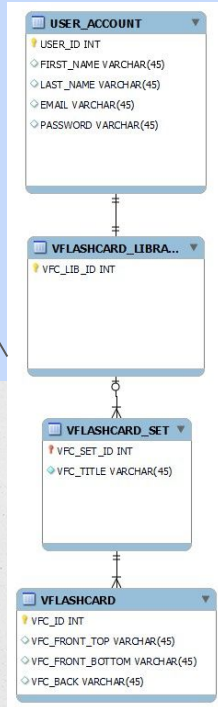
Add answer
and save

Note: Mockup created on KolourPaint (Linux). Not recommended as a first choice. Google Drawings can be a good choice due to its low learning curve and features. Frontend to be built before the end of the semester.

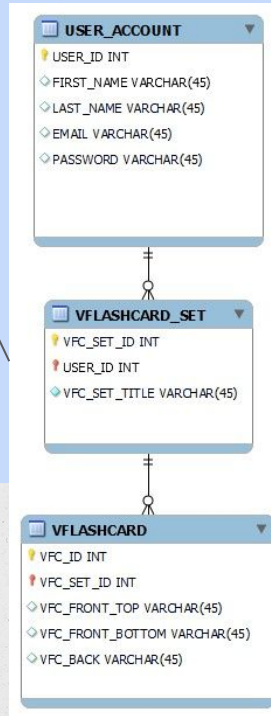
Behind the Scenes Backend

Database ERD

First ERD, which shows what I thought the data should be structured.



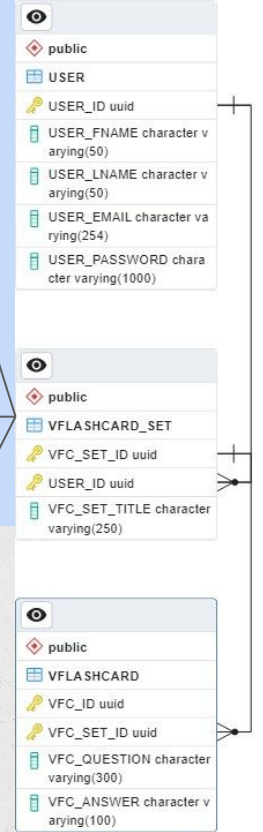
Deleted redundant table as per recommendation from Edgardo Molina



Recreated ERD. Amended the column name and data type.

Generated script (via pgAdmin) required double quotes for all tables, which was unexpected..

Deleted all existing tables and recreated them scratch.



The database schema from inception, which went through iterations to arrive at the current one as seen on the next page. Also, generated scripts may not result in expected result. In the above, tables needed to be double quoted for SQL query.

Behind the Scenes Backend

Database ERD

Updated the primary key to using a single attribute instead of two.

Done as a workaround for failed attempts to create the third table, vflashcard.



Added additional attribute under vflashcard_set for view access.

Implemented an ENUM type (public/private) as suggested by Edgardo Molina.



Shorten table names for convenience.

(Less typing during coding & debugging processes.)



Note: ER diagrams were created using MySQL WorkBench (first two ERD) and pgAdmin from PostgreSQL. Both are available from the official website at no cost as of 2023-11.

Behind the Scenes Backend

PostgreSQL Database

```
SQL Shell (psql)
Server [localhost]:
Database [postgres]: vflashcards
Port [5432]:
Username [postgres]:
Password for user postgres:
psql (16.0)
WARNING: Console code page (437) differs from Windows code page (1252)
8-bit characters might not work correctly. See psql reference
page "Notes for Windows users" for details.
Type "help" for help.

vflashcards=# \d+
List of relations
Schema | Name | Type | Owner | Persistence | Access method | Size | Description
-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----
public | vfc | table | postgres | permanent | heap | 16 kB |
public | vfc_set | table | postgres | permanent | heap | 8192 bytes |
public | vfc_user | table | postgres | permanent | heap | 16 kB |
(3 rows)

vflashcards=# select * from vfc_user;
 vfc_user_id | vfc_user_fname | vfc_user_lname | vfc_user_email | vfc_user_password
-----|-----|-----|-----|-----
aca5ce83-c927-4a5f-94d3-2612a3ab867d | Sum | Guy | sum.guy@vflashcards.com | $2b$10$5j0Zs59dywApLEaYe5ypX.jQuCVB6Vdog8yz5wMzanVeRi/DNC2Km
a4cab72b-189e-42da-8c45-95b9883bff54 | John | Doe | john.doe@vflashcards.com | $2b$10$CdnApSfK7CCptUfFe.PElexZLxri/OGi/a73M9aaYKnPAoXpgp/.c
19453fde-6eeF-47c8-aac8-475056c252fd | John | Poe | john.poe@vflashcards.com | $2b$10$Uierbwq2/oyUR119ciUg30Y8uZiLlbe/MoQmhbWnFh8p/VxzGqLn3y
21c880bd-6fa8-43a6-aae0-d368c79f8580 | John | Coe | john.coe@vflashcards.com | $2b$10$uKlPG5q1K9z5Q49IM8SFxOfIT.2VWmuqqhB2.xCoGYKd1exZGdtDy
(4 rows)

vflashcards=# select * from vfc_set;
 vfc_set_id | vfc_user_id | vfc_set_title | vfc_set_access
-----|-----|-----|-----
75127ad6-6530-4e0f-a4c6-7dfd9f6c7ac7 | aca5ce83-c927-4a5f-94d3-2612a3ab867d | Card Demo Set 1 | public
0910b443-b357-4ca4-9849-4689edc27bac | aca5ce83-c927-4a5f-94d3-2612a3ab867d | Card Demo Set 4 | public
a1bdd82-b8c5-4220-b58a-805c1658de15 | aca5ce83-c927-4a5f-94d3-2612a3ab867d | Card Demo Set 5 | public
c975ae9-8a11-495e-a5fc-2460d69e4549 | a4cab72b-189e-42da-8c45-95b9883bff54 | Card Demo Set 1 | private
a5f8e7c3-a626-452d-9375-676e4677610d | a4cab72b-189e-42da-8c45-95b9883bff54 | Card Demo Set 2 | private
54cf55c9-6dce-42b8-adfd-a8cd0b554319 | aca5ce83-c927-4a5f-94d3-2612a3ab867d | Card Demo Set 2 | private
(6 rows)

vflashcards=# select u.vfc_user_email, s.vfc_set_title, s.vfc_set_access from vfc_user as u join vfc_set as s on s.vfc_user_id = u.vfc_user_id;
 vfc_user_email | vfc_set_title | vfc_set_access
-----|-----|-----
sum.guy@vflashcards.com | Card Demo Set 2 | private
sum.guy@vflashcards.com | Card Demo Set 5 | public
sum.guy@vflashcards.com | Card Demo Set 4 | public
sum.guy@vflashcards.com | Card Demo Set 1 | public
john.doe@vflashcards.com | Card Demo Set 2 | private
john.doe@vflashcards.com | Card Demo Set 1 | private
(6 rows)

vflashcards=#
```

List of relations / tables

Querying user list & card sets.

Joining tables to get users who have card sets, which list email, associated card sets, and the access type.

Behind the Scenes Backend

SQL Query Journal

List of queries used up to now.

```
1 -- THIS script was generated by the ERD tool in pgAdmin 4.
2 -- Please log an issue at https://redmine.postgresql.org/projects/pgadmin4/issues
3 -- if you find any bugs, including reproduction steps.
4 BEGIN;
5
6 CREATE TABLE IF NOT EXISTS public."USER"
7 (
8     "USER_ID" uuid NOT NULL,
9     "USER_FNAME" character varying(127),
10    "USER_LNAME" character varying(127) NOT NULL,
11    "USER_EMAIL" character varying(255) NOT NULL,
12    "USER_PASSWORD" character varying(255) NOT NULL,
13    PRIMARY KEY ("USER_ID")
14 );
15
16 CREATE TABLE IF NOT EXISTS public."VFLASHCARD_SET"
17 (
18    "VFC_SET_ID" uuid NOT NULL,
19    "USER_ID" uuid NOT NULL,
20    "VFC_SET_TITLE" character varying(255) NOT NULL,
21    PRIMARY KEY ("VFC_SET_ID", "USER_ID")
22 );
23
24 CREATE TABLE IF NOT EXISTS public."VFLASHCARD"
25 (
26    "VFC_ID" uuid NOT NULL,
27    "VFC_SET_ID" uuid NOT NULL,
28    "VFC_QUESTION" character varying(255) NOT NULL,
29    "VFC_ANSWER" character varying(127) NOT NULL,
30    PRIMARY KEY ("VFC_ID", "VFC_SET_ID")
31 );
32
33 ALTER TABLE IF EXISTS public."VFLASHCARD_SET"
34 ADD CONSTRAINT "USER_ID" FOREIGN KEY ("USER_ID")
35 REFERENCES public."USER" ("USER_ID") MATCH SIMPLE
36 ON UPDATE NO ACTION
37 ON DELETE NO ACTION
38 NOT VALID;
39
40 ALTER TABLE IF EXISTS public."VFLASHCARD"
41 ADD CONSTRAINT "VFC_SET_ID" FOREIGN KEY ("VFC_SET_ID")
42 REFERENCES public."VFLASHCARD_SET" ("VFC_SET_ID") MATCH SIMPLE
43 ON UPDATE NO ACTION
44 ON DELETE NO ACTION
45 NOT VALID;
```

Generated script by pgAdmin. Did not produce expected result.

```
1 CREATE DATABASE vflashcards;
2 -- To list all databases and confirm that it has been created
3 -- \c vflashcards to connect to the database
4 -- \! cli* to clear screen
5 -- \! to switch to terminal
6
7 -- Create the tables:
8
9 CREATE TABLE user(
10     user_id SERIAL PRIMARY KEY,
11 );
12
13 -- For card set
14 CREATE TYPE vfc AS ENUM ('private', 'public');
15
16 -- To view existing enum types:
17 select n.nspname as enum_schema,
18        t.typname as enum_name,
19        e.enumlabel as enum_value
20 from pg_type t
21 join pg_enum e on t.oid = e.enumtypid
22 join pg_catalog.pg_namespace n on n.oid = t.typnamespace;
23
24 -- Drop previous tables created with double quotes
25 DROP TABLE "USER", "VFLASHCARD", "VFLASHCARD_SET";
26
27 -- Install uuid module so that it can be used to generate primary key
28 CREATE EXTENSION IF NOT EXISTS 'uuid-ossp';
29
30 -- Verify whether DB can generate uuid by issuing either of the following
31 -- statements:
32 SELECT uuid_generate_v1();
33 SELECT uuid_generate_v4();
34
35 -- Create user table and relevant columns
36 CREATE TABLE vfc_user (
37     vfc_user_id uuid DEFAULT uuid_generate_v4(),
38     vfc_user_fname character varying(127),
39     vfc_user_lname character varying(127) NOT NULL,
40     vfc_user_email character varying(255) NOT NULL UNIQUE,
41     vfc_user_password character varying(255) NOT NULL,
42     PRIMARY KEY(vfc_user_id)
43 );
44
45 -- Create vflashcard_set table with relevant columns
46 CREATE TABLE vflashcard_set(
47     vfc_set_id uuid DEFAULT uuid_generate_v4(),
48     vfc_user_id uuid NOT NULL,
49     vfc_set_title character varying(255) NOT NULL,
50     PRIMARY KEY (vfc_set_id),
51 );
52
53 -- INNER JOIN vfc_user and vflashcard_set via vfc_user_id on both tables
54 SELECT * FROM vfc_user INNER JOIN vflashcard_set ON vfc_user.vfc_user_id =
55 vflashcard_set.vfc_user_id;
```

```
74 -- INNER JOIN vfc_user and vflashcard_set via vfc_user_id on both tables
75 SELECT * FROM vfc_user INNER JOIN vflashcard_set ON vfc_user.vfc_user_id =
76 vflashcard_set.vfc_user_id;
77
78 -- Add additional column to vflashcard_set table:
79 -- vfc_set_view_access
80 -- Column shows the view type, which can be either public or private
81 ALTER TABLE vflashcard_set
82 ADD COLUMN vfc_set_view_access view NOT NULL;
83
84 -- View all public viewable flashcard sets
85 SELECT vfc_set_title FROM vflashcard_set WHERE vfc_set_view_access = 'public';
86
87 -- Alter vfc_set_view_access so that the default value is 'private'
88 ALTER TABLE vflashcard_set ALTER COLUMN vfc_set_view_access SET DEFAULT
89 'private';
90
91 -- Shorten vflashcard_set to vfc_set
92 ALTER TABLE vflashcard_set RENAME TO vfc_set;
93
94 -- Copy database within the same server (for testing purpose)
95 -- See the following link for detail:
96 -- https://www.postgresqltutorial.com/postgresql-administration/postgresql-copy-database/
97 CREATE DATABASE vfc_test WITH TEMPLATE vflashcards;
98
99 -- If server is in used, either closed out of existing session or
100 -- Query active connections:
101 SELECT pid, username, client_addr FROM pg_stat_activity WHERE datname
102 'vflashcards';
103
104 -- Terminate active connections
105 SELECT pg_terminate_backend(pid) FROM pg_stat_activity WHERE datname =
106 'vflashcards';
107
108 -- For test server - 'vfc_test'
109 -- Changing the datatype for vfc_id.
110 ALTER TABLE vflashcard ALTER COLUMN vfc_id TYPE SERIAL;
111
112 -- PROD Database - Shorten column name: vfc_set_view_access --> vfc_set_access
113 ALTER TABLE vfc_set RENAME COLUMN vfc_set_view_access TO vfc_set_access;
114
115 -- Shorten table name: vflashcard --> vfc
116 ALTER TABLE vflashcard RENAME TO vfc;
117
118 -- Show email, vfc set ids, vfc access type
119 SELECT u.vfc_user_email, s.vfc_set_id, s.vfc_set_access FROM vfc_set AS s INNER
120 JOIN vfc_user as u ON s.vfc_user_id = u.vfc_user_id;
```

Note: Producing a journal takes time, but is helpful for record keeping. It also allows for quick references on previously used queries and can serve as a reminder as to why particular decisions took place.

Behind the Scenes Backend

Routes

Login & User Profile
(Using Express & Node.js)

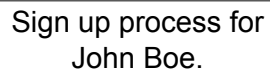
Routes for sign-up and login.

To retrieve sets of flash cards, update/delete cards

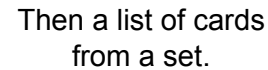
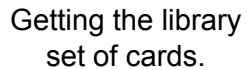
```
server > routes > JS login.js > router.post("/signup") callback > token
1  const router = require("express").Router();
2  const pool = require("../db");
3  const bcrypt = require("bcrypt");
4  const saltRounds = 10;
5  const tokenGenerator = require("../tokenGenerator");
6  const authentication = require("../auth");
7
8  router.post("/signup", async (req, res) => {
9    try {
10     const { firstName, lastName, email, password } = req.body;
11     // console.log(firstName);
12     if (firstName === undefined || firstName.length === 0) console.log("Note - First name is missing but optional.");
13     if (lastName === undefined) throw "Missing last name";
14     if (email === undefined) throw "Missing email";
15     if (password === undefined) throw "Missing password";
16
17     const emailLowerCase = email.toLowerCase();
18     // console.log("email: " + email + "\t" + "lowerCase: " + emailLowerCase);
19
20     const lookupEmail = await pool.query("SELECT vfc_user_email FROM vfc_user WHERE vfc_user_email = ?", [emailLowerCase]);
21     if (lookupEmail.rows.length !== 0) throw "Email already in use";
22     else {
23       const hash = bcrypt.hash(password, saltRounds, function (err, hash) {
24         const signup = pool.query("INSERT INTO vfc_user (vfc_user_fname, vfc_user_lname, vfc_user_email, vfc_user_password) VALUES ($1, $2, $3, $4)", [firstName, lastName, emailLowerCase, hash]);
25       });
26       // const signup = await pool.query("INSERT INTO vfc_user (vfc_user_fname, vfc_user_lname, vfc_user_email, vfc_user_password) VALUES ($1, $2, $3, $4)", [firstName, lastName, email, password]);
27     };
28     // console.log("200 OK - " + JSON.stringify(req.body));
29     // res.status(200).json(req.body);
30  }
```

```
routes > JS userProfile.js > router.put("/lib/vfcSetID") callback > token updateCardSet
1  const express = require('express');
2  const router = express.Router();
3  const auth = require('../auth');
4  const db = require('../db');
5  const pool = require("../db");
6  const verifySetAccess = require('../verifySetAccess');
7  const { verify } = require('jsonwebtoken');
8
9  // Get public flashcard sets
10 router.get('/pub_lib', auth, async (req, res) => {
11   try {
12     // const vfcPublicLib = await pool.query(
13     //   "SELECT vfc_set_title FROM vfc_set WHERE vfc_set_view_access = 'public'");
14
15     const vfcPublicLib = await pool.query(
16       "SELECT u.vfc_user_fname, u.vfc_user_lname, s.vfc_set_title FROM vfc_user AS u LEFT JOIN vfc_set AS s ON u.vfc_user_id = s.vfc_user_id WHERE s.vfc_set_access = 'public'");
17
18     pubLib = vfcPublicLib.rows;
19     // console.log(pubLib);
20     console.log(vfcPublicLib);
21     if (pubLib === undefined) {
22       console.log("Public library is currently empty.");
23       res.send("Public library is currently empty.");
24     } else {
25       console.log(pubLib);
26       res.send(pubLib);
27       // res.json(pubLib);
28     }
29   } catch (err) {
30     console.log("Error - " + err);
31     res.send("Error - " + err);
32   }
33 });
34
35 // Get private flashcard sets for vfc_user
36 router.get('/lib', auth, async (req, res) => {
37   try {
38     console.log("Private library route:");
39     userID = req.user;
```


API Request & Response With Postman



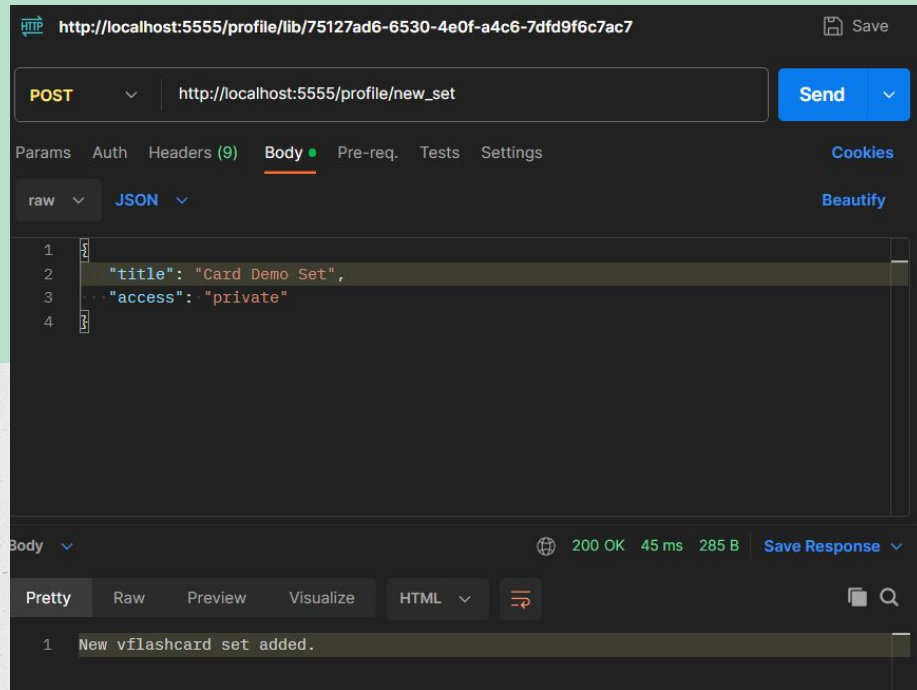
API Request & Response With Postman



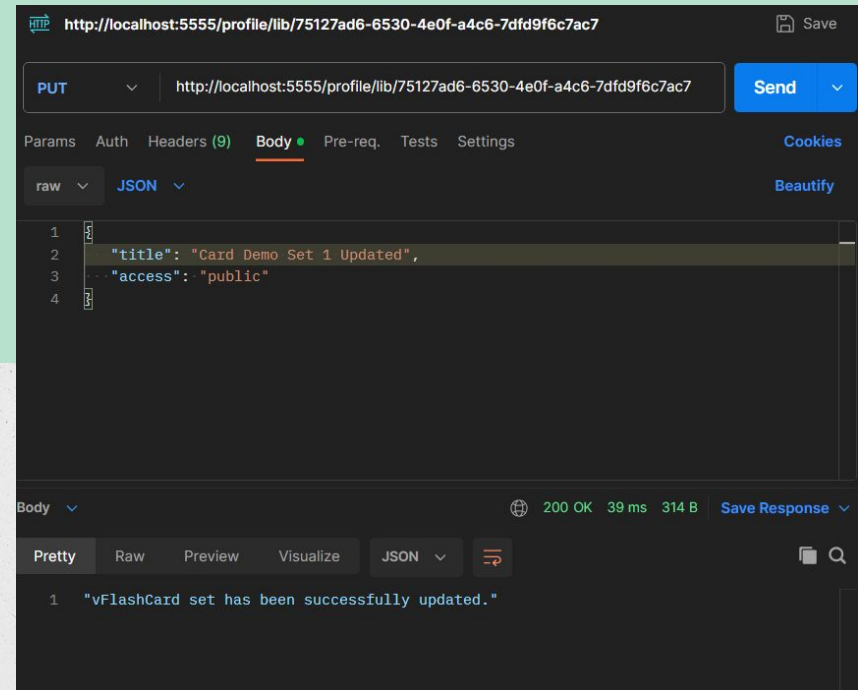
Behind the Scenes Backend

Routes

API Request & Response
With Postman

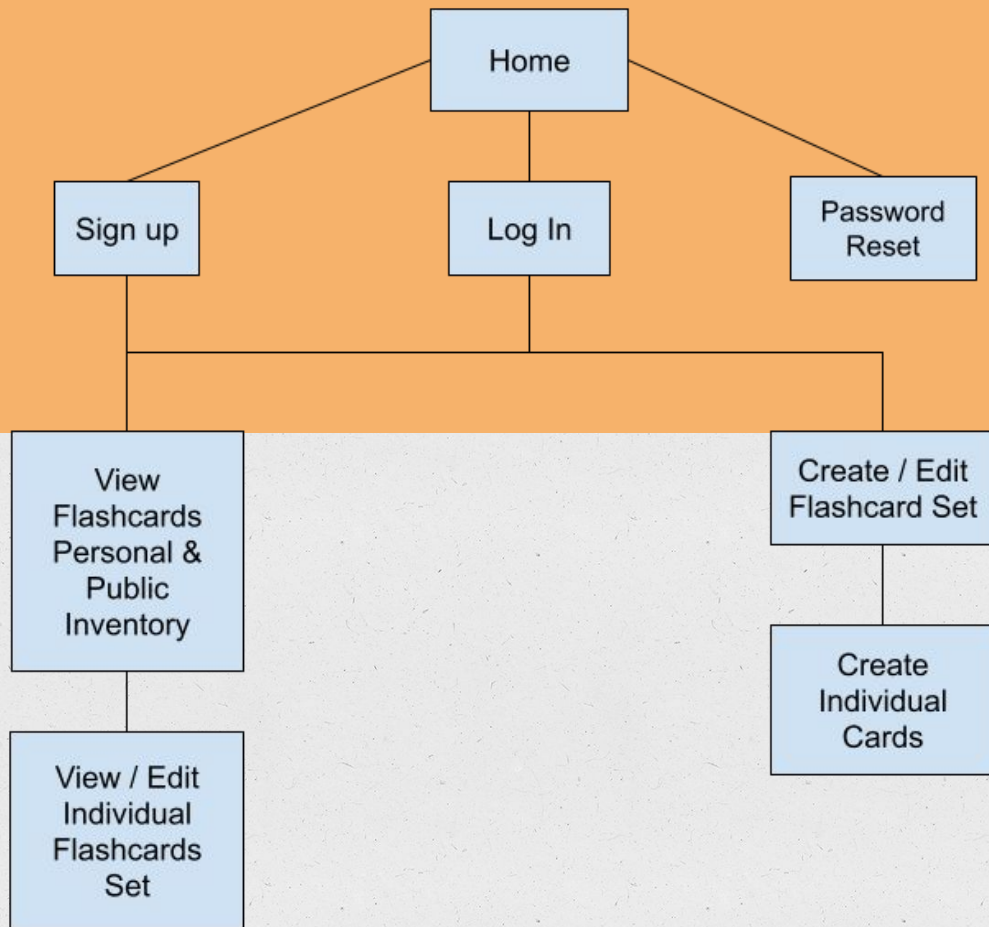


Create a new card set.

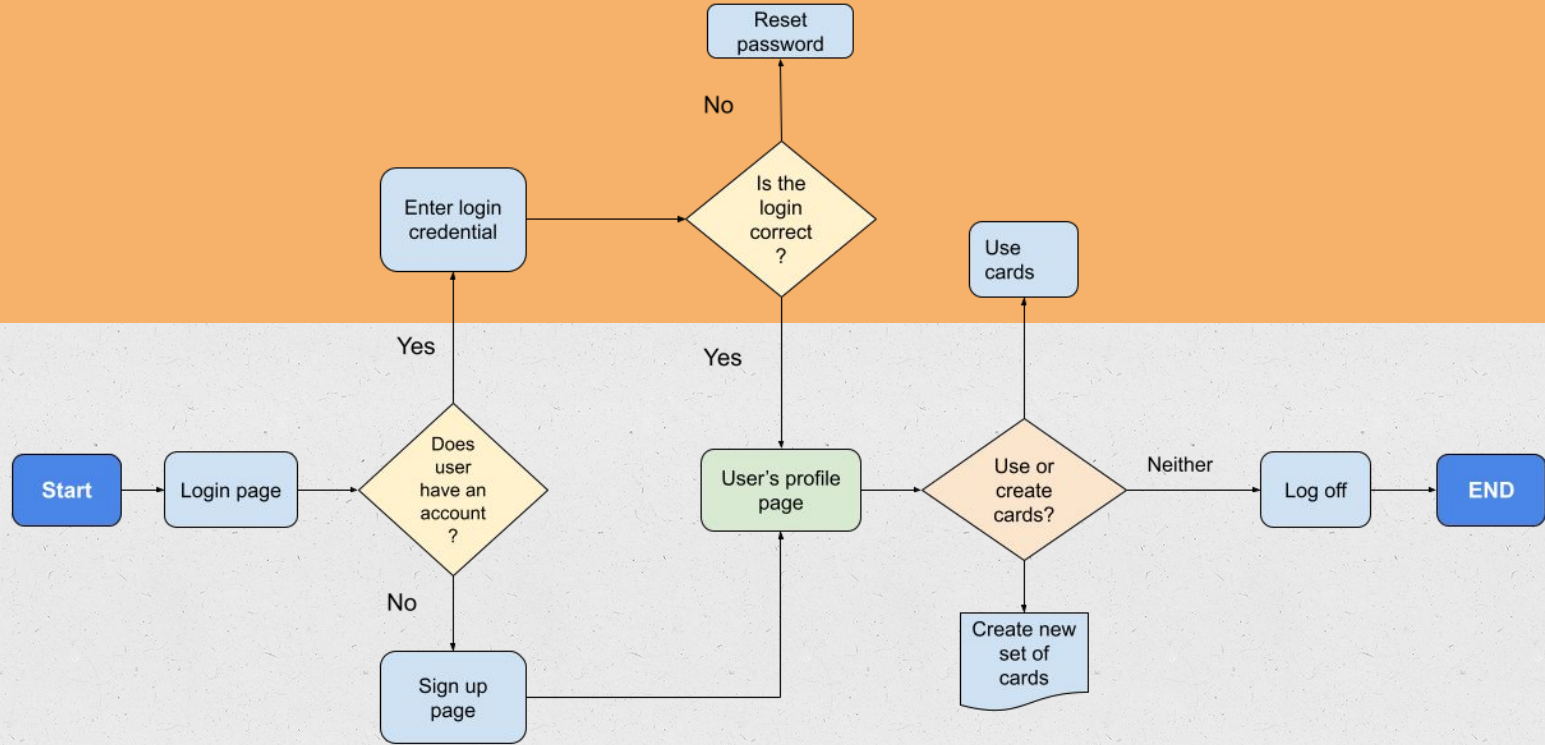


Update title and access
for a card set.

Site Map



User Flow Chart



Challenges

- Learning, testing, implementing components such as but not limited to
 - Bcrypt (for salt & hashing password)
 - Routes via Express
 - JSONWebToken
- Testing & debugging
 - JSONWebToken - Took hours to understand the mechanic before implementation and more time to debug.
- Database
 - Had to augment existing knowledge from the college database course. This includes server setup (PostgreSQL), database implementation, running different types of queries on a database, figuring out the appropriate data type, etc.
- Working solo
 - Responsible for all aspects from ideation, planning, designing, coding, debugging, documentation, and understanding all technical concepts.
 - Lack of sounding board, which can be useful when one wants additional perspective.
 - Tasks can take significantly more time than expected. One-man team means relying only by oneself.

Project Repository

GitHub Repo: <https://github.com/not-x/vFlashCards>

Time Log: https://github.com/not-x/vFlashCards/blob/main/Time_Log.csv

Project Management Board: <https://github.com/users/not-x/projects/1>