Shopkins Collector by The Brogrammers

# Team Members & Roles:

* Evan Grayson (Github: evanlib): Back-End
* Steven Hullander (Github: sahullander): Project Manager & QA
* Alaykumar Patel (Github: alaypatel030): App Co-Designer
* Jose Stovall (Github: oitsjustjose): App Co-Designer

[Source Code](https://github.com/oitsjustjose/Brogrammers/) (add users on Github for contact regarding source code)

# What is Shopkins Collector?

Shopkins Collector is an app that’s meant for people of all ages to be able to view and manage their Shopkins collections digitally. It lets you browse all of the available Shopkins, select which ones you own and which ones you want! Browsing all Shopkins shows an alphabetically sorted list, with their item numbers and rarity. From the navigation bar at the top of this page, you can also search for your favorite Shopkin if you’d like to quickly add it. Viewing your collection shows you a sorted list of all of your prized Shopkins, and you can even see its details and give it a nickname and notes. Viewing your wishlist is a good way of seeing which ones are left that you want!

# Will Shopkins Collector Run on My Device?

The quick answer – probably! The entire application is web-based, and most features are completely cross platform. We’ve written Shopkins Collector in HTML, JavaScript and CSS using Framework7 to assist with our user interface elements. You can access Shopkins Manager from a device without an official application using this link:

<https://brogrammers-144401.appspot.com>

# How Do I Install Shopkins Collector?

If you are running an Android device, we at the Brogrammers team have developed an application which specializes the Shopkins Collector experience for your mobile device, which can be downloaded [here](https://github.com/oitsjustjose/Brogrammers/releases/download/2.0/Shopkin.Collector.V2.apk). To install this native Android application, you will need to enable Unknown Sources (a guide on how to do this is located [here](https://developer.android.com/distribute/tools/open-distribution.html)). The Shopkins Collector app will then be added to your device, and should ideally never need to be updated again! On iOS, you can initialize a seamless standalone app experience by visiting our [website](https://brogrammers-144401.appspot.com) in Safari, and selecting the “Share” option from the Safari menu. Select the “Add to Homescreen” option, and you can name it whatever you like.

Once you have added the Shopkins Collector shortcut to your homescreen, opening it via this link will launch it in its own Web-App style, looking like an app all on its own! In any case (iOS, Android, Desktop, Portable Console, etc.), you will never have to update any applications, since all of the updates happen on the web end instead!

# What Else Can I Do with Shopkins Collector?

If you are running an Android device (or on the web), we’ve specially designed a fun game called “Matchkins”, which is a matching game especially designed for Shopkins! This app was originally designed to work on all devices (and still may), however iOS compatibility (and possibly others) is hindered by JavaScript security requirements which we cannot work around. If you are on a computer, be sure to allow your browser to load any “Unsafe Scripts”; there aren’t any malicious scripts included with the game, we simply could not find a way to make browsers determine that our scripts were safe to load.

# Why does Shopkins Collector Look Different on iOS?

To make the app blend in of course! We worked with Framework7, JavaScript and CSS to come up with a fluid interface that blends into its environment. Because of that, we have chosen the default appearance to blend with Google’s “Material Design”. If you’re on an iOS device, however, we load a special theme designed to blend with the iOS Design Elements instead!

# Does / Will Shopkins Collector Support Camera Input?

Not likely, but we at the Brogrammers team spent countless hours debating over whether or not this was a safe feature to implement or not, and we came to the same consensus in the end: “No”. Here was our validation:

The application is intended for use by people of all ages. This is a risk we had to take into account, because letting users access the camera would mean two things: 1 – they’d be able to see *their* Shopkin instead of a generic photo, but 2 – they’d be able to take photos of things other than Shopkins, or take inappropriate photos. In weighing the risks and benefits, we decided that it was best not to allow this feature to prevent misuse of the application.

# What Do I Need to Make an Account?

Very little, fortunately! All we need is your First and Last name, an e-mail address (don’t worry, we won’t contact you with it), a username, and a password! We don’t have any wacky requirements on the passwords (as of yet), and account creation works instantly!

# How We Test and Use Shopkins Collector

Using [this link](https://brogrammers-144401.appspot.com/items/additem) (**not to be accessed by / shared to non-administrative users**), we have added Shopkins to Shopkins Collector. This link is used to add a new item with its name, description and photo. This link will come of particular use if new Shopkins are released, or if there is one that needs to be added for any other specific circumstances.

We have tested our site and all of its features and UI elements on a wide variety of devices, including:

* HTC One A9
* Samsung Galaxy Note 4
* iPhone 5C
* iPhone 6s Plus
* iPad Mini 4
* Windows Desktop (Native Resolution: 3440 x 1440)
* Windows Laptop (Native Resolution: 1920 x 1080)

# How Can This App Become Profitable?

There are many ways that Shopkins Collector can be monetized. If this was the route chosen, you could choose from the following:

1. Ad Banners
2. Premium Accounts to remove Ad Banners
3. “Coin” system for Matchkins game
4. Data Farming