

Library Management System

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Author(s): Preetha I

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1. Objective and Scope

The objective and the scope of the project is to build a Library Management System that allow user to view the details of their account, availability of the books and maximum time limit for borrowing.

The scope of the product includes the following basic features:

- Library staff members will have comprehensive access and control over the book inventory database, allowing them to execute various operations. They will possess the capability to remove outdated or irrelevant entries, update existing records with accurate information, and add new books.
- The application will record all books that are checked out, checked in, and recalled. This comprehensive recording system ensures that the status and whereabouts of each book are accurately tracked throughout its circulation within the library.
- By incorporating additional flexibility and convenience features, the library experience for users can be greatly enhanced. This could involve offering options such as extended borrowing periods, online renewals, and remote access to digital resources.
- Ensuring that staff members have access to the necessary resources, whether it's technology, equipment, or staffing support, enables them to work more efficiently and effectively.

2. Project End Users

- Library staff members are responsible for the day-to-day operations of the library. They use the management system to perform tasks such as cataloging new materials, updating existing records, processing checkouts and returns, managing holds and reservations, and assisting patrons with inquiries.
- Students are the primary patrons of the library and use the management system to access resources and services. They may use the system to search the library catalog, check the availability of materials, place holds or requests, renew borrowed items, and manage their personal accounts.

3. Features

3.1 Login to the system

Each and every user should be authenticated with a User Name and Password to login into the system.

Validations for User Name and Password.

User Name: It accepts only Alphabets, Numbers, Dot (.) symbol and Underscore (_) symbol.

Password: It can be anything of the users' choice.

3.2 Catalog management

Catalog management within a library management system involves organizing bibliographic data for the library's collection. This includes cataloging new materials, assigning metadata, and classifying items using standardized systems. Patrons can search the catalog by various criteria like title, author, or subject to find relevant materials. The system tracks the availability and location of items, indicating whether they are currently available for checkout. Integration with interlibrary loan services allows users to request materials from other libraries. Library staff maintain the catalog by updating records and removing outdated items. Digital resources, such as e-books and databases, are also managed within the catalog system. Customization options allow libraries to tailor the catalog interface to their specific needs.

3.3 Patron management

Patron management in a library management system involves registering new patrons and maintaining their personal information. Each patron is assigned a unique identifier and may have access to various library services based on their account status. Library staff can update patron accounts, handle inquiries, and manage borrowing activities. The system tracks the borrowing history of individual patrons and manages hold requests and reservations. Privacy and data security measures ensure the protection of patrons' personal information.

Analytics and reporting tools provide insights into patron demographics and usage patterns.

3.4 Circulation management

Circulation management within a library management system facilitates the borrowing, renewal, and returning of library materials. Patrons use the system to check out items, with loan periods determined by the library's policies and the patron's membership status. The system automates the calculation of fines for overdue materials and manages payments for fines and fees. Holds and reservations can be placed on items, with the system notifying patrons when the requested materials become available. In cases of recalls, the system adjusts due dates and notifies affected patrons accordingly. Interlibrary loan requests are coordinated through the system, tracking loan periods and ensuring timely returns. Inventory management features assist in tracking the location and availability of materials within the library. Analytics and reporting tools provide insights into circulation statistics, aiding in collection management decisions.

3.5 Book reservation

Book reservation and booking functionalities in a library management system streamline the process of reserving library materials and booking library resources. Patrons can place reservations on items that are currently checked out, with the system managing the hold queue and notifying patrons when the requested materials become available. Additionally, users can book library resources such as study rooms, equipment, or multimedia materials in advance, with the system providing scheduling options and managing reservations. Automated reminders and notifications keep patrons informed about upcoming reservations and available resources. The system ensures fair access to popular items and resources by managing reservation queues and availability. Integration with the library's catalog allows patrons to easily reserve items directly from the catalog interface. Flexible scheduling options cater to patrons' diverse needs and preferences, enhancing the overall user experience. Library staff can efficiently manage reservations and bookings through the system, ensuring smooth operations and resource allocation. Analytics and reporting tools provide insights into reservation trends and resource utilization, informing decision-making and service improvements.

3.6 Book returning

Book returning in a library management system facilitates the seamless process of patrons returning borrowed materials. Upon visiting the library, patrons use the system to check in the items they have borrowed. The system updates the status of the returned items, marking them as available for other patrons to borrow. Automated notifications may be sent to remind patrons of upcoming due dates and the need to return materials. Library staff can efficiently process returns using the system, ensuring accurate inventory management and circulation statistics. The system may include features for handling returns of both physical and digital materials, such as e-books or audiobooks. Integration with other library modules, such as circulation management and patron accounts, enables a smooth return process. Detailed reporting and analytics provide insights into return patterns and help optimize library operations.

3.7 Search facility

The search facility in a library management system enables users to efficiently find desired resources within the library's collection. Users can input various search criteria such as title, author, subject, or keyword to initiate searches. Advanced search functionalities, including filtering and sorting options, allow users to refine their search results. The system seamlessly integrates with the library's catalog, ensuring access to the entire range of materials available. Quick retrieval of search results provides users with relevant information in an organized manner. Preview features, such as book covers and summaries, help users assess the suitability of search results. Search suggestions and autocomplete features assist users in refining their queries and finding relevant materials faster. Customization options enable libraries to tailor the search interface to meet the specific needs and preferences of their users. Accessibility features ensure that the search facility is usable by individuals with diverse abilities. Continuous improvement based on user feedback and technological advancements ensures an optimal search experience for library patrons.

4. Use case diagram



Use case diagram