

CVWO Final Submission Write-up

Introduction:

Compared to the code I submitted mid-assignment, this application is totally different. Since 30th Dec last year, I have rebuilt the application an additional 2 to 3 times. This was because I wanted to add more functionality and improve the user experience. I felt that it would be easier to start from scratch rather than build it into my existing application. It was a grueling and arduous process, but I learnt more than I could have possibly imagined.

Improvements since the previous submission:

1. Drag and drop functionality
2. Kanban style layout
3. Categorization of tasks
4. CRUD operations for categories AND tasks
5. Searchability of tasks

Difficulties faced:

My old application was completed unsuitable for Kanban implementation. Hence, I had to rebuild the application from scratch (several times). I also had to learn how to write drag and drop functions and implement them. I spent many hours scouring the web for tutorials on how to write drag and drop components.

Another issue I faced was using the rails backend to categorize tasks. I was unable to understand fully how to do this categorization using rails. Thus, I transferred the problem to the front end and solved it there.

I coded each task in the to-do list to have a category reference, recorded as the unique id of the category it belongs to. From there, I simply used React's filter function to ensure that each category will only display the tasks that belong to it.

Future Improvements:

1. Improve the visual aesthetic of drag and drop
 - a. Make transitions smoother
 - b. Make the drag look more obvious
2. Implement task categorization in the backend
3. Implement Cron job
4. Improve on UI by drawing inspiration from other web applications
 - a. Add icons to each button to make it more intuitive
 - b. Rearrange layout to make the website more aesthetically pleasing in general

Conclusion:

Although the end product is simple, the process I went through to build it was anything but. Learning React, basic Rails, Git and Heroku all in one 6 week holiday was

extremely challenging, and in a very different way as compared to the CS modules that I took the previous semester. I would never have learnt this much simply following a tutorial or copying someone else's code repository, and for that, I am thankful for the opportunity, and happy that I was able to build the to-do list to its current level. My code is far from perfect, but it has taught the importance of building your own projects. I am now more inspired to develop my skills and explore my interests by building my own software projects.