DAY 6 (HACKATHON)

Marketplace Deployment Documentation

Prepared by: Sufyan Mirza

Project Overview

This document outlines the deployment of the marketplace project on Vercel and securing environment variables to ensure a robust and professional staging environment.

Deployment Steps

1. Setting Up the Vercel Deployment

- **Project Configuration:**
  - The project was set up in the Vercel dashboard by linking the GitHub repository.
  - Automatic deployment was enabled to trigger builds for each branch push.
- **Environment Variables:**

- All sensitive credentials (e.g., Sanity API key, database URLs) were stored securely in the Vercel environment settings.
- **Build Settings:**
    - Specified the framework as **Next.js** for optimized builds.
    - Configured custom domains for staging.
- **Successful Deployment:**
    - Verified that all pages and features are working correctly on the staging URL.

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2. Securing Environment Variables

- **Hiding Sensitive Data:**
    - Used .env.local files for local development, which were excluded from GitHub by adding them to .gitignore.
    - Uploaded critical variables (e.g., NEXT_PUBLIC_SANITY_PROJECT_ID) in Vercel's environment settings under the **Environment Variables** section.
- **Usage in Code:**
    - Accessed variables using process.env.VARIABLE_NAME in server-side code.
    - Ensured no hardcoding of sensitive data anywhere in the project files.
- **Testing for Exposure:**

- Scanned the deployment to confirm no environment variables are leaked to the client side unless explicitly required using the NEXT_PUBLIC_ prefix.

Staging Tests

- **Functional Testing:**
  - Validated all components, such as filters, sorting, and product search, to ensure they worked in the staging environment.
- **Performance Optimization:**
  - Verified lazy loading, optimized images, and minimized API call delays using Vercel Analytics.
- **Responsive Testing:**
  - Tested on multiple devices and browsers to confirm that the responsive design adapts correctly.

Final Deliverables

1. **Staging Environment:**
   - URL: [https://r-next-js-design-jam-2025-hackathon.vercel.app/]
   - Deployed and verified as fully functional.
2. **Secure Environment Variables:**
   - All sensitive data securely stored and accessed via Vercel's environment settings.

3. **Test Case and Performance Reports:**

    ○ Documented tests and results as part of the testing report.

4. **GitHub Repository:**

    ○ Organized all project files, including source code and documentation, in a GitHub repository.