

Security and Data Analysis

CookChain

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1 Privacy Analysis

The CookChain database will contain some information that requires sensitive treatment due to its personal nature. Other data within the database is not personal and is of a public nature.

Information considered private, and therefore not accessible to other users, includes the user's name, the user's password, and the user's credit card information. Additionally, the user may choose whether their queue of recipes and ingredients is private (viewing is restricted only to them), or public by invitation (a special link can be emailed by the user allowing others to view either their recipes or their ingredient list). Allergy information is also private, but can be shared in the same manner by the user.

Information that is not private includes recipe information, which is publicly available to all users of CookChain. Since each recipe is available to any users, the recipes are not protected by encryption or other restriction, except that they cannot be accessed without a user account.

2 Security Analysis

The main security concern is any potential leaking of personal information because each CookChain user account contains primarily personal data, such as the user's daily grocery list, ingredients list, eating preferences and food allergies. All this information is highly sensitive since a CookChain account is so closely associated with the user's personal life. The most important security feature aims to prevent anyone other than the user from accessing that particular user's account.

Each user's account should be highly secured by two levels of security to prevent hacking and account leaking. First, both the user's username and password will be encrypted and linked to each other with a complicated hashing relation. Additionally, each account has an account ID. When users add or change data related to their account, the CookChain database will first confirm the account ID then add or change data corresponding to the related account. For privacy reasons, no individual will have access to any specific account's data or accountID. Even CookChain's developer team and system administrator can only look at the overall database table with encrypted usernames and other sensitive personal information.

3 Entity Integrity Analysis

a. User Table: The UserID is the primary key for this table and an nvarchar with the maximum length of 15. Name is a 30 character nvarchar. The password is a 10 character nvarchar. No attributes of this table can be null.

b. Credit Card Table: The Number attribute is the unique primary key of this table which is an integer value. The UserID is a foreign key referenced from the User table. The Code attribute is an integer value for the security code

located on the credit card. The Type attribute is an nvarchar which holds values such as "MasterCard", "Visa", or "American Express." ExpDate is an nvarchar type which represents the month and year of when the credit card will expire. No attributes in this table can be null.

c. Recipe Table: RecipeID is a unique integer value used to identify every Recipe. The Author attribute is nvarchar with a maximum length of 30 characters. The Time attribute is of type time which stores when the recipe was created by the author. The FilePath is an nvarchar used to store the location of the recipe. Only the Author and Time attributes may be null in this table.

d. Ingredient Table: IngredientID is a unique integer value used to identify different Ingredients. The Name is an nvarchar of maximum length 20 characters. Provenance is also a 20 character nvarchar to store the purchase location and date of the ingredient (for instance, "Kroger, 1/21"). Quantity is an integer value which keeps track of how many of the ingredient a user has in their storage. Only the Provenance attribute may be null in this table.

e. IsAllergicTo, Stores, and Uses Tables: UserID and IngredientID are both foreign keys referenced from the User and Ingredient tables, respectively. IsAllergicTo describes the relationship where a User is allergic to an Ingredient. Stores describes when a User has add an Ingredient to their storage. Uses describes when a User has used or removed an Ingredient from their storage. No attributes of these tables may be null in any instance.

f. Saves Table: UserID and RecipeID are foreign keys referenced from the User and Recipe tables, respectively. The Saves relationship describes when a User saves a Recipe to their personal collection. No attributes of these tables may be null in any instance.

g. Contains Table: RecipeID and IngredientID are foreign keys referenced from the Recipe and Ingredient tables, respectively. The Contains relationship describes when an Ingredient is contained by some Recipe. No attributes of these tables may be null in any instance.

4 Referential Integrity Analysis

Upon delete, all operations will cascade. For example, if a User is removed from the database, all relationships having to do with a UserID must also be deleted. These relationships include the isAllergicTo, Stores, Uses, Saves and Credit Card Tables. If the relationships are not deleted, there will be null values for UserID which is not allowed.

Updates to tables will cascade and also reject, but only if the desired operation creates null values where they are not allowed. For example, if a UserID was updated in the User table, then all the instances of UserID in other tables would be null, which is never allowed in those tables.

5 Business Rule Integrity Analysis

When a User consumes or disposes of any Ingredients, they will need to specify so using their profile. This will provide the most accurate results when searching for Recipes in the database. For the same reason, a User should update their storage details when they purchase or add Ingredients to their storage. A User is also responsible for specifying what Ingredients they are allergic to. Cook Chain does not claim any responsibility to incidents that follow a User selecting a Recipe that may contain an Ingredient they are allergic to if the User has not provided the proper information.

References