

PROJECT MVP VISION AFFLATUM

Date: 2025-05-19

USER STATEMENT

Our first main goal is to create an MVP. It will be a web app with front and back end, databases, some basic security measures, a landing page will be created, a login, individual profiles with folders, follower numbers, following numbers, comment sections for each folder (the folders will be the equivalent of images on an instagram profile, and a very simple feed and perhaps a very simple explore page with hashtags, categories for items and inventories of items, an inbox for dm's and some kind of like functionality for each project folder. The idea is that it is a platform where people can share their many different creative processes, and share logs and reels where they explain their thought processes and talk about their inspirations. A profile will be able to follow another person, or follow individual projects. So it will look like an instagram profile, but each image people have shared is a project folder with a project image, like an album cover, a sketch, a song text, it could be anything right, when you click on the image instead of viewing the image you go into the folder, here you will find different structures specifically designed for different types of projects, song lyrics will be different than a documentary film, which again will be different than a painting, right? To begin with we will use three main types, but always remember scalability in everything you do. First three types we will add for our MVP will be 1: painting, 2: illustration, 3: music production.

Project MVP Planning Overview Afflatum Social Platform

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Project Vision Summary

A web-based social media platform where users share their **creative processes**, not just finished work. Each post is a **project folder** containing inspiration, logs, and media related to paintings, illustrations, or music production. Users can follow other users or individual projects.

Core Features of MVP

- Landing page
- Signup/Login system
- User profiles
 - Username, bio, profile picture
 - Follower/Following counts
 - Grid of project folders (like Instagram)
- Project folders
 - Cover image (thumbnail)
 - README file (project description)
 - Comment section per folder
 - Like/follow button

- Project types (initially 3):
 1. Painting
 2. Illustration
 3. Music Production
- Feed (projects from followed users)
- Explore (hashtags/categories)
- Inbox (direct messages)

Technology Stack Proposal

- **Frontend**: React (with Tailwind CSS), React Router
- **Backend**: Express (Node.js) or Django (Python)
- **Database**: PostgreSQL (preferred for structure), JSONB fields for flexibility
- **Authentication**: JWT
- **Hosting**: Docker + Cloud (e.g., DigitalOcean, Heroku)
- **CI/CD**: GitHub Actions

Data Model (Simplified)

- `users` (id, username, email, password_hash)`
- `projects` (id, user_id, title, type, cover_image, details JSONB)`
- `follows` (follower_id, followee_id)`
- `comments` (project_id, user_id, content)`

- `likes` (user_id, project_id)
- `messages` (sender_id, recipient_id, content)
- `tags` and `project_tags` (for explore)

Project Folder Layout (Painting Example)

Each folder has:

- README: Artist description
- Inspirations:
 - Images (upload)
 - Text notes / quotes
 - YouTube links
 - Book lists, external references
- Comments and likes
- Follow button (project-level)

Scalability Built-In

- New project types (e.g., documentary, poem, film) can be added by defining a new layout schema
- JSONB for `details` enables flexible per-type structures
- Modular front-end components for each project type
- Follow either users or individual projects

This document reflects the initial MVP scope and design direction for the Afflatum creative process sharing platform.