

Vision Statement

Project Overview

SalonAI is a dynamic web and mobile application designed to enhance salon operations using AI-based automation. The system streamlines appointment scheduling, provides personalized hairstyle recommendations, and assists salon staff with automated quoting and booking management.

Target Users:

- **Salon Clients:** Book appointments, receive AI-based hairstyle recommendations, and manage their past appointments.
- **Salon Staff:** Manage schedules, confirm bookings, override AI-generated recommendations, and monitor salon efficiency.
- **Salon Administrators:** Oversee salon operations, manage pricing, and evaluate customer engagement trends.

Project Value & Success Criteria:

SalonAI aims to:

1. **Enhance Efficiency:** Reduce manual scheduling conflicts and double bookings.
2. **Improve Customer Satisfaction:** Provide AI-powered hairstyle recommendations based on previous salon visits.
3. **Automate Operations:** Implement an AI-driven virtual secretary to handle booking modifications and client communication.
4. **Ensure Scalable Deployment:** Offer a cloud-ready solution for future multi-salon integration.

Success Criteria:

Success will be measured by:

- The accuracy of AI-generated recommendations.
- Reduction in double bookings by at least **80%**.
- At least **100 salon clients** using the app within the first test phase.
- Positive feedback from salon staff regarding usability improvements.

Big User Stories

(see index cards in github)

1 . Basic Operations & User Management

- Users can create accounts, log in, recover passwords, and manage their profiles.

2. AI-Based Scheduling System

- Automatically books appointments based on stylist availability and user preferences.
- Detects potential double-bookings and reschedules accordingly.
- Allows manual overrides by salon staff.

3. Pricing & Quote Generation

- Automatically generates service quotes based on salon pricing and requested services.
- Sends real-time price notifications to clients via email and in-app messages.
- Allows stylists to update pricing manually when needed.

4. AI-Powered Recommendations & Virtual Salon Assistant

- Suggests hairstyles based on client preferences, past visits, and trending styles.
- Manages cancellations, reminders, and client communication.
- Sends automated notifications and promotions.
- Provides staff with daily schedule summaries and performance analytics.

Detailed User Stories

(see index cards in github)

User Story 1: Register & Login (Client)

- Description: As a salon client, I want to register an account and log in so that I can access my booking history and receive AI recommendations.
- Priority: High
- Story Points: 3 (Ideal Development Days: 2-3)

User Story 2: Forgot Password (Client)

- Description: As a salon client, I want to reset my password in case I forget it so that I can regain access to my account.
- Priority: High
- Story Points: 3 (Ideal Development Days: 2-3)

User Story 3: Book Appointment (Client)

- Description: As a client, I want to select a preferred time and stylist so that I can schedule an appointment seamlessly.
- Priority: High
- Story Points: 5 (Ideal Development Days: 3-4)

User Story 4: AI-Based Scheduling (System)

- Description: As a system, I need to analyze availability and suggest the most optimal appointment times to clients.
- Priority: High
- Story Points: 6 (Ideal Development Days: 4-5)

User Story 5: Generate Service Quote (Salon Staff)

- Description: As a salon staff member, I want to view and modify generated service quotes so that I can provide accurate pricing to clients.
- Priority: Medium
- Story Points: 4 (Ideal Development Days: 3-4)

User Story 6: AI Hairstyle Recommendation (Client)

- Description: As a client, I want AI to suggest new hairstyles and colors based on my past visits and hair type so that I can make an informed choice.
- Priority: High
- Story Points: 6 (Ideal Development Days: 5-6)

User Story 7: Appointment Confirmation Notification (System)

- Description: As a system, I need to send confirmation emails and in-app notifications to clients once a booking is completed.
- Priority: High
- Story Points: 3 (Ideal Development Days: 2-3)

Customer Meeting Summary

- Customer: Simulated Salon Owner (Non-CS Background)
- Key Discussion Points:
 - AI-based recommendations should align with seasonal hairstyle trends.
 - Staff should have manual control over AI scheduling to ensure flexibility.
 - Notifications and reminders must be non-intrusive yet informative.
- Customer Priorities:
 - User-friendly interface for non-tech-savvy salon owners.
 - Quick and efficient appointment management.
 - AI should improve recommendations over time based on customer preferences.

A 5-minute summary video of this discussion is included in the github repository.