Workspace Booking Platform Technical Implementation Guide

Version 1.3.0 - Booking and Review Systems Release

Last Updated: October 14, 2025

Status: Active Development (Booking and Review Systems Implemented)

Prepared for: Developers, Project Managers, and Stakeholders

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1 Document Overview

1.1 Purpose

This document serves as a living guide for developers, project managers, and stakeholders to understand and implement the Workspace Booking Platform MVP. It details the backend implementation (Node.js + Express + MongoDB/Mongoose), including user authentication, space listing and search, booking management, review system, and admin/reporting hooks, with a focus on production-ready features and enhanced space management.

1.2 Details

• Last Updated: October 14, 2025

• Version: 1.3.0 - Booking and Review Systems Release

• Status: Active Development

2 Change Log & Enhancement Tracking

2.1 Version 1.3.0 - October 14, 2025

• Status: Implemented & Tested

- Implemented booking system with pricing model (15% markup), status lifecycle, conflict detection, and cancellation/refunded logic
- Implemented review system with space-specific ratings, host response, and booking-based eligibility
- Updated Progress Summary to reflect completion of booking and review systems
- Added detailed schemas, controllers, validators, and middleware for booking and review systems
- Updated overall MVP progress to ~75%

2.2 Version 1.2.1 - October 13, 2025

- Status: Implemented & Tested
- Corrected Progress Summary to reflect booking system as partially specified but pending implementation
- Clarified booking system details with pricing model and status lifecycle

2.3 Version 1.2.0 - October 13, 2025

- Status: Implemented & Tested
- Added detailed backend overview, including purpose, architecture, and module connections
- Enhanced booking system details with pricing model, status lifecycle, and refund logic
- Documented middleware layers, including authentication, role-based access, and resource checks

- Added operational aspects: environment variables, CORS, Helmet, and graceful shutdown
- Updated technology stack with Multer, node-cron, and Swagger
- Clarified request flow and response structure

2.4 Version 1.1.0 - October 6, 2025

- Status: Implemented & Tested
- Space management system fully implemented
- Added advanced search and filtering system
- Implemented business intelligence and analytics
- Enhanced data models with strict validation
- Added production-grade security and performance features
- Improved host experience with professional tools
- Updated API endpoints with enhanced specifications
- Overall MVP progress updated to $\sim 50\%$

3 Business Overview

3.1 Platform Vision

A workspace booking platform where:

- Hosts can list and monetize their spaces with advanced management tools
- Renters can discover, book, and review workspaces with a rich search and booking experience
- Admins can ensure platform safety and quality with data-driven insights

3.2 Target Users

- Remote Workers: Need professional spaces for work
- Students: Require quiet study environments
- **Teams:** Looking for meeting/presentation spaces
- Space Owners: Want to monetize underutilized spaces

4 Currently Implemented Features

4.1 Authentication System

- User registration (email/phone)
- User login with JWT tokens
- Google OAuth (ID token and server-side code flows)
- Password reset functionality

- Email verification system
- User profile management with picture upload via Multer to Cloudinary
- Token refresh and logout

4.2 User Management

- User model with all required fields
- Role-based system (user/host/admin)
- Onboarding completion system
- Profile picture upload via Multer to Cloudinary

4.3 Core User Schema

```
// IMPLEMENTED - User Model
{
  fullname, phonenumber, email, password, googleId,
  authProvider, role, profilePic, emailVerified,
  onboardingCompleted, purposes, location, createdAt, isActive
}
```

4.4 Spaces Management

- POST /spaces: Host creates new space with validation, images, rate limit
- GET /spaces: Browse all active spaces with advanced filtering
- GET /spaces/:id: Get detailed space information including host details
- PUT /spaces/:id: Host updates their space with partial updates
- DELETE /spaces/:id: Host soft deletes their space
- GET /spaces/my/spaces: Host dashboard view with pagination

4.5 Bookings Management

- Booking creation with 15% markup pricing model
- Status lifecycle: pending \rightarrow upcoming/in_progress \rightarrow completed/cancelled
- Payment status tracking and refund logic
- Expiry for pending bookings with TTL index
- Reschedule/cancel eligibility via virtuals
- Indexes for conflict detection

4.6 Reviews Management

- Review creation tied to completed bookings
- Space-specific ratings (cleanliness, accuracy, value)
- Host response to reviews
- One review per user per space
- Eligibility checks for review submission

4.7 Enhanced Features Beyond Original MVP

4.7.1 Advanced Search & Filtering System

(Implemented) Uber-inspired comprehensive search

- Location-based search with partial matching
- Price range filtering ($\alpha 500 \alpha 50,000$)
- Capacity requirements (1-100 people)
- Multiple purposes filtering (9 options)
- Multiple amenities filtering (12 options)
- Advanced sorting: price low to high, price high to low, newest
- Pagination with full metadata
- Real-time availability consideration

4.7.2 Business Intelligence & Analytics

(Implemented) Complete demand capture system

- Every search query with filters recorded
- Zero-result searches for demand gap analysis
- User location preferences
- Popular amenities and purposes tracking
- Conversion rates (searches to results)
- User behavior patterns
- Platform usage metrics

4.7.3 Enhanced Data Models & Validation

(Implemented) Production-grade schemas

```
// BOOKING MODEL
 userId: ObjectId,
                              // Reference to User
 markupPercentage: Number, // Default 15
 markupAmount: Number, // Calculated
totalAmount: Number, // Base price + markup
hostEarnings: Number, // Base price
bookingType: String, // 'hourly' or 'daily'
duration: Number, // Hours or days
startTime: Date, // Future, indexed
  duration.
startTime: Date,
  // pending, upcoming, in_progress, completed
     , cancelled
  paymentStatus: String,
                               // pending, paid, refunded, failed,
     partially_refunded
  rescheduleHistory: [Object], // Tracks rescheduling
  cancellationInfo: {
    cancelledAt: Date,
    cancelledBy: ObjectId, // Reference to User
    reason: String,
                         // user_request, host_request,
        payment_timeout, other
    refundAmount: Number
  },
  expiresAt: Date, $//$ TTL index for pending bookings createdAt: Date, $//$ Automatic timestamp
```

```
// REVIEW MODEL
 userId: ObjectId,
                           // Reference to User
                           // Reference to Space
 spaceId: ObjectId,
                           // Reference to Booking
 bookingId: ObjectId,
                           // 1-5
 rating: Number,
                           // Max 1000 chars
  comment: String,
  aspects: {
                           // 1-5
    cleanliness: Number,
    accuracy: Number,
                           // 1-5
    value: Number
                           // 1-5
 },
 hostResponse: {
                          // Max 500 chars
    text: String,
    respondedAt: Date
 },
  createdAt: Date,
  updatedAt: Date
```

4.7.4 Production Security & Performance

(Implemented) Enterprise-ready APIs

- JWT authentication with role-based access
- Rate limiting: 60 searches/min, 5 spaces/15min, 3 bookings/15min, 30 queries/min
- Input validation with Joi schemas
- File upload validation and optimization via Multer to Cloudinary
- Proper error handling and logging with Winston
- MongoDB indexing on all query fields
- Pagination to handle large datasets
- Non-blocking analytics logging
- TTL index for auto-cleanup of expired pending bookings

4.7.5 Enhanced Host Experience

(Implemented) Professional host tools

- GET /spaces/my/spaces: Personal dashboard view
- Soft delete system for accident recovery
- Space limit: 10 active spaces per host
- Rich space management with full update capabilities
- Booking status management for host-owned spaces
- Host response to reviews

5 System Architecture

5.1 Core Components

Express-based backend with modular routes/controllers, Mongoose models, and layered middleware, connected to MongoDB and external services (Cloudinary, Paystack/Flutterwave).

5.2 Technology Stack

- Backend: Node.js + Express.js (Complete)
- Database: MongoDB with mongoose-paginate-v2 (Complete)
- File Storage: Cloudinary via Multer (Complete for profile pictures and space images)
- Payments: Paystack + Flutterwave (Pending)
- **Authentication:** JWT + Google OAuth (ID token and server-side code flows) (Complete)
- Validation: Joi (Complete)
- Logging: Winston (Complete)
- Rate Limiting: express-rate-limit (Complete)
- API Documentation: Swagger (Complete)
- Backup: node-cron (production only) (Complete)

5.3 Architecture Patterns

- Middleware-based Security: [authenticate, requireRole, validateHostSpaceCreation, resourceOwnership, bookingConflict, reviewEligibility]
- Validation-first Approach: Joi schemas \rightarrow Controller logic \rightarrow Database
- Non-blocking Analytics: Main request \rightarrow Async analytics logging
- Soft Delete Pattern: DELETE → isActive: false (data preservation)

5.4 Request Flow

- 1. Client calls Express routes
- 2. Route-level middlewares (rate limit, authenticate, role checks, validation, resource/ownership checks, booking conflict checks)
- 3. Controller logic uses Mongoose models (User, Space, Booking, Review, SearchAnalytics)
- 4. External services (Cloudinary for images) called as needed
- 5. Responses shaped with { success, message, data } format
- 6. Errors handled centrally with safe messages in production

5.5 Operational Aspects

- Environment Variables: Required at boot (MONGO_URI, JWT_SECRET, Cloudinary keys); app exits if missing
- CORS: Controlled via CORS_ORIGIN list
- Security: Helmet CSP with common allowances
- Graceful Shutdown: Closes HTTP server and Mongo connections cleanly
- Health Checks: Available at /health and /ping
- API Documentation: Swagger at /api-docs
- Backups: Cron-based backup routine in production using node-cron

6 User Journey Flows

6.1 New User Registration

(Implemented)

- 1. Sign Up (Email/Phone or Google OAuth) (Complete)
- 2. Complete Onboarding (Complete)
- 3. Choose Role (Renter/Host) (Complete)
- 4. Select Purposes & Location (Complete)
- 5. Access Main Platform (Complete)

6.2 Renter Journey

(Implemented)

- 1. Browse Available Spaces (Complete)
- 2. Filter by Location/Purpose/Price (Complete)
- 3. View Space Details & Photos (Complete)
- 4. Book Space (Select Date/Time) (Complete)
- 5. Pay from Wallet (Pending)
- 6. Use Space & Leave Review (Complete)

6.3 Host Journey

(Partial)

- 1. Complete Host Onboarding (Complete)
- 2. List Space (Add Details + Photos) (Complete)
- 3. Set Pricing & Availability (Complete)
- 4. Receive & Confirm Booking Requests (Complete)
- 5. Get Paid After Booking Completion (Pending)

7 Database Structure

7.1 Users Collection

(Implemented) Store all platform users (Renters, Hosts, Admins)

- fullname: User's full name (Complete)
- phonenumber: Phone number (unique) (Complete)
- email: Email address (unique) (Complete)
- password: Hashed password (for local auth) (Complete)
- googleId: For Google login users (Complete)
- authProvider: Authentication method (Complete)
- role: "user", "host", or "admin" (Complete)
- profilePic: Cloudinary URL (Complete)
- emailVerified: Verification status (Complete)
- onboardingCompleted: True after onboarding (Complete)
- purposes: Array of use cases (Complete)
- location: User's city/location (Complete)
- isActive: Account status (Complete)

7.2 Spaces Collection

(Implemented) Store all workspace listings

- hostId: Reference to User who owns the space (Complete)
- title: Space name/title, max 100 chars (Complete)
- description: Detailed space description (Complete)
- location: Physical address (Complete)
- pricePerHour: Cost per hour (¤500-¤50,000) (Complete)
- images: Array of space photos (max 5) (Complete)
- amenities: ["WiFi", "Projector", "Whiteboard", etc.] (Complete)
- purposes: ["Remote Work", "Study Session", etc.] (Complete)
- capacity: Maximum number of people (1-100) (Complete)
- isActive: Available for booking (Complete)
- createdAt: Automatic timestamp (Complete)
- updatedAt: Automatic timestamp (Complete)

7.3 SearchAnalytics Collection

(Implemented) Store search data for business intelligence

- userId: Optional, logged-in users (Complete)
- searchQuery: Search term (Complete)
- filters: Applied filters (Complete)
- resultsCount: Number of results (Complete)
- zeroResults: Demand gap indicator (Complete)
- timestamp: For trend analysis (Complete)

7.4 Bookings Collection

(Implemented) Track all space reservations

- userId: Reference to User who booked (Complete)
- spaceId: Reference to Space being booked (Complete)
- basePrice: Minimum ¤500 (Complete)
- markupPercentage: Default 15 (Complete)
- markupAmount: Calculated (Complete)
- totalAmount: Base price + markup (Complete)
- hostEarnings: Base price (Complete)
- bookingType: 'hourly' or 'daily' (Complete)
- duration: Hours or days (Complete)
- **startTime:** Booking start date/time (Complete)
- endTime: Booking end date/time (Complete)
- **guestCount:** 1-100, default 1 (Complete)
- status: pending, upcoming, in progress, completed, cancelled (Complete) paymentStatus: pending, paid,
- rescheduleHistory: Tracks rescheduling (Complete)
- cancellationInfo: Includes cancelledAt, cancelledBy, reason, refundAmount (Complete)
- expiresAt: TTL index for pending bookings (Complete)

7.5 Reviews Collection

(Implemented) Store reviews for spaces

- userId: Reference to User who reviewed (Complete)
- spaceId: Reference to Space being reviewed (Complete)
- bookingId: Reference to completed Booking (Complete)
- rating: 1-5 (Complete)
- comment: Max 1000 chars (Complete)
- aspects: Cleanliness, accuracy, value (1-5 each) (Complete)
- hostResponse: Text (max 500 chars), respondedAt (Complete)

7.6 Wallets Collection

(To be Implemented) Manage user funds and payments

- userId: Wallet owner
- balance: Current balance
- transactions: Array of payment history
- virtualAccount: Bank details for deposits

7.7 Reports Collection

(To be Implemented) Handle user complaints and moderation

- reporterId: User making report
- reportedSpaceId: Space being reported
- type: "scam", "inappropriate", "fake"
- status: "pending", "investigating", "resolved"
- evidence: Screenshots or proof

8 API Endpoints Specification

8.1 Authentication Routes (/api/auth)

(Implemented)

- **POST** /signup: Create new account with rate limiting (Complete)
- **POST** /signin: Login with email/password (Complete)
- POST /google: Google OAuth login (ID token/server-side code) (Complete)
- POST /onboarding: Complete user setup (Complete)
- **GET** /**profile:** Get user profile (Complete)
- **PUT /profile:** Update profile with image upload (Complete)

- **POST** /logout: Logout user (Complete)
- POST /refresh-token: Refresh JWT token (Complete)
- PUT /change-password: Change password (Complete)
- POST /request-password-reset: Request reset (Complete)
- POST /reset-password: Reset password (Complete)
- POST /request-email-verification: Request verification (Complete)
- **POST** /verify-email: Verify email (Complete)
- **DELETE** /account: Delete account (Complete)

8.2 Spaces Management (/api/spaces)

(Implemented)

- POST /spaces: Create space with validation, images, rate limit (Complete)
- **GET** /**spaces:** Advanced search and filtering (Complete)
- **GET** /**spaces**/:**id:** Full details with host info (Complete)
- PUT /spaces/:id: Partial updates and image management (Complete)
- **DELETE** /spaces/:id: Soft delete (isActive: false) (Complete)
- GET /spaces/my/spaces: Host dashboard with pagination (Complete)

8.3 Booking System (/api/bookings)

(Implemented)

- **POST** /bookings: User books a space with conflict checks (Complete)
- GET /bookings/user: User sees their bookings with space details (Complete)
- **GET** /bookings/host: Host sees bookings for their spaces (Complete)
- PUT /bookings/:id/confirm: Host confirms booking (Complete)
- PUT /bookings/:id/cancel: User cancels booking with refund logic (Complete)

8.4 Reviews System (/api/reviews)

(Implemented)

- **POST** /reviews: User adds review for completed booking (Complete)
- **GET** /reviews/space/:id: Get reviews for a space (Complete)
- PUT /reviews/:id/respond: Host responds to review (Complete)

8.5 Payment & Wallet (/api/wallet)

(To be Implemented)

- POST /wallet/fund: Add money to wallet
- GET /wallet/balance: Check balance
- GET /wallet/transactions: Transaction history
- POST /wallet/payout: Host withdraws earnings

8.6 Admin Panel (/api/admin)

(To be Implemented)

- GET /admin/users: View all users
- GET /admin/spaces: View all spaces
- **GET** /admin/reports: View all reports
- DELETE /admin/users/:id: Delete user
- **DELETE** /admin/spaces/:id: Delete space

9 Payment Flow

(Pending)

9.1 Wallet Funding Process

- 1. User requests to add money
- 2. System generates payment link (Paystack/Flutterwave)
- 3. User completes payment on gateway
- 4. Gateway sends confirmation via webhook
- 5. System updates user's wallet balance
- 6. User receives confirmation

9.2 Booking Payment Process

- 1. User selects space and time
- 2. System calculates total cost (base price * duration + 15% markup)
- 3. Amount is deducted from user's wallet
- 4. Funds are held in escrow
- 5. After booking completion, funds released to host
- 6. Host can withdraw to bank account

10 Trust & Safety Measures

10.1 Implemented

- User Verification: Phone and email verification (Complete)
- Password Security: Bcrypt hashing (Complete)
- Session Management: JWT tokens with role-based access (Complete)
- Input Validation: Joi schemas for all endpoints (Complete)
- Rate Limiting: 60 searches/min, 5 spaces/15min, 3 bookings/15min, 30 queries/min (Complete)
- Resource Ownership: Checks for host actions (Complete)
- Booking Conflict Checks: Prevents double bookings (Complete)
- Review Eligibility: Ensures reviews tied to completed bookings (Complete)

10.2 To Be Implemented

- Content Moderation: Space and review moderation
- User Reporting: Report system for suspicious content
- Payment Protection: Escrow system for bookings
- Admin Oversight: Comprehensive admin panel

11 Development Phases

11.1 Phase 1: Completed

- User authentication & onboarding (Complete)
- Database models (User) (Complete)
- Cloudinary integration via Multer (Complete)
- API documentation with Swagger (Complete)

11.2 Phase 2: Completed

- Space listing & management (Complete)
- Advanced search & filters (Complete)
- Business intelligence & analytics (Complete)

11.3 Phase 3: Completed

- Booking system with pricing, status lifecycle, and conflict checks (Complete)
- Review system with booking-based eligibility and space-specific ratings (Complete)

11.4 Phase 4: In Progress

- Payment & wallet system
- Basic admin dashboard
- Report system

11.5 Phase 5: Planned

- * Notification system
- * Advanced analytics & reporting
- * Mobile app enhancements

12 Next Phase: Payment System

Based on current enhancements, the payment system will include:

- * Wallet funding via Paystack/Flutterwave
- * Escrow-based booking payments
- * Host payout workflows
- * Transaction history and balance tracking
- * Payment analytics for conversion tracking

13 Progress Summary

Module	Status	Completion
Authentication	Complete	100%
User Management	Complete	100%
Space Management	Complete	100%
Booking System	Complete	100%
Review System	Complete	100%
Payment System	Pending	0%
Admin Panel	Pending	0%
Reports	Pending	0%
Overall MVP Progress		~75%

14 Business Value Delivered

14.1 Immediate Benefits

- * **Demand Intelligence:** Know exactly where to expand (Complete)
- * Better UX: Professional search and booking experience (Complete)
- * Host Retention: Advanced management and review response tools (Complete)
- * Platform Insights: Data-driven decisions from search and booking analytics (Complete)

14.2 Long-term Advantages

- * Scalability: Architecture ready for thousands of users (Complete)
- * Monetization Data: Understand what features drive value (Complete)

- * Competitive Advantage: Advanced features like reviews and conflict-free bookings (Complete)
- * Investor Ready: Professional, data-driven platform (Complete)

14.3 Implications for Frontend Team

The frontend team now has:

- * A rich search and booking experience to build
- * Review submission and display functionality
- * Real data for creating intuitive UIs
- * Proper loading states from pagination
- * Detailed error handling for user feedback
- * Consistent response formats ({ success, message, data })

15 Documentation Status

- * Space API Documentation: Complete and ready for frontend (Complete)
- * Booking API Documentation: Complete and ready for frontend (Complete)
- * Review API Documentation: Complete and ready for frontend (Complete)
- * Enhanced Features: All tracked and documented (Complete)
- * Testing Results: All endpoints verified working (Complete)
- * Payment API: Next phase ready for implementation
- * Swagger Documentation: Available at /api-docs (Complete)

16 Contact & Support

* Technical Lead: Name * Project Manager: Name

* Development Team: Team Contacts

Note

This document will be updated after each major development sprint to reflect current progress, enhancements, and changes in requirements.