Day 5: Testing, Error Handling, and Backend Integration Refinement

Objective

Day 5 was dedicated to finalizing the furniture marketplace project for deployment by ensuring robust testing, seamless performance, and detailed documentation. The focus areas were:

1. Comprehensive functionality testing.

2. Implementing efficient error handling mechanisms.

3. Performance optimization, accessibility, and SEO improvement.

4. Ensuring compatibility across various browsers and devices.

5. Creating professional documentation, including a CSV-based report.

Key Learning Outcomes

1. Validate the functionality of critical components.

2. Optimize performance metrics based on Lighthouse results.

3. Achieve high accessibility standards for all users.

4. Enhance SEO for improved visibility.

5. Deliver clear, actionable documentation and testing reports.

Implementation Steps

The following steps were undertaken to ensure the project's readiness for deployment:

Step 1: Functional Testing

Tested the core components of the platform to ensure expected functionality.

Features tested:

- Navigation links: Confirmed all links navigate correctly.

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- Product listings: Verified accurate rendering and interaction with product data.

- Shopping cart: Validated add, update, and remove operations.

- Blog posts: Ensured accessibility of content.

- Contact form: Confirmed successful form submission with feedback.

Step 2: Error Handling

Implemented error handling mechanisms to ensure smooth user experiences during failures.

Approach:

- Used try-catch blocks to manage API errors effectively.

- Displayed fallback UI for missing data (e.g., 'No products available').

- Logged errors systematically for debugging.

- Gracefully handled failed API calls to maintain interface reliability.

Step 3: Performance Optimization

Based on Lighthouse report insights, the following key improvements were made:

1. Reduced initial server response time.

2. Optimized image assets and implemented next-gen formats.

3. Minimized unused JavaScript to enhance performance.

4. Lazy-loaded images to reduce rendering delays.

5. Enabled static asset compression and browser caching.

Lighthouse Report Key Metrics

Metric	Value	Score
First Contentful Paint	872.0 ms	1

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Largest Contentful Paint	1307.0 ms	1
Speed Index	1478.0 ms	1
Cumulative Layout Shift	0.01	1
Time to Interactive	1823.0 ms	1
Total Blocking Time	120.0 ms	1

Additional Steps

Step 4: Cross-Browser and Device Testing

Ensured consistent experiences across major browsers and devices.

- Browsers tested: Chrome, Firefox, Safari, Edge.

- Devices tested: Desktop, tablet, mobile.

- Focused on responsive design, navigation, and accessibility.

Step 5: Security Testing

Strengthened the application against vulnerabilities using OWASP ZAP and manual testing.

- Sanitized inputs, ensured HTTPS, and secured environment variables.

Step 6: User Acceptance Testing (UAT)

Simulated real-world scenarios to identify usability issues and improve workflows.

CSV-Based Testing Report

Test Case ID	Description	Status
TC001	Test navigation links	Passed
TC002	Verify product listings	Passed
TC003	Test shopping cart	Passed

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TC004	Check blog accessibility	Passed
TC005	Test contact form submission	Passed

Conclusion

Day 5 significantly improved the reliability, performance, and usability of the furniture marketplace. By addressing key testing and optimization areas, the project is now ready for deployment.