

ASSIGNMENT: BOOKMARKING APPLICATION

Assignment Description

In this assignment, you will be creating an online bookmarking application. A bookmarking application is a web page, in which you can submit and share interesting links that you have found on the web. An application of this kind frees you from being tied to any specific computer or web browser, as you links are accessible from any computer connected to the Internet.

What you are asked to make, is a very simple bookmarking web application featuring a user login. Other than the user login page, there is essentially only one page for the entire application. If you are not logged in, the blog page will show the last ten links that you submitted. Otherwise, it will show the ten links plus a text input box and submit button for entering in a new link.

To see bookmarking sites in action (though on a far larger scale), please have a look at the following web applications: reddit, digg, del.icio.us, stumbleupon, slashdot among the hundreds that exist.

You will notice that most of them keep a very simple and clean design, since they must cater to hundreds of thousands of users. You are not subject to this limitation as your web application will be just for you (at first, at least). Therefore, there is far more leeway in terms of design and functionality.



Minimum Requirements

1. In preparation for the assignment, you will need to create at least one database table, and for the actual bookmarking content. Also set up a sub-domain for the assignment, to separate it from your other work (ask for help if you are having trouble with this).
2. There should be a minimum of 2 pages, one for viewing/editing posts and one for logging in. Alternatively, your login form may be on the same page as the content of your application.
3. The user should not be able to post without logging in, as a security feature. The login must be handled with PHP.
4. When logged in, the user (you), should be presented with a form for submitting a link, that will then be added to your database of links.
5. Your links page should show the last ten bookmarks, starting with the newest one and following with the next nine in reverse chronological order.
6. Each bookmark should be clearly labelled with the date and time the post was written.
7. Each bookmark should have a short description displayed with it, to remind you what the bookmark is for.
8. This goes without saying, but each link submitted should be "live" so that you could quickly get to its destination.
9. A web application such as this is fairly limited in scope; therefore you should have a unique design, using CSS and images.
10. The site must look consistent in both IE7+ and Firefox 4+. It must also validate in either transitional, strict or HTML 5 on the W3C Validator.

Optional Challenges

Given the minimum requirements, there are additional things you could do to your application to make it more interesting:

1. Add the ability to submit a thumbnail associated with each link. This will ensure your application is more visual. There are online services for taking snapshots of websites, but adding the ability to add an image address should suffice for this.
2. Store your login and password information in the database rather than in the PHP. This would allow you to add more than one user.
3. After completing #2, try to add a user registration page, so that others may share links on you site.
4. Add the ability to delete broken links on the site, once you are logged in.
5. Add the ability to tag or categorize links, so that it is easier to get to the ones you need quickly.
6. Connect your web application to another classmate's so that your links are shared among the both of you. (Each site should still be styled uniquely).
7. Add an RSS feed to your bookmarking application.

Marking Scheme

Design Marks - 20 Marks Total

Colour Palette and Theme (10 Marks):

Is the colour palette chosen appropriate for your chosen theme?

Typography (10 Marks):

Do the fonts used complement each other, and are they legible?

Code Marks - 25 Marks Total

Code Commenting & Documentation (10 Marks):

Were there thorough comments in your PHP/XHTML and CSS code?

Code indenting (10 Marks):

Was the CSS and PHP/XHTML properly and consistently indented?

Best Practices (5 Marks):

Was your code hack-free, and did it follow the best practices outlined in class?

Organization Marks - 20 Marks Total

Organization (20 Marks):

Were the files, folders etc. all organized and named in a consistent and logical way (following best practices)?

Other Marks - 35 Marks Total

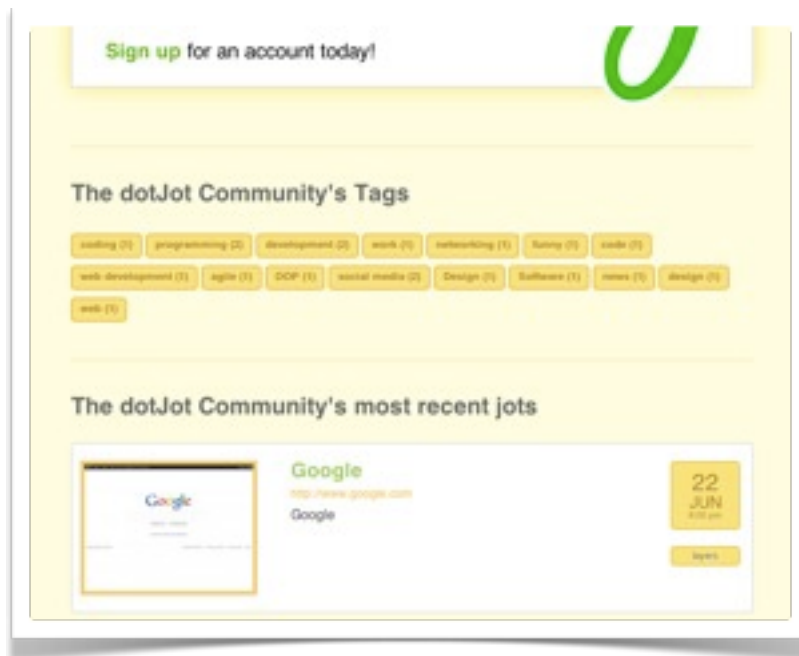
Minimum Requirements (25 Marks):

Did the project meet each of the minimum requirements?

Additional (up to 10 Marks):

Did the student go beyond the minimum requirements and add something new and unique?

Submission Guidelines



Please submit your source code, zipped, with a comment block **at the top** of each file, like this:

```
/*
```

```
Name: John Smith
```

```
Date of Submission: Tuesday  
February 10, 2032
```

```
Assignment: Book Marking App
```

```
*/
```

Also email a link to your working site to your instructor by the due date.

You will be presenting your application to the class, in a short 2 minute demonstration.

Due Date

The assignment is due on **November 25th 9:00 AM.**

Please have any technical issues resolved by this time, so that you are ready to hand in and present the assignment at the beginning of class.

