

Recommend. Me: Platform to share your recommendations

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ABSTRACT: “A suggestion or proposal for the best course of action, primarily one made by an authorised body, is referred to as a recommendation.” In our everyday life, people always ask and give recommendations. They are continually recommending something they enjoy, it could be a movie they watched last night, or it could be a book they have read in the past month. However, there isn't any dedicated or specific site where users can recommend such things or can see everyone else's recommendations.

Recommend.me is a web application to view, add, and share your recommendations with your friends or followers. These recommendations could be anything from "My favorite books", "Top 10 courses on Machine Learning" or "Top Tech channels on YouTube" etc. Users have the freedom of adding any recommendations they like and they can easily share the link of the recommendation to anyone.

KEYWORDS: recommendations, web application, suggestion, proposal.

I. INTRODUCTION

Recommending or suggesting someone something has been the nature of human beings. Be it anything, books, courses, movies, tv shows, humans tend to recommend something that they have enjoyed or greatly benefited from, but there is no proper platform that provides users to make their list of recommendations, and a way to share those recommendations with their friends at ease. Moreover, when we recommend someone something, we tend to forget or be unable to recall what was the best. For example, if someone asks you to recommend good novels to read, you must first recall all of the good novels you have read in the past before recommending them to your friend; however, you may overlook some good novels because you were unable to recall them at the time of giving the recommendation. To evade this, users

can use the provided platform Recommend.me and can create multiple lists of their favorite recommendations beforehand and can share the link of recommendation directly with their friends.

Additionally, To provide the best experience possible, users are provided a feed that is algorithmically filtered utilizing recommendation systems such as content-based filtering and collaborative filtering. Users can upvote and share the recommendation they like. They can also add other users' recommendations in their bucket, search through all the recommendations uploaded by other users either by title or tags.

II. LITERATURE SURVEY

A few existing systems are studied and analysed as follows:

I. Wirecutter

Wirecutters test and review thousands of goods thoroughly to help find users exactly what they need. They recommend high-quality products.



Features:

- Recommends high-quality products
- Has a wide array of categories
- Trusted by thousands of users

Limitations:

- No recommendation system
- Users cannot create their recommendation
- Limited products to recommend

II. Reddit

Reddit is a forum and social media website where users vote on content that is socially approved and promoted.



Features:

- Users can create and share posts
- Users can upvote posts
- Different communities
- Recommendation system

Limitations:

- Not a dedicated platform to post your recommendations
- Targeted at making different communities and subreddits

III. TopCorn

Topcorn recognizes your movie preferences and makes recommendations based on them.



Features:

- Personalized movie recommendation
- Voting system
- Filter
- Watch with friends

Limitations:

- Recommends only movies
- Users can not recommend
- Limited use case

IV. Quora



Features:

- Activity Feed
- Popular / trending posts
- Recommendation system
- Upvote/Downvote

Limitations:

- User cannot save post
- Weak on curation
- Way to see all questions that user following
- Way to see all the answers user liked or commented upon

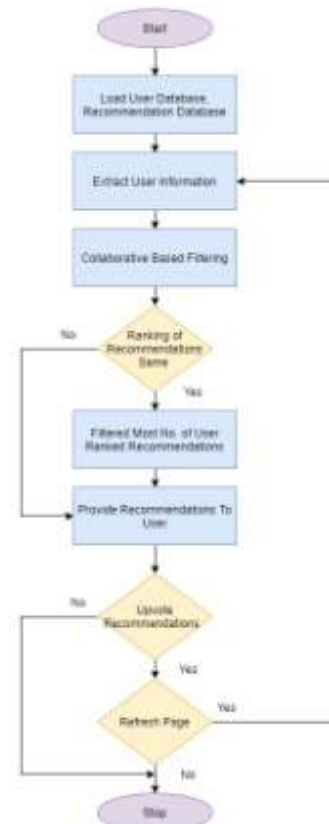


Fig 1. Proposed System of Recommend.me

The flowchart states:

As soon as the user visits the website the session starts and the unique id of the user is extracted from the cookie if the cookie doesn't exist, redirect the user to the login page.

From the extracted unique id user is fetched from the database and the home feed is displayed using collaborative and content-based filtering. This filtering techniques takes contents, tags, which recommendation users have upvoted, saved, shared into the account. Each user will have their own unique, customized feed according to their liking.



III. PROPOSED SYSTEM

This is the Data Flow Diagram for Recommend.me system.

First user login to the website using credentials, the system checks the credentials using the database.

User can search recommendations according to categories or tags the recommendations will be retrieved from the category database, user can also create a bucket of their favorite recommendations after recommendation marked as favorite it will be added to the database, whenever user create new recommendation it will be added to the recommendation database, whenever user follow other creators the creator will be added to the user database.

There is a machine learning model which provides recommendations to the user by performing collaborative and content-based filtering

IV. OBJECTIVES AND FEATURES

User Account Management:

- User Registration
- Google Oauth based user account verification
- User Login

Recommendation List Creation:

- Create a recommendation list on any topic
- Uses rich text editor to format the list
- Select various tags according to the recommendation list

Bucket:

- Create a personal bucket of your favourite recommendations
- This feature allows you to save your favourite recommendations for subsequent viewing
- This feature is the same as adding a product to the wish list on an e-commerce website

Sharing:

- Share a list of recommendations with your friends which ultimately allows other users to visit the website
- This does not require log in

Widget or Embedding HTML:

- Create a widget of your recommendation
- This feature is the same as embedding a YouTube video on your website
- Creates a widget card that can be added to your website
- Users will be provided **div, script, and link** tags which they can paste into their website,

and the same recommendation list will be shown on their website

Search:

- Search users by their username
- Search a recommendation list by a topic or a content

Timeline:

- The timeline shows the recommendation feed based on the user
- This feature is the same as social media feed
- The timeline is curated and algorithmically filtered according to different users

Comments:

- Comment on a recommendation list
- Comments are nested to accommodate a long discussion

Notification:

- Notifications to keep the user updated
- Users of the platform receive notifications whenever someone follows them, upvotes their list of recommendations, adds comments to their post

V. CONCLUSION AND FUTURE SCOPE

Recommend.me achieves the purpose by offering a platform for creating a personal list of recommendations that can be shared with the world. Since it is a web-based application, it is accessible to everyone using any configuration and operating system from anywhere in the world. Furthermore, because of its scalable tech stack, it will scale as the user base grows.

In the future, there can be features such as real-time chat to communicate with other users, a feature for creating a community on different categories such as community for programming where users will post recommendations on programming topics, API for developers to create apps on top of Recommend.me, and mobile application for android and IOS.

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