

Forum:[Hack Forums](#)

Thread: [Need Help With A POS \(For A Teacher!\)](#)

PregoPastaSauce - July 10, 2012, 10:42 pm

I need a quickie POS coded.

For a teacher friend, she uses a reward system for her students.

Based on a magnetic card.

She wants it so she can swipe a card, input the amount to add, or remove based on an action.

(Good/Bad Behavior)

And Perhaps a quick tab For "Sales" When she "sells" items for the points where she clicks and item (with a preset price) and then swipes the card to remove the value.

I had this posted in Buyers Bay, someone told me to come here :)

Anyways, I just found out she's on a mac, so I guess it has to be c++ and compiled on x-Code?

Im not a huge coder of c++, I know practically nothing xD

If any of you could help, I can offer you free web hosting or some form on monetary payment! <3

~DJ

hostwindsEvanM - July 11, 2012, 9:02 am

Won't be able to do this.. CC stuff is tricky. Just use something like Square if really needing to process mobile payments.

Teh Wallhacks™ - July 11, 2012, 9:15 am

I'd probably recommend Java for this.

It'd be a lot easy to code in and it's also cross platform

Creating the GUI would be a lot easier and so would the program.

Super Effective - July 11, 2012, 10:19 am

(Jul 11, 2012 09:15 AM)Teh Wallhacks™ Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) I'd probably recommend Java for this.

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Does Java easily allow interactions with card swiping machines? I know it can be used on devices, but I'd honestly think C++ would be fine for this. Either that or she should buy a card swiping machine setup and just be done with it.

ChewBox - July 11, 2012, 10:31 am

Just curious why you would accept/pay for this task to be completed when you're not a C++ programmer nor benefit from it? Maybe you did it to be nice which is fair enough, im just wondering.

PregoPastaSauce - July 11, 2012, 12:18 pm

(Jul 11, 2012 10:31 AM)ChewBox Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Just curious why you would accept/pay for this task to be completed when you're not a C++ programmer nor benefit from it? Maybe you did it to be nice which is fair enough, im just wondering.I didn't ;)

She's a teacher friend and my younger sister (college age) babysits her autistic daughter so I did it out of a nice gesture :P

Unfortunately Im held up with my hosting company and 2 full time jobs xD

Thanks for the suggestions guys! <3

~DEJ

Teh Wallhacks™ - July 11, 2012, 3:38 pm

(Jul 11, 2012 10:19 AM)Super Effective Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Does Java easily allow interactions with card swiping machines? I know it can be used on devices, but I'd honestly think C++ would be fine for this. Either that or she should buy a card swiping machine setup and just be done with it.

I'm not sure on reading and writing to a magnetic strip with Java, but I was just recommending Java since he has low C++ skills and creating and managing the students data would be easier in a higher level language.

I know a friend who has a card reader and it basically just outputs the cards info to text on the computer.

He could then access a Database/Text File and find which user that is and pull up the info.

Doing that seems a lot easier to do in a Higher level language.

I'd say just have a static UserID/Serial Number on the card and save the amount of points in the DB instead of trying to write to the card since those cost a lot more than ones that can just read.

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I'd say just have a static UserID/Serial Number on the card and save the amount of points in the DB instead of trying to write to the card since those cost a lot more than ones that can just read. Makes sense ;)

I'm pretty knowledgeable in Java, I'm just not that good with Java -> DB integration. When I took CS, it had a focus on robotics, so that's what I know how to do :)

So what your saying is:

The Card Stripe (Mag bar) has an implanted ID: Let's say 12345

And the database has a table (users) with the columns: First Last Points

When the card is swiped it requests the amount of points and outputs the First, Last, Points.

(I'll just throw in here, the reason she wants a card system is because the kids were stealing each other's paper money :\ She works at a pretty poverty stricken public school)

So The Card Is Swiped:

Display Data

Ask: Add Or Remove?

How Many?

Display User Name And new amount.

Sound right to you?

I'll go ahead and start on this, hopefully I can figure it out :\

Teh Wallhacks™ - July 11, 2012, 5:07 pm

(Jul 11, 2012 03:42 PM)The DJ Tec Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Makes sense ;)

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You would want 4 Columns:

ID | FirstName | LastName | Points

I'd just have a form with a text box and submit button.

Scan the card and it enters it into the text box and hit submit.

When you hit submit it submits a query and checks for that ID, if isn't an ID that is already submitted, have it spit an error out or have it ask if she would like to add it to the DB.

Have some buttons next to the Students Info for adding, subtracting and updating student info

Also, you could just use a student name system and not even use cards

Saves money and work, and prevents cards from being stolen/lost

Feel free to PM me, I have nothing better to do :P

I might be able to help a bit if you want

PregoPastaSauce - July 11, 2012, 5:09 pm

(Jul 11, 2012 05:07 PM)Teh Wallhacks™ Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) You would want 4 Columns:

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Now: Im not sure if she has internet at work, so is there a way I can do an offline DB?

Teh Wallhacks™ - July 11, 2012, 5:18 pm

(Jul 11, 2012 05:09 PM)The DJ Tec Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) perfect :D

Now: Im not sure if she has internet at work, so is there a way I can do an offline DB?

Do you have a skype or something I could contact you with?

It's a lot easier to talk

smi2le - July 12, 2012, 7:56 am

I don't see why you need to do the whole magnetic card POS system thing for this.

Just make an Access database with a form to access/write to it. Hell, you could do it with an Excel

table if you wanted. No programming involved.

print out the kids "balance statements" and give it to them when they earn/spend money rather than hassle with magnetic cards and creating a whole program/database around a card reader.

It's the same thing as your POS system idea but much cheaper. Since you said she teaches in a poverty stricken area it doesn't make sense to put expensive hardware in it and the kids are just going to start stealing each other's cards eventually anyway.