The Shopping Cart lab sequence is the capstone experience for this course. It is also a substantial part of your grade. Everything before has been to prepare you for this achievement. The earlier labs have introduced you to all the tools you will need. In this lab, you apply them to build a simplified but working eCommerce web site.

Here are the specifications (what your program must do and how your database tables must be). You will not be told exactly how to write the programs. Use your judgment and creativity in naming your store and designing the appearance of your screens, so long as they function in the way required.

Four Steps: There are four major steps in this lab, each composed of several smaller steps. We will discuss and work on these steps in class. For previous class assignments, it was expected that the majority of students could finish up during class time. For this section, it is expected that everyone (except maybe an Einstein) will need to spend substantial time outside of class to finish. These are lab assignments. Start early before the tutors are overwhelmed.

Late Work: At this time, these labs are checked off in class by the teacher. The deadline for late work is the last day of class.

1 BuyOne

This preliminary program is designed for use by customers of your store. There are three steps.

(1) Table: Name your database table inventory. Include the following columns: an inventory ID number, a product description, a quantity on hand, a cost to acquire new items, and a price at which we sell items. You must be able to handle a cost and price of $999.99 or more. You may include other columns if you wish. I recommend that you use by-hand methods to create the table and insert a few items into it. The table must have at least three items.

(2) Customer View of Inventory: Name your CGI program buyone. It has only one screen. Display an HTML table of the appropriate inventory information for all products in the database table. You must include the product description, price, and quantity on hand. You must not include the product cost because it is confidential. Other fields are optional. On each row (each product) should be a Buy One button, one button per inventory item.

(3) Actually Reduce Inventory: When the Buy One button is pressed the quantity in the database should be update correctly. The screen should then be redrawn.

2 Manager

The manager program is intended for use by employees of the store. It allows them to display and modify the inventory. There are three steps.

(1) Display: Display an HTML table listing ALL inventory information from the database table. On each row (each product) place an Update button, one button per inventory item. At the top or bottom there should be a button to Add new items.

(2) Add: When the Add button is pressed, bring up a screen with a blank input field for each column of the inventory table. At the bottom of the screen put two buttons. The Back button should return the user to the (updated) inventory screen. The Add button should add the new item to inventory and remain on this screen so that more items can be added.

(3) Update: When an Update button is pressed, bring up a screen like your add screen, with an input field for each changeable column of the inventory table, filled in with current information from the database. (The product ID itself should not be changeable.) At the bottom of the screen put three buttons. The Back button should return the user to the (unchanged) inventory screen. The Update button should update the item in inventory and return to the (updated) inventory screen. The Delete button has two actions. If the quantity is zero or negative, the Delete button removes the item shown and returns
to the inventory screen. If the quantity is positive, the Delete button changes nothing. It redraws the update screen with an appropriate warning message.

Testing: What should happen if you add a new item but an old item has the same product ID?

3 ShopCart

The shopcart program replaces your preliminary buyone program. Instead of a Buy One button, it has a quantity input field and an Add to Cart button on each line. It also shows the contents of your shopping cart. There are three steps.

(1) Screen Layout: The screen has two <h1> sections. The first section is called Shopping Cart and lists all items currently in your shopping cart. The second section is called The Store and lists all items currently for sale.

When the program starts, generate a random number to be the shopping cart ID. Pass this number to the screen in a hidden field. As items are added to the shopping cart, insert them (cart ID, product ID, and quantity) into your (newly created) shopping cart database table.

The Shopping Cart section begins empty, showing a message stating that your shopping cart is currently empty. When one or more items are in the cart, it shows an HTML table that lists item code, description, quantity (as a modifiable field), price each, and total price (quantity times price). At the end of the table is a grand total price and several submit buttons. One button says Recalculate and is useful when quantities have been changed. Another button says Check Out and leads to the checkout program (screen) that you will write later.

The The Store section displays an HTML table of the appropriate inventory information for all products in the database table. As with buyone, you must include the product description, price, and quantity on hand, not product cost, other fields optional. Next to each row (each product) with positive inventory should be a buy input field with a default value of “1” (changeable by the customer) and a Add to Cart button, one button per inventory item.

(2) Add to Cart: When pressed, the quantity in the shopping cart should be updated. The screen should then be redrawn. Do not modify the database inventory quantities until the customer finalizes his/her purchase.

(3) Recalculate: When pressed, the quantity in the shopping cart should be updated. If the new quantity for any item is zero, that item should be deleted from the shopping cart.

Testing: What should happen if you add zero or negative of something? What if you have 5 widgets in your cart, and you Add-to-cart 1 widget? What if you put more widgets into your cart than exist in the store? What if you have two people shopping at the same time?

4 Checkout

When the customer presses the Check Out button on the shopcart screen, this program should run. At your option, you can make this a separate program or combine it into the shopcart program.

(1) Screen Layout: The screen has two <h1> sections. The first section is called Shopping Cart and lists all items currently in your shopping cart. The second section is called Check Out and finalizes the purchase.

The Shopping Cart section looks similar to shopcart, but quantities cannot be changed. The Recalculate button is gone. The Check Out button is replaced by a Continue Shopping button that takes you back to shopcart.

The Check Out section displays sales tax, shipping and handling, and final total. You may calculate these in any way that seems reasonable to you. Provide input fields for credit card number, expiration date, and card holder name. At your option, you can also provide appropriate input fields for ship-to address. Provide a Finalize Purchase button.

(2) Finalize Purchase: When pressed, verify that the credit card information is reasonable. If not, print a warning and redraw the screen. Next, all quantities in the shopping cart are deducted from store inventory and removed from the shopping cart database table. A Thank You screen should then be drawn giving appropriate links of your choice.

Testing: What should happen if the card is expired? What if the shopping cart has more of an item than the quantity in stock?