

“Remember Me” Cookie-based Login

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The Problem

- ✦ Users don't always want to take the time to log in
- ✦ Simple preferences aren't particularly secret
- ✦ But some other information might be
 - ✦ Email
 - ✦ Grades
 - ✦ Etc.

amazon.com.


Hey, it knows me!

amazon.com


Hello, **Jen Bourey**. We have [recommendations](#) for you. (Not [Jen Bourey?](#))

Jen's Amazon.com



Today's Deals

Gifts & Wish Lists

Gift Cards

It even knows what I like!

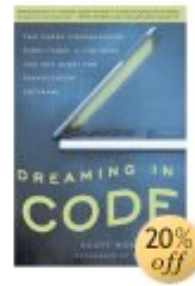
New For You[®]



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([Why is this recommended for you?](#))



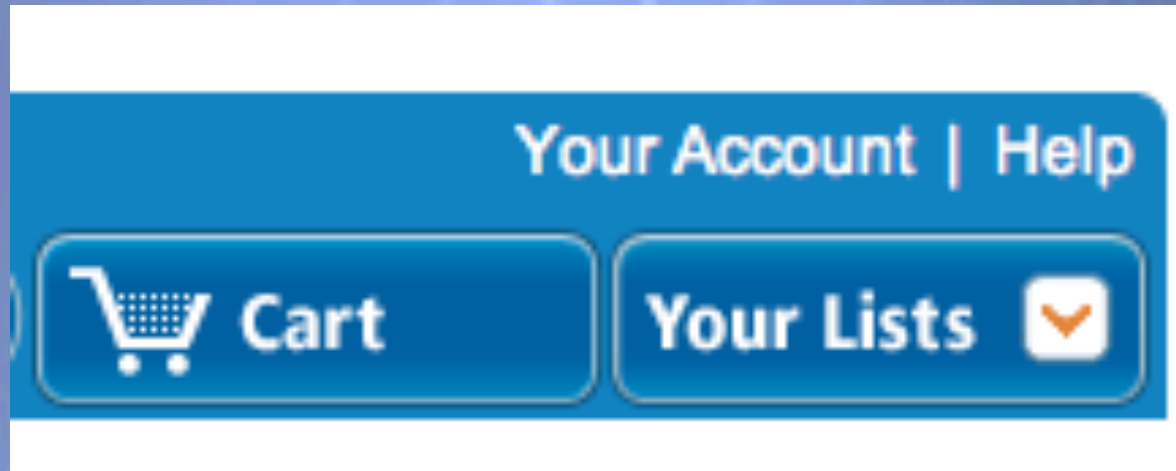
[Dreaming in Code: Two Dozen...](#) Paperback by Scott Rosenberg
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OK, only *I* get to order stuff



Logging in

Sign In

What is your e-mail address?

My e-mail address is

Do you have an Amazon.com password?

No, I am a new customer.

Yes, I have a password:

Sign in using our secure server 

[Forgot your password? Click here](#)

[Has your e-mail address changed since your last order?](#)

Requirements

- ✦ Users identified, but not authenticated
- ✦ Show interesting personal information
- ✦ Hide sensitive institutional data
- ✦ Users can't edit their layouts

CAS!

- ✦ Users can't get institutional data without a CAS ticket

UI Challenges

- ✦ Clear “remember me” and “forget me” links
- ✦ Make clear whether users are logged in
- ✦ Easy to log in

Just a guest

Welcome News Help Login using your NetID


Apr 25, 2008 Visitor




Cookie-identified, no CAS authentication

Welcome News Entertainment Help Login using your NetID


Apr 25, 2008 Jennifer Bourey Not logged in | This isn't me! Please log in to edit page




CAS-authenticated with no valid cookie

Welcome  News Entertainment Help Log out from CAS

Apr 25, 2008 Jennifer Bourey Logged in | Remember me  Add Content |  Page Layout |  Add tab

CAS-authenticated with a valid cookie

Welcome  News Entertainment Help Log out from CAS

Apr 25, 2008 Jennifer Bourey Logged in | This isn't me!  Add Content |  Page Layout |  Add tab

Authentication-required content

My Recent Email



You must have a valid CAS session to use this portlet. Please [login](#) to access this content.

Less Ideal

My Calendar edit ▢ ▢ ✕


Calendars:
 Course Schedule Moon Phases US Holidays Work Yale Events

Range:
today | 2 days | 1 week | 2 weeks

The calendar "Course Schedule" requires a valid CAS session.

Tomorrow

10:12 AM	Last Quarter Moon
12:00 PM	"Slavery on Shifting Grounds: The Prohibition of the African Slave Trade and Brazilian Slavery in the 19th Century"
3:30 PM - 5:00 PM	Development Workshop
4:00 PM	"Meaning in the Margins of Yale Beinecke 229"
4:30 PM - 6:00 PM	"Achieving Moral Clarity: Reflections for Grown-Up Idealists"
5:00 PM	"Globalization of Manufacturing Industries: From My Personal Experience"
7:00 PM	"The Thin Red Line"

 [Edit and download calendars](#)

- ✦ Clear status indicators with graphics
 - ✦ CAS-authenticated?
 - ✦ Valid cookie?
- ✦ Easy-to-find links
- ✦ Helpful authentication messages in portlets with login links

Person Managers

- ✦ Implement IPersonManager.java
- ✦ One method: `getPerson(request)`
 - ✦ Returns an IPerson

SimplePersonManager

```
public IPerson getPerson (HttpServletRequest request) throws
PortalSecurityException {
    HttpSession session = request.getSession(false);
    IPerson person = null;
    // Return the person object if it exists in the user's session
    if (session != null)
        person = (IPerson)session.getAttribute(PERSON_SESSION_KEY);
    if (person == null) {
        try {
            // Create a guest person
            person = PersonFactory.createGuestPerson();
        } catch (Exception e) {
            // Log the exception
            log.error("Exception creating guest person.", e);
        }
        // Add this person object to the user's session
        if (person != null && session != null)
            session.setAttribute(PERSON_SESSION_KEY, person);
    }
    return person;
}
```


userContext.xml

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<beans xmlns="http://www.springframework.org/schema/beans"
  xmlns:xsi="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance"
  xsi:schemaLocation="http://www.springframework.org/schema/beans
  http://www.springframework.org/schema/beans/spring-beans-2.5.xsd">

  <!--
  | The concrete IPersonManager implementation to be used
  +-->
  <bean id="personManager"
    class="org.jasig.portal.security.provider.SimplePersonManager" />

  <bean id="userInstanceManager"
    class="org.jasig.portal.user.UserInstanceManagerImpl" />

</beans>
```

What's a Guest User?

- ✦ Authenticated=false
- ✦ Guest user layout manager
- ✦ By default, has the userid "guest"

UnionPersonManager

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<beans xmlns="http://www.springframework.org/schema/beans"
       xmlns:xsi="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance"
       xsi:schemaLocation="http://www.springframework.org/schema/beans
       http://www.springframework.org/schema/beans/spring-beans-2.5.xsd">

  <!--
  | The concrete IPersonManager implementation to be used
  +-->
  <bean id="personManager" class="org.jasig.portal.security.provider.UnionPersonManager">
    <property name="personManagers">
      <list>
        <bean class="org.jasig.portal.security.provider.CookiePersonManager"/>
        <bean class="org.jasig.portal.security.provider.SimplePersonManager"/>
      </list>
    </property>
  </bean>

  <bean id="userInstanceManager" class="org.jasig.portal.user.UserInstanceManagerImpl" />

</beans>
```

Creating Cookies

- ✦ Cookies
 - ✦ Userid
 - ✦ Random string
- ✦ Created by AJAX servlet
- ✦ "Password" saved in database table

CookiePersonManager

- ✦ Look for a cookie
- ✦ Validate it against the database
- ✦ If found, create a guest user with the userid of the cookie-identified user
- ✦ Ask the PersonManager for user attributes
- ✦ Set an "identified" attribute for the user

Alternate Approach

- ✦ Authenticated, but not CAS Authenticated
- ✦ Check for cookie in filter
- ✦ Pass to cookie security context

Other User Managers

- ✦ URLParameterGuestManager
 - ✦ Specify a guest via a URL parameter
 - ✦ Guest must be on a whitelist
- ✦ IPGuestManager
 - ✦ Match guest names by IP regexes

Possible use cases

- ✦ Set all campus kiosks to a home page with a special guest user
- ✦ Have a different guest user for on and off-campus use
- ✦ More? :)

Contact

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