

Carpooling Platform Feature Research

Purpose

Understand features of existing carpooling platforms to inform design of a simplified carpooling web app.

Platforms Covered

1. Uber Pool
2. Lyft Line
3. BlaBlaCar
4. Waze Carpool
5. Scoop

1. Uber Pool

Overview:

Uber Pool allows multiple passengers to share a ride along a similar route, reducing costs.

Key Features:

- Real-time ride matching
- Dynamic pricing and split fares
- Route optimization
- Live tracking

User Interface:

- Location-based search
- Map integration
- Notifications and driver info

Simplification:

- Static pickup/drop inputs
- Manual ride updates
- No GPS or dynamic pricing

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2. Lyft Line

Overview:

Lyft Line offered shared rides to users with similar destinations.

Key Features:

- Ride pooling
- Upfront pricing
- Minimal detours

User Interface:

- Ride selection panel
- Fare and ETA display
- In-app alerts

Simplification:

- Pre-matched rides
- Basic list view
- Static cost display

3. BlaBlaCar

Overview:

Long-distance carpooling platform with pre-scheduled rides.

Key Features:

- Cost-sharing
- Ratings/reviews
- In-app or cash payment

User Interface:

- Trip filter form

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- Driver profiles
- List/map view

Simplification:

- Simple trip form
- Basic user profile
- Offline payment

4. Waze Carpool

Overview:

Connects drivers and riders with similar daily commutes.

Key Features:

- Route-based matching
- Trip scheduling
- In-app wallet

User Interface:

- Map-based UI
- Calendar integration
- Carpool filters

Simplification:

- Manual schedule input
- Text fields for locations
- No wallet

5. Scoop

Overview:

Focused on scheduled carpooling for office workers.

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Key Features:

- Two-way scheduling
- Route/time-based matching
- Corporate access

User Interface:

- Calendar planner
- Alerts and confirmations

Simplification:

- One-time ride selection
- No calendar sync
- No organization links

Summary & Relevance

Feature Summary:

- User Registration: All
- Ride Matching: All
- Payment: Uber, Lyft, BlaBla, Waze, Scoop
- Route Optimization: Uber, Lyft, Waze
- Ratings: Uber, BlaBla, Scoop
- Real-Time Tracking: Uber, Lyft, Waze

Simplified Web App Recommendations:

- [Yes] User Sign-Up: Simple with OTP/email
- [Yes] Ride Posting & Searching
- [Yes] Basic Ratings
- [No] Real-Time Tracking: Optional/Manual
- [No] Payment: Leave offline