

Design a menu preview app for a sushi restaurant

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Google UX design certificate

Project overview



The product:

Taste of Japan is a sushi restaurant(imaginary) located in Helsinki Finland. The restaurant and this app is for busy people living in a city who want high-quality sushi.



Background:

I participated in Google UX design certificate studies in Coursera. The task was to make a UX portfolio during the studies. I selected designing a menu preview app for a sushi restaurant as my topic.

Project duration:

I started studying this certificate in the end of August 2022 and finished this project in November.

Project overview



The problem:

Busy workers lack the time to search restaurants and prepare meal at home sometimes.



The goal:

Design an app that allows users easily check the detailed menu and decide whether to book a table or go straight to the restaurant.

Project overview



My role:

In this project I was working in various roles within the UX design field.



Responsibilities:

Had all kind of responsibilities during the whole project and its phases

(empathizing, defining, ideating, prototyping & testing).

Conducting interviews, paper and digital wireframing, low and high-fidelity prototyping, conducting usability studies, accounting accessibility and iterating on designs.

Understanding the user

- User research
- Personas
- Problem statements
- User journey maps

User research: summary



In this project I learned a lot about user research. I was given couple of users to pick up two to my project. I defined research goals and imaginary target audience. Then I made interview questions and created empathy map to understand the users better. A primary user group identified through research was working adults who don't have time to cook meals or wander around city or search information from internet about restaurants and the food they are offering.

User research: pain points

1

Time

With tight schedule they
need to make time
optimization.

2

Food quality

Want quality sushi and
no disappointments.



User persona:

“Earn well and sometimes enjoy the little luxury in life”

Goals

- Be efficient
- time saving
- get quality food when finally is heading out to eat

Frustrations

- Sometimes there are no suitable options in a certain restaurant
- There are too much options
- Quality is poor

Name: Alfie

Age: 30

Education: University graduate

Hometown: Helsinki

Family: Single, lives alone

Occupation: Senior accountant

Alfie is 30 years old senior accountant with busy schedule and work is the top priority in mind. He enjoys nightlife and going out but does it seldom. While out he wants to get quality food and service and not waste time by looking out options and then deciding if to choose restaurant and the food they are offering.

User persona:

“Busy but still organized and family is the number one”

Goals

- Make decisions fast and get fast&easy what the family wants
- Managing time
- Staying organized

Frustrations

- Using too much time while deciding what to eat
- Restaurants are sometimes busy->timeconsuming, must find another place,what to eat there
- Will all like the food



Name: Neelam

Age: 35

Education: Master's degree in Education

Hometown: Helsinki

Family: Married with one young child

Occupation: Teacher

Neelam is a busy woman with young child and a husband. She is having stress about her work and having a young child. She likes to prepare food for her family but sometimes there are no time and she wants to make life easier by going out in a restaurant. She wants to be organized and save time by using different products. With a menu preview app the family could save time and avoid all the hassle if they would see the offering first and then decide will they go there and are there suitable options for everybody.

PROBLEM STATEMENT

Alfie is a/an Hard-working senior accountant with a busy schedule
user name user characteristics

who needs To see the menu in advance
user need

because By doing that he can save time and make a decision whether to go while previewing the menu.
insight

Persona: Alfie

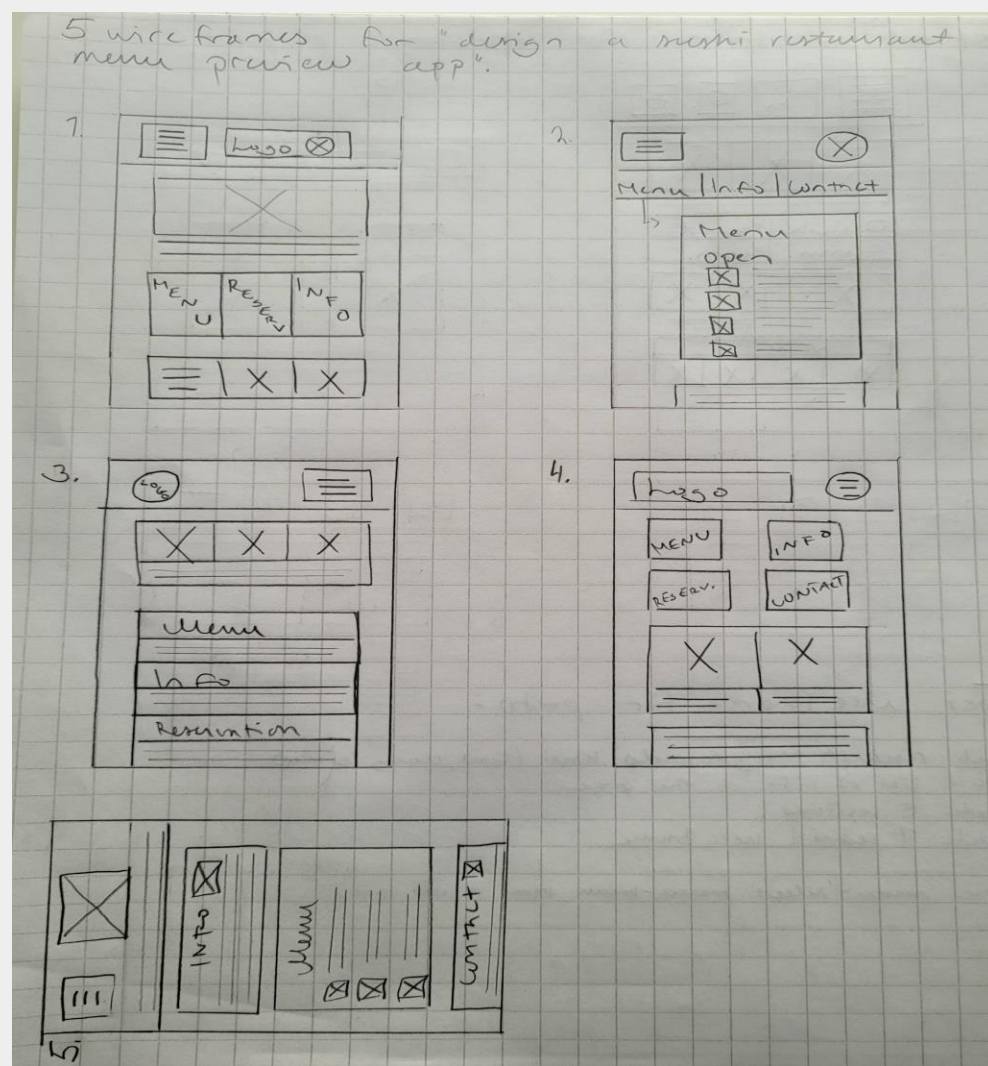
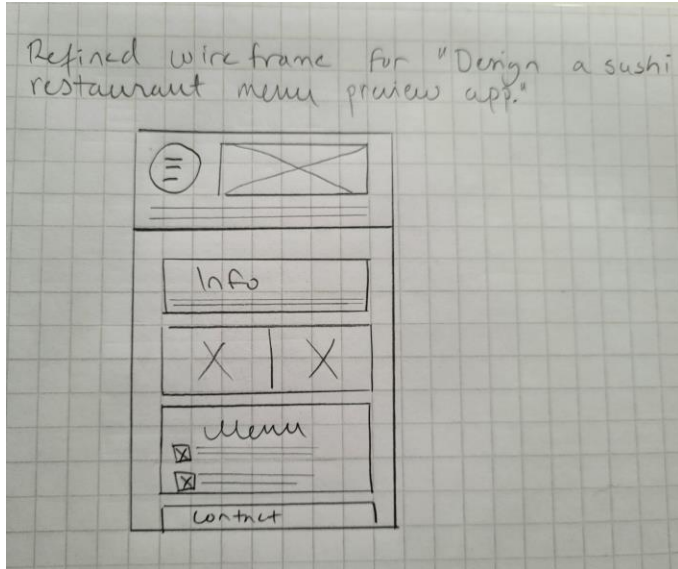
User journey map

Goal: Preview a menu of a sushi restaurant and decide whether to go there

ACTION	Ask colleague for recommendations	Hear about all the great places	Preview all the restaurant from internet	Choose one restaurant	Go to the restaurant
TASK LIST	Tasks A. Find a colleague B. Ask about great sushi places in town	Tasks A. Colleague tells many places B. Writes places in his phone notebook	Tasks A. When Alfie has spare time he Googles restaurants B. Writes notes about options	Tasks A. See notes B. Decides where to go	Tasks A. Go to the restaurant he has chosen
FEELING ADJECTIVE	Busy and bit worried is he going to find any colleagues and so they have time to chat.	Happy there actually are places worth visiting, bit anxious about the time it might take to preview all the options.	Happy; going to eat great sushi Bit worried: is the food high quality, is he wasting too much time for search, what they have to offer.	Interested where to go and which one to choose. Nervous is the choice right or is he going to be disappointed and waste time.	Excited to eat and see what kind of place it is.
IMPROVEMENT OPPORTUNITIES	Ask recommendations in WhatsApp.	Ask colleague to tell best places in order (best, second best) See recommendations from internet.	See recommendations See the menus with pictures + there is alt text + possibility for screen readers + only important info and UI is great.	See recommendations See the menus with pictures.	

Paper wireframes

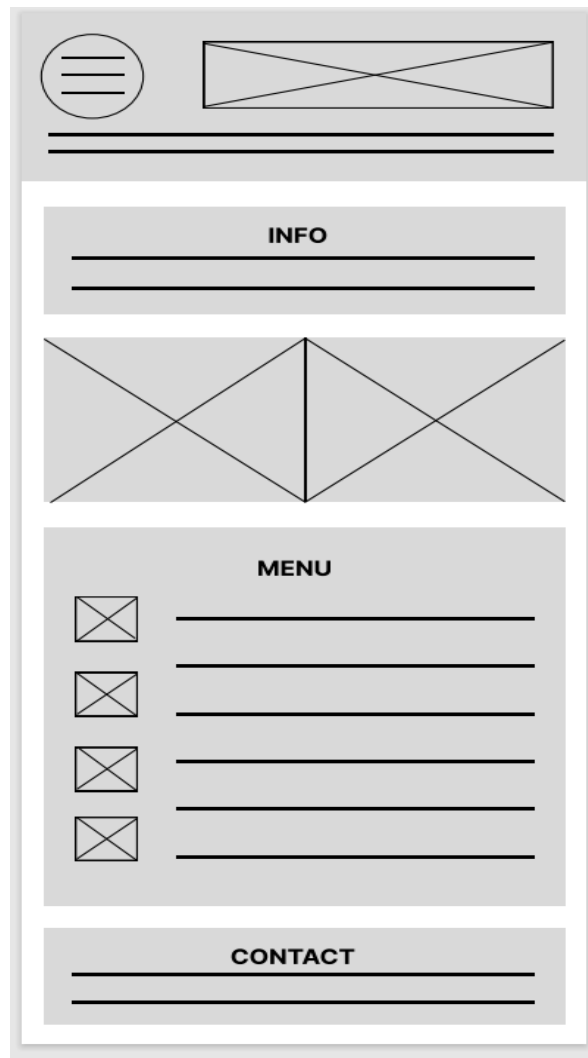
Made five wireframes and finally selected one to work forward with. Point were to address users pain points and help them find quickly what they need.



Digital wireframes

Designed digital wireframes according to feedback and findings from user research.

Design is clear and minimalistic so users can easily and quickly find the information they need.

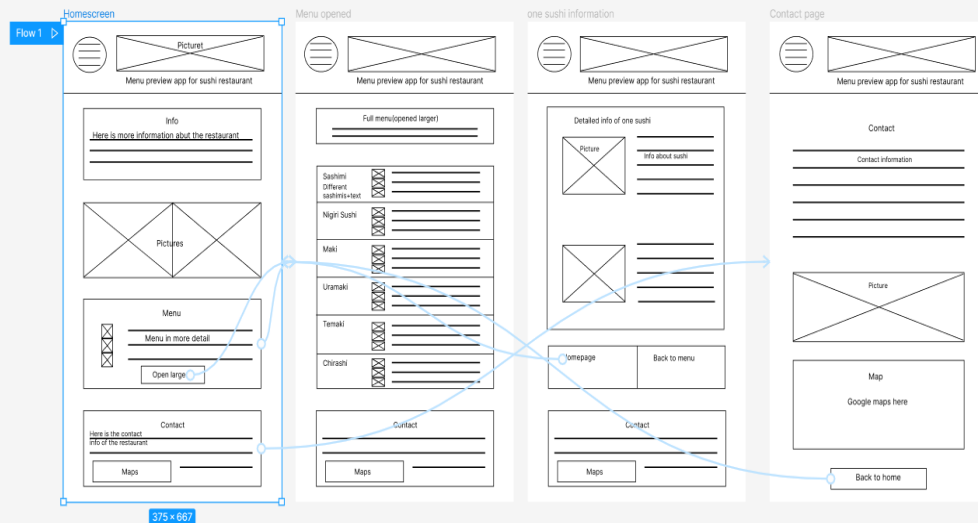


Low-fidelity prototype

Here is a link for low-fidelity prototype:

<https://www.figma.com/file/oAcCbe2zk5y9iWe1yt5vfD/menupreviewapp?node-id=0%3A1&t=mbKK1MDkDluEwwdc-1>

Made it according the main user flow so the prototype could be tested.



Usability study: findings

Conducted two usability studies. First study helped me to improve the designs from wireframes to mockups. With the help of second study results I created a high-fidelity prototype.

Round 1 findings

- 1 Prototype was hard to understand.
- 2 Users want more advanced version.

Round 2 findings

- 1 More realistic elements.
- 2 Black background with white text is better.
- 3 Actual Google map in Contact page.+more info-buttons in menu opened screen.

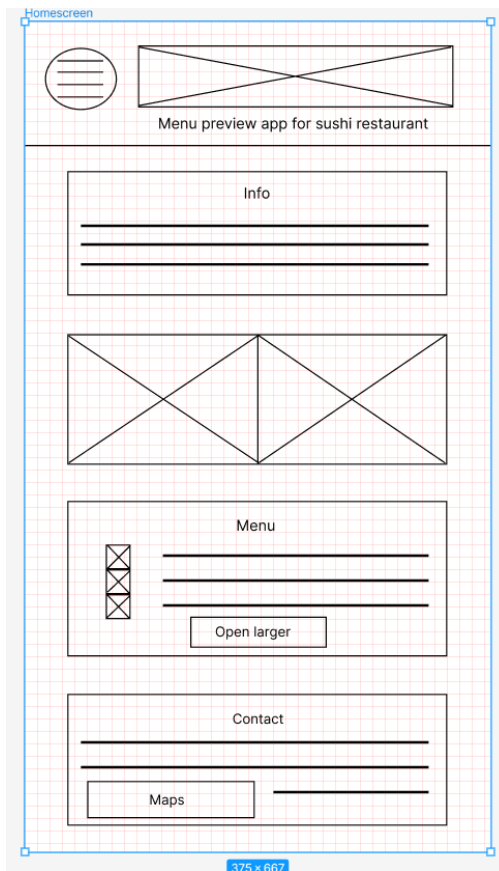
Refining the design

- Mockups
- High-fidelity prototype
- Accessibility

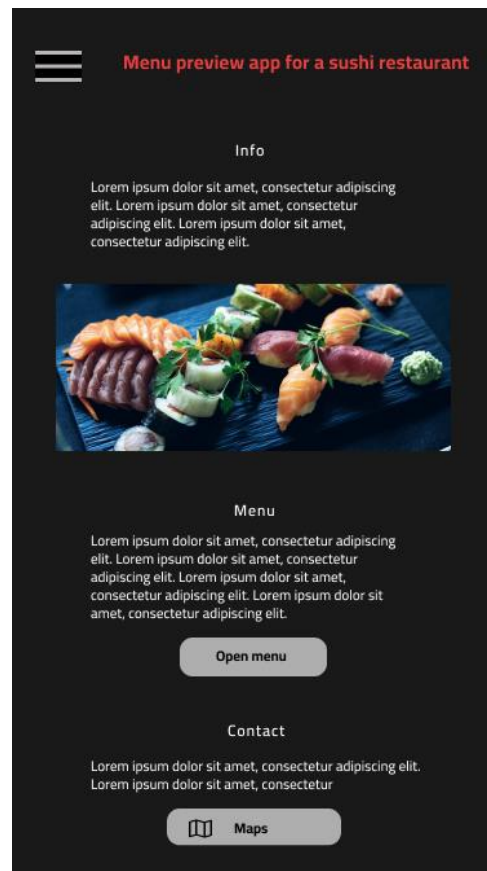
Mockups

From wireframe to mockup.
I made the design more realistic so it would be easier to understand.

Before usability study



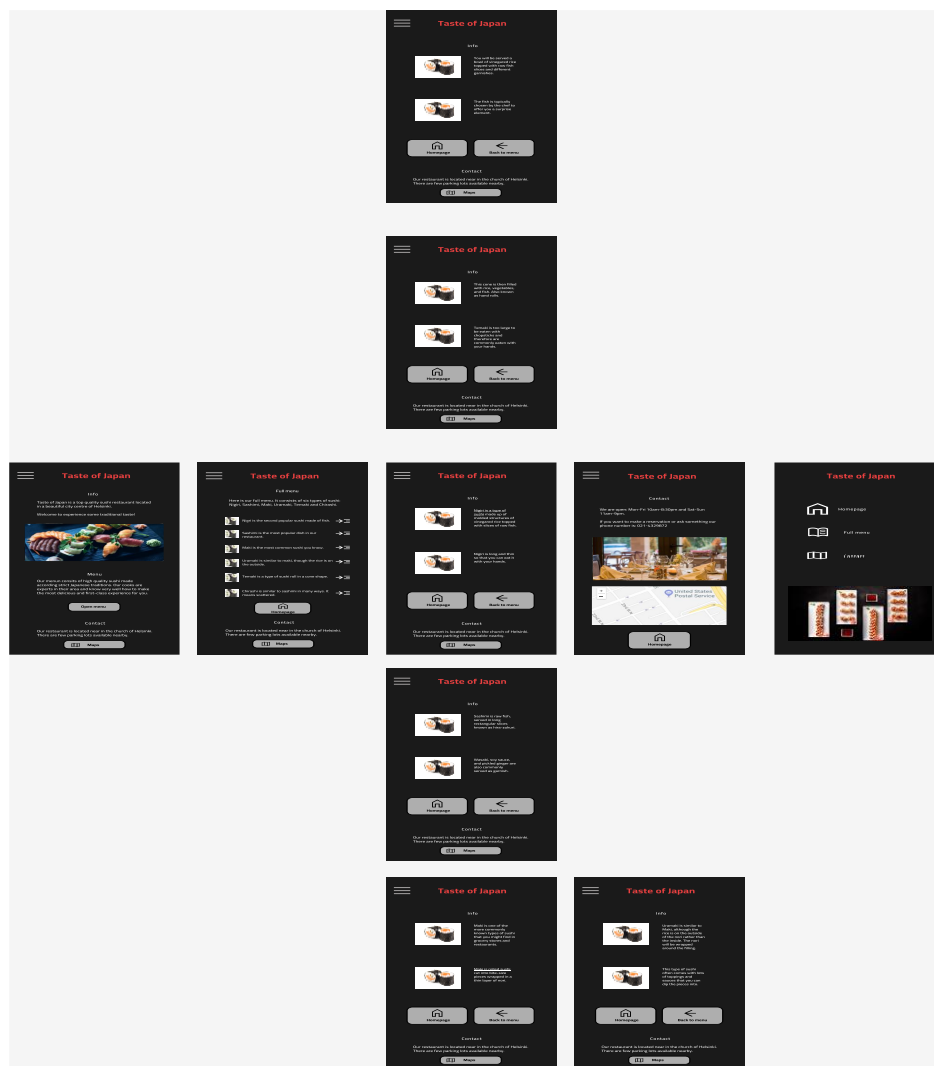
After usability study



High-fidelity prototype

Here is a link to hi-fi prototype.

<https://www.figma.com/file/oAcCbe2zk5y9iWe1yt5vfD/menupreviewapp?node-id=122%3A90&t=mbKK1MDkDluEwwdc-1>



Accessibility considerations

1

Checked the contrast with the WebAIM.

2

Used both icons and text to make navigation easier.

3

Used detailed pictures of sushi and descriptive text to help all users understand the designs.

Going forward

- Takeaways
- Next steps

Takeaways



Impact:

Got positive feedback after showing the hi-fi proto to some people and fellow peers in the certificate course.

"I would like to use this app in real life."

"Nice work"



What I learned:

While designing the app I learned that there are quite many steps in the design process and the iteration is continuing the whole process. Also there are many ideas and there could be so many design end results.

Next steps

1

It would be beneficial to conduct another round of usability testing and make sure the users pain points have been effectively addressed.

2

Conduct more usability research if there are some new areas of need.

Thank you!