Heuristic Evaluation

Goal for first sprint: Our main goal for the first sprint is getting all of our user stories situated and ready to analyze.

Competitor being analyzed: Soundiiz

1 Visibility of System Status: 8

Upon completing tasks within the website, a green banner at the top says that the action was completed. However, before the action was completed there was no progress bar or symbol indicating an action in progress. Most actions on the site take only a matter of seconds so this is not a huge issue. Certain actions that change the majority of the page display a loading icon.

2 Match Between the System and the Real World: 8

The website uses familiar technology for the most part, however it does introduce new terms that come with the added services that this website provides. Under their automation tab, there are things like batches, syncs and smartlinks which I have never heard of in this context.

3 User Control and Freedom: 5

Does not support undo at least for creating and deleting playlists. There is, however, a confirmation before deleting that ensures you are deleting the right thing. Nothing really good or bad here.

4 Consistency and Standards: 9

There is a lot of consistency with terminology and how it is shown to the user. Understanding what the different buttons do. Additionally, it lays out playlists in the same order and display that the music service it imports from does.

5 Error Prevention: 9

I was unable to produce or a reach any errors. As well, when I tried to delete or remove something it gave me a confirmation message to ensure my intentions.

6 Recognition Rather than Recall: 8

The layout is rather easy to recognize and follow. It is a common tree that expands out to the right and more detailed information as you expand. Similar actions and buttons are around each other which makes finding this easy. On top of that, all the actions are clearly and individually labelled. It also uses colors very well to distinguish items from each other. One issue was that it doesn't save any playlist covers and just creates an icon of the service. This makes it hard to distinguish playlists with how many there are on the screen at once.

7 Flexibility and Efficiency of Use: 6

I was not really able to find many shortcuts. All the actions are kind of laid out as selectable button toggles. However, this isn't a super high level program so there isn't much need to have shortcuts. When you open up tabs of different items, everything is thrown on your screen all at once so it does get a little overwhelming trying to find a specific playlist or track. There is not really any customization or personalization to the website other than really naming and organizing your playlists.

8 Aesthetic and Minimalist Design: 6

There is a ton of words on the screen in the main pages. No matter where you are on the website, there is always a long list of playlists, songs, artists, etc. in the very middle of the screen. Like I said before, the icons for playlists and songs are all the same so it can be hard to distinguish them when they are all listed out so compactly. Generally, there is just a lot going on at once on the webpage. Outside of that, the color scheme is very nice to look at and the more important info stands out among the rest.

9 Help Users Recognize, Diagnose, and Recover from Errors: 5

I was unable to produce any error codes, so I'm not sure how they display. The closest thing I could get was trying to open a playlist with no songs, which just displays a message that tells us there is no content in that playlist.

10 Help and Documentation: 8

There is a constant help button in the bottom right corner, which can be removed with the x button on it. Though once I clicked the x I did not know how to and could not get it back. Before that, within the help menu it is a simple search that shows you the most relevant help articles based on your search. This was very easy to use and very straightforward (other than it disappearing).