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# Open Source Coding (Introduction)

Part 1 – Research



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## Research

## Introduction

#### "Time is what we want most, but what we use worst." - William Penn

In the modern, fast-paced workplace, many professionals find it challenging to effectively manage their time. Time tracking apps have emerged as essential aids for both individuals and businesses, providing a convenient way to keep track of and improve productivity. This report sets out to examine three prominent time tracking apps designed for the Android platform: Clockify, Timely, and Harvest. Through a thorough analysis of their features, strengths, weaknesses, and innovative elements, my goal is to understand the dynamics of time tracking software and uncover valuable insights to inform best practices in app development. (Apploye, 2023)

# **Research on Each Application**

# **Timely**



#### Overview

Timely sets itself apart in the realm of time tracking by prioritizing automatic time tracking driven by AI technology. This feature enables users to seamlessly integrate their calendars, effortlessly capturing meetings, appointments, and various other activities. Alongside providing detailed project insights and analytics, Timely empowers users to refine their workflow and enhance productivity. (Chandra, 2024)

# Strengths

- Timely's automatic time tracking feature sets it apart from traditional manual data entry apps, ensuring precise data collection without the need for manual input.
- Its integration with calendar apps enhances usability, enabling users to effortlessly monitor their time for various activities.
- Timely's project insights and analytics offer valuable information on time utilization trends, assisting users and teams in making informed decisions. (A-Team, 2023)

## Weaknesses

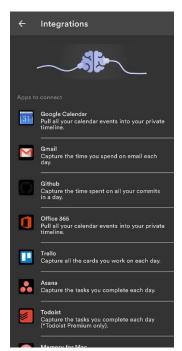
- Timely's pricing may pose a disadvantage, potentially being more expensive compared to competitors offering similar features.
- Users accustomed to simpler time tracking systems may find it challenging to adapt to Timely's learning curve.
- While Timely's advanced features enhance its appeal, they may overwhelm users seeking a simpler experience.

(GA, 2024)

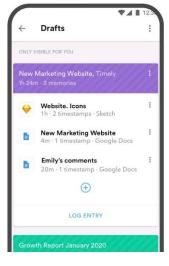
## **Innovative Features**

Timely stands out from the crowd with its advanced technology that anticipates users' needs and streamlines time management effortlessly. By analysing users' historical data and behaviour, Timely intelligently categorizes time entries, reducing the reliance on manual input. This innovative approach ensures that users can track their time accurately without the hassle of constant manual adjustments. With Timely, users can enjoy a seamless and intuitive time tracking experience, allowing them to focus on their work without distractions. (Timely, 2024)

# **Screenshots & Descriptions:**











#### [Features]

The integration feature in Timely stands out as a significant advantage for users. This functionality enables seamless transfer of calendar appointments, meetings, and tasks from email inboxes to Timely, automating the process of filling the time tracking dashboard with relevant information. As a result, users can save time and ensure accuracy in tracking work hours without the need for manual entry. Additionally, Timely's draft feature provides a stressfree way to track work progress by allowing users to jot down task details as drafts, which can be polished later. With its ability to transparently record every moment of the workday, Timely provides users with a detailed timeline of activities, offering clear insights into time usage.

(Timely, 2024) (Sven, 2022)

# Clockify



Clockify is a versatile time tracking tool created to cater to the varying requirements of freelancers, small businesses, and large corporations. It features a variety of functions including time tracking, project organization, reporting features, and smooth connections with top productivity tools. Clockify is popular among users who want to improve their time management skills due to its user-friendly interface and ability to work on different platforms.

(Holznienkemper, 2024)

# Strengths

- Clockify offers a flexible time tracking solution with a no-cost option that can be upgraded for premium features as needed.
- Its cross-platform compatibility ensures seamless operation across web, mobile, and desktop applications.
- Clockify's robust reporting features empower users to analyse time data efficiently, enabling informed decisions to streamline workflow and project management.

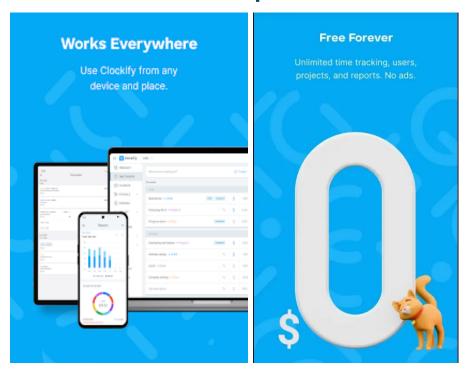
## Weaknesses

- Clockify offers extensive features, but some users may find its customization options limited compared to more specialized time tracking apps.
- Occasional syncing issues have been reported by users, impacting data accuracy and reliability.
- The development team promptly addresses these issues through regular updates and bug fixes. (SA, 2023)

# Innovative Features

Clockify offers a variety of impressive features that simplify time tracking and project management. Its impressive feature is its intelligent time monitoring, which adapts to your routines and categorizes your time logs automatically. This implies that you will have to do less work manually. Additionally, Clockify provides advanced reporting features along with dashboards that can be personalized, allowing you to closely examine how you allocate your time and pinpoint areas for enhancement. Additionally, its billing and invoicing system offers great flexibility, allowing you to generate professional invoices directly from your recorded time. (Holznienkemper, 2024)

# **Screenshots & Descriptions**



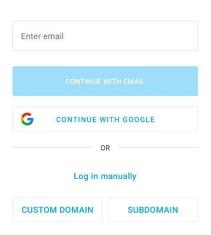
## [Multi-Platform]

[Free]

Clockify works on all platforms, it is the ultimate time tracking solution, and its free!



Log in



[Login]



[Features]

Track your work hours easily with Clockify's user-friendly time tracking tool. Just begin timing when starting a task and stop when finished to accurately and efficiently track your productivity. Utilize Reports: Obtain important insights into how you spend your time and patterns in productivity using Clockify's robust reporting tool. Produce comprehensive reports on your time tracking, projects, and tasks to help you analyse performance, recognize trends, and make strategic decisions for improving your workflow. Track your tasks: Use Clockify's activity recording function to record and log your work activities. Effortlessly record tasks, meetings, and other work-related events, guaranteeing detailed and precise documentation of your daily activities for future review and evaluation. (Clockify, 2024)

### Harvest



Freelancers and small businesses gravitate towards Harvest because it's straightforward and adaptable for managing time tracking and invoicing. It's like having your trusty sidekick to record working hours, keep tabs on projects, and monitor expenses, all in one convenient tool for handling projects and billing clients. Harvest's user-friendly vibe and seamless integrations make time tracking a breeze for folks in different industries, making it a top pick for those looking to streamline their project management process. (Harvest, 2024)

# Strengths

- Harvest has a simple user interface; it stands out for its straightforward design and is easily accessible by all users.
- When using Harvest, tracking your work hours and managing projects is a smooth sail.
- Harvest includes an integrated accounting and invoicing software, this goes the
  distance for those freelancers and small businesses, ultimately making it easier than
  streamline processes.

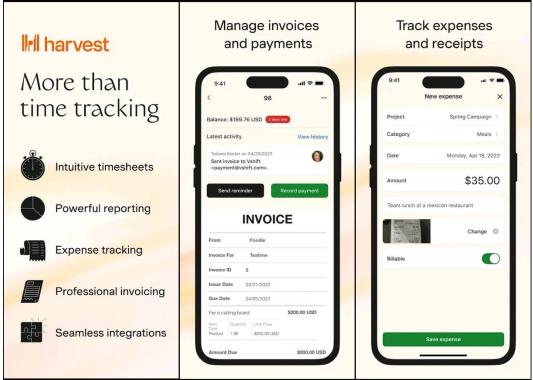
## Weaknesses

- Although Harvest offers a free plan if users are looking for a comprehensive time tracking software, there will be many limitations due to the limited features.
- There have been various reports from users on the mobile platform for performance issues, this hinders usability and reliability.

# **Innovative Features**

Harvest's unique feature of tracking expenses differentiates it from usual time tracking applications by enabling users to record receipts and expenses while on the move. Users can easily monitor project expenses and simplify their billing procedures with the integrated receipt scanning feature. (Harvest, 2024)

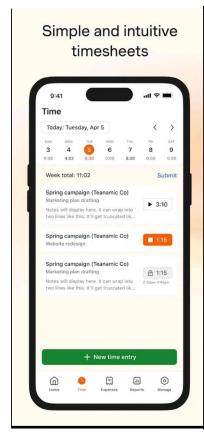
# **Screenshots & Descriptions**

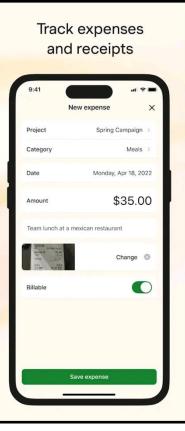


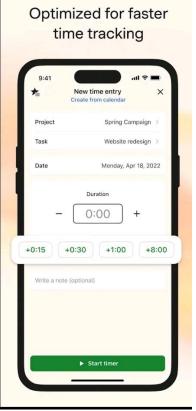
[Features]

Harvest is known for the simplicity of project management, it offers robust tools which aid in the organization of tasks, assigning of team members, and keeps track of progress with relation to the project effectively. With the incorporation of the task lists feature, team collaboration and project timeline, users can be on top of their tasks which ultimately ensures a smooth workflow and management from start to finish.

Harvest streamlines the invoicing and payment process; this allows users to ensure a professional invoice which is created quickly and accurately. (Harvest, 2024)







#### [Features]

Harvest is known for simple and straightforward user-friendly time sheets; this makes it easier for tracking work hours accurately.

Expense tracking is simplified, allowing users to successfully, easily capture, categorize receipts and expenses.

The prioritisation of efficiency in time tracking is designed to speed of processes.

[NOTE: Images sourced via Google Play Store.]

# **Infographic** [Visual]



[1/3, Clockify. Created via Canva]





#### REPORTING

Harvest's reporting tool offers detailed information on time management, project advancement, and financial results, enabling users to make well-informed choices and improve their productivity efficiently

#### INTEGRATION

Harvest offers smooth integration features that enable users to link up with multiple well-known tools and platforms, simplifying processes and boosting overall productivity.



#### **PLATFORM**

Harvest's platform considerations guarantee that users can easily track time and manage projects on desktop, mobile, or tablet by ensuring compatibility and accessibility across different devices and operating systems.



#### **VALUE**

Harvest excels in simplifying time tracking, project management, and invoicing with a comprehensive solution that boosts productivity, accuracy, and efficiency, ultimately saving users time and resources.

COMPARISON OF 3 ANDROID TIME TRACKING APPLICATIONS. CREATED BY EBRAHIM MOHAMMED

[2/3, Harvest. Created via Canva]





# INNOVATIVE

Timely offers cutting-edge features such as automatic time tracking using Al technology, smooth calendar integration, a draft function for recording unfinished tasks, a comprehensive timeline display of activities, and predictive analysis of productivity trends, giving users easy time tracking and helpful suggestions to improve their work efficiency.



Timely offers flexible options for tracking time and managing projects, including automatic time tracking, customizable reports, easy calendar integration, and teamwork features. It meets various user requirements in different sectors, enabling users to effectively handle their schedules, monitor project advancements, and boost team efficiency.



Timely's advanced AI technology allows for automatic real-time tracking of users' activities, enhancing its tracking capabilities.



#### **COMPREHENSIVE**

Timely offers comprehensive solutions for time tracking and project management, catering to the diverse needs of users across industries and roles..

COMPARISON OF 3 ANDROID TIME TRACKING APPLICATIONS. CREATED BY EBRAHIM MOHAMMED

[3/3, Timely. Created via Canva]

# Infographic References

(Clockify, 2024)

(Harvest, 2024)

(Timely, 2024)

# List of features I want to include in my application.

- User Authentication: Allow users to securely register and sign in by utilizing a unique username and password.
- Category Management: Empower users to establish and oversee categories for efficient organization of timesheet entries.
- Time Sheet Creation: Make it easier for users to create new timesheet entries by streamlining the process, allowing them to easily input date, start and end times, description, and category.
- Optional Picture Inclusion: Provide the choice for users to add pictures to every timesheet input for visual aid if necessary.
- Daily Goal Setting: Enable users to establish both lower and upper daily targets for hours worked to sustain productivity levels.
- Enable users to see a roster of all timesheet entries made within a chosen timeframe, including the ability to access saved images for reference.
- Category Hour Tracking: Allow users to see how many hours were spent on each category within a chosen time frame.
- Time Tracking: Create a user-friendly interface for users to efficiently begin and end tracking the time they dedicate to tasks or projects. Enable manual input of time if necessary.
- Intuitive interface: Tailored to all technical levels to ensure ease of use and accessibility for users.

# **Conclusion**

In summary, upon evaluating Clockify, Timely, and Harvest, it is evident that each application provides unique benefits for users when it comes to efficiently managing their time. Clockify is an excellent option for basic time tracking requirements due to its simplicity and affordability. Impress with its innovative automatic tracking and seamless calendar integration, Timely caters to users who value convenience and accuracy. In the meantime, Harvest is notable for its extensive project management and invoicing capabilities, perfect for companies seeking to streamline workflow and billing procedures. These applications offer useful choices for individuals looking to improve their time management and efficiency.

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