

Starting Pitch

Problem:

In today's day and age, productivity is an issue in the case of online schooling in which students have difficulty keeping track of all their assignments and making sure that they complete them on time. There are a multitude of distractions that are simply right by the side of the user and this prevents students from achieving maximal productivity. With the onset of COVID-19 came online schooling, which introduced both more distractions and mental strain. Students may feel overloaded balancing school and worries from current events.

The digitalization of schooling in general has made it much more difficult to keep track of important items such as due dates, class resources, assignments, class schedules, just to name a few. A living example of this exists here at UCSD. Tools commonly used in classes include Edstem, Piazza, Canvas, Slack, Discord, Campuswire, Gradescope, Google Drive, Zoom, and these are just from our personal experience. It is easy to see how students can get confused and lost when trying to navigate through and figure out which tools they need for which classes to perform tasks that should otherwise be straightforward such as submitting assignments and looking for lecture notes. A simple, customizable, and stress-relieving solution is needed to keep track of all of these.

Example Case:

A student wants help on a homework assignment due in several days. They want to try and see if the professor is holding office hours sometime later in the day, but they can't remember where the class schedule is located. They first open up Canvas and look for the class schedule, but they can't seem to find it anywhere. The student then remembers that the class uses Piazza, and figures that there might be a pinned post with the calendar there. They find a pinned post to the class website for the course, and after clicking on that they see a Google calendar embedded in the home page with times and links to get to office hours.

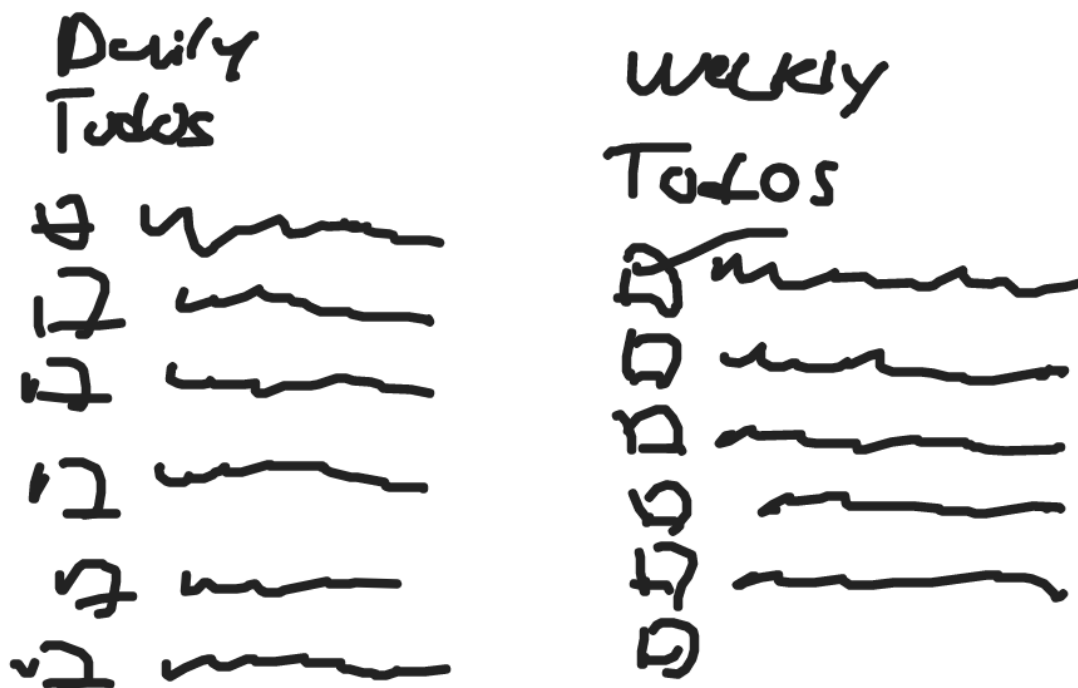
As shown from the example above, just finding when office hours for that class would be held next was anything but straightforward. What makes problems like this even worse is that each class may handle how they structure their class differently.

Appetite:

With a short project time frame of ~5 to 6 weeks, we anticipate certain limitations to our proposed solution. Given this constraint, we understand that we may not be able to implement the full feature set of our product. What we hope to achieve in our MVP (minimum viable product) is at the very least our customizable task blocks which will be the meat of our project.

Solution:

When pursuing our particular idea of the solution of a bullet journal for solving student unproductivity through an excess of accessible websites, what we want to do is simplify the process for students. Essentially, we want to focus less on fancy designs, but instead go towards a more conservative and minimalistic approach to our journal. This makes it easy for students to organize their tasks along monthly, weekly, and daily goals as well organize the multitude of different class websites and zoom links to ease their process of studying and going to class.

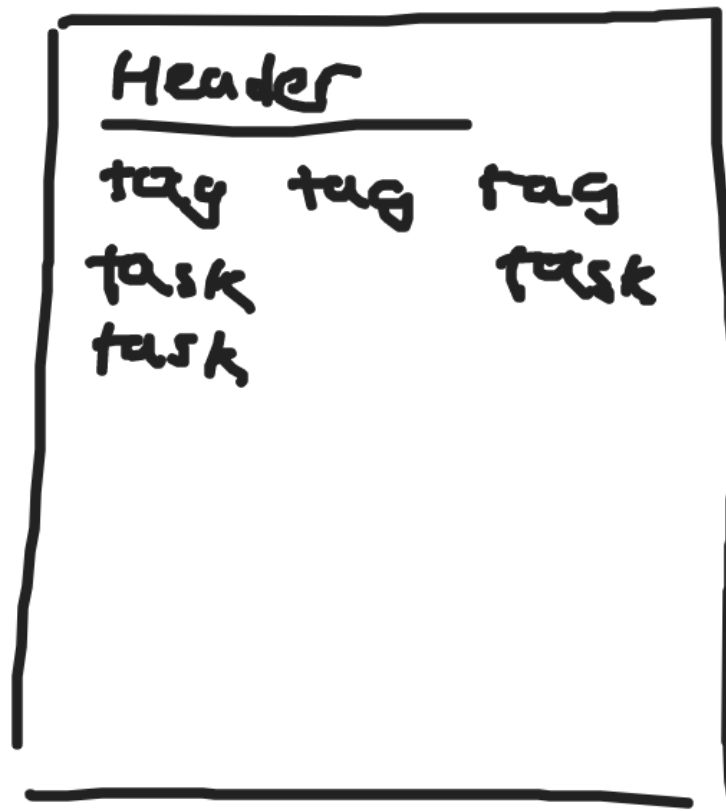


Here we have a small example of what we want users to be able to make. Customizable tasks which they can mark as finished and tag under specific classes, as well as customizable headers for the “Daily” and the “Weekly” todos. This will lie near the top of the bullet journal to set the stage for what things the user has to accomplish (based on the user’s specific needs) throughout the quarter as well provide the user to split up the

multitude of their larger tasks or study sessions into more recognizable and easier to handle smaller tasks to help ensure that users are not overwhelmed with their work.

To further exemplify what we are looking to allow the user to do, we want to make it so that users are able to make semi-customizable todo blocks according to their specific needs which they can organize as shown below. Blocks like these will consist of the majority of our bullet journaling product and will be the main feature of use which we will integrate with other ideas in order to improve student efficiency and help them navigate all the different

customizable todo block



In addition to organizing notes into different sections, users will be able to mark notes with different bullets to signify the type of note.

- Tasks: things you have to do
- Notes: Things you don't want to forget
- o Events: Noteworthy moments in time

Users will also be able to customize the text that they write with varying colors, styles, and fonts.

customizable
fonts/colors



text

In addition, we plan to implement a calendar system, though it may not be implemented due to time constraints. Tasks will be shown on the calendar. In addition, tasks will be sorted by type and tag. Users can filter out tasks of different types to make the calendar show specific ones.

Calendar

Month

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		<div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div>		<div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div>		
	<div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div>			<div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div>		
		<div><div></div><div></div></div>		<div><div></div><div></div></div>		

These journals will also include a section which they can switch into their reminders (below) which will be ordered by greatest priority, this being done by how close the said assignment or task is to its set due date.

Reminders

- 1 
- 2 
- 3 
- 4 

Rabbit Holes:

In regards to how we will keep track of user specific tags and the like, what we propose to fix this issue is to make use of no-SQL based databases which will enable us to create custom tags and journal block headers based off of the specific user. Essentially, the structure of the database will be something similar to USER -> TAGS -> TAG_ID where specific tasks will be their own object entries and have their tags. From these tags, we can identify what tasks belong to which user as well as what they have labeled this task under in regards to the tags.

User:

- Username: John L
- Password: spicyOcelot
- Email: johno@ocelot.com

Task:

- name: "Do the PA"
- summary: "Finish PA 3 for CSE100"
- tags: [CSE100, CS]
- header: weekly
- taskID: 4815

This is just a rough draft of how our database could potentially look and is open to interpretation and changes as we carry out this project.

User Personas

John Lot

Age: 21
Occupation: Pre-Vet student
Status: Single
Location: San Diego, CA
Archetype: Procrastinator



Current Issues:

- Always stressed out because he leaves work to the last second
- Difficulty keeping track of all his assignments

Bio:

John is a pre-veterinary student at the University of California, San Diego. Although he is a known procrastinator, he in fact is searching for ways to add order to his hectic life. He struggles with organizing his time and wants to find a tool which will help him juggle all his classes and homeworks while being extremely easy to learn and integrate with the multitude of different class resources he's given.

Personality Traits:

- Lazy
- Not very tech savvy
- Visual learner
- Unorganized

Interests:

- Football
- Animals
- Fashion

Anne Oce

Age: 19
Occupation: Student
Status: Single
Location: San Diego, CA
Archetype: The Extrovert



Current Issues:

- Super busy, so she always has a packed schedule often needs to communicate her schedule to others
- Always on the go, would like to have her schedule, notes, and tasks in one location to add to and carry around during the day

Bio:

Anne is a business major at San Diego State University. She is always busy and has many connections who often ask if she is free. Although Anne organizes her time well, she feels like she wastes much of it repeatedly telling others her schedule. She hopes to find an all-in-one solution for keeping track of her life and sharing it with others.

Personality Traits:

- Organized
- Outgoing
- Social
- Somewhat Tech Savvy

Interests:

- Outdoors
- Animals
- Hiking
- Hanging with friends

Wireframe

Sign in

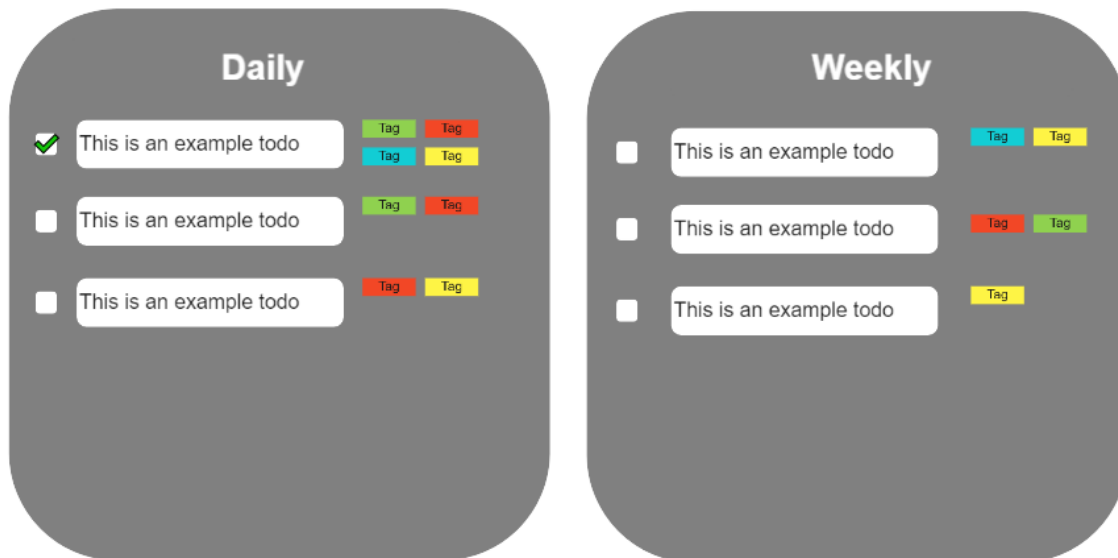
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Create a New Account

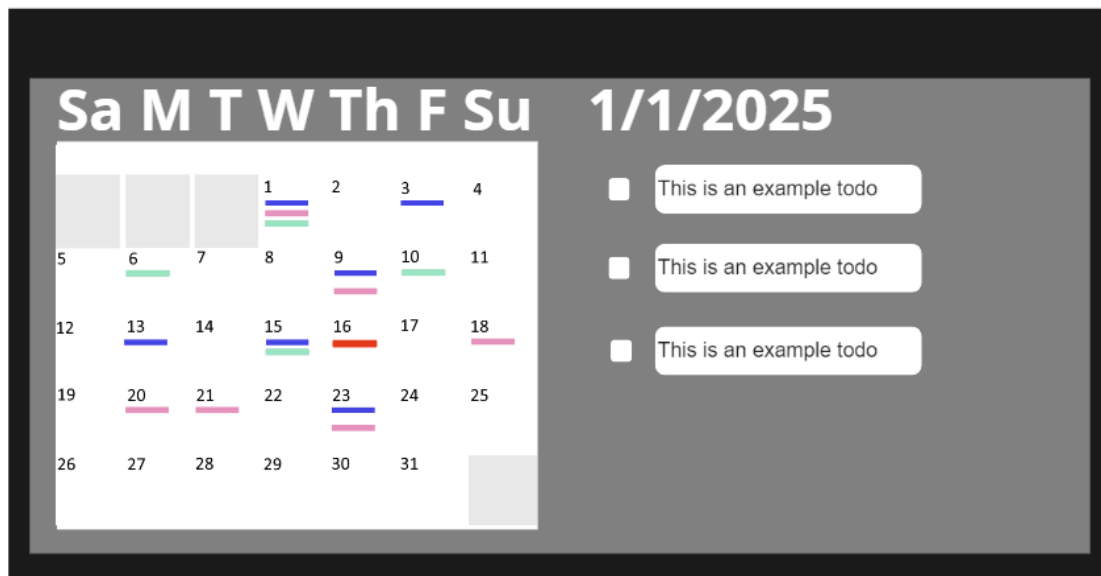
Jocelot



Journal Entries and Todos



Jocelot



No-Go's:

- Templates will not be provided for said bullet journals.
- User customization will be limited.
- Will be designed for desktop use over mobile devices
- Primary user will be focused on the common UCSD student and the difficulties of having multiple sources of truth from a variety of websites
- Users cannot put images on their blocks and cannot customize the color of the to-do block to keep with our minimal theme
- "User authentication" will only use 1 mock user account in order to fulfill MVP needs.