

Semester	Winter semester 20/21
Faculty	07 Mathematics and Computer Science
Lecturer	Prof. Dr. Johannes Ebke
Challenge Sponsor	German Alzheimer Society
Challenge	App to support dementia patients
Team	Group 3 -TG1 (Pentagram)
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# Press Release

## Students program a technical aid for Alzheimer's patients

*The student group "Pentagram" develops the reminder app "RingABell" for dementia patients, through which affected people are immediately reminded of all important things when leaving their home.*

MUNICH--(Students program a technical aid for Alzheimer's patients)--31.01.2021 - As part of a development challenge at the Munich University of Applied Sciences this winter semester, the student group "Pentagram" is developing an extension for the Alexa voice assistant of Amazon. It reminds Alzheimer's patients of important things when they leave their home, e.g., where to keep their keys and what to take with them.

Many patients have difficulty remembering details. Questions such as, "Do I have my cell phone, wallet and keys? Are the stove and lights off? Do I have my route and schedule?" often cannot be answered with certainty after they leave home. This represents a great burden for them.

It is precisely this burden that can be lifted by "RingABell". Now, Alexa can remind the person of the most important things by a prompt such as "Alexa, tell "RingABell" I am leaving the house." Permanent reminders can be set, such as specific storage locations, temporary reminders for an open window, for example, or scheduled reminders, such as taking gym clothes for regular sport evenings. For each of these reminders, it is also possible to specify a specific date or time at which the user would like them to appear. Furthermore, the student developers still see many possibilities to expand "RingABell" and are planning to add several features to the app. By integrating a calendar, "RingABell" could also provide Alzheimer's patients with time and route plans in the future. Furthermore, an integration of SmartHome systems would be conceivable.

"Those affected need support to be able to lead a normal life. This app can support them well in this."

Annalisa Huber puts on her jacket and, while opening the door, tells Alexa: "Alexa, tell "RingABell" I'm leaving the house." Following this, the Alexa voice assistant asks her if Annalisa has turned off the lights in the apartment and taken her key with her. In response, she notices that she has not packed her key yet. She puts the key in her pocket. Thereupon Annalisa leaves the apartment without having forgotten anything and is seen off by Alexa.

"At first, I was sceptical, a voice assistant that is supposed to help me? Of course, it took some time to get used to. However, thanks to her, I forget far fewer things and can now live in a much more relaxed way." - Alzheimer's patient in Munich

"RingABell" is available for download starting today. Try out the Alexa extension and use it in your everyday life. For more info, visit [www.hm.edu/dtchallenge/ringabell](http://www.hm.edu/dtchallenge/ringabell).

"RingABell" is a student-developed extension of the Alexa voice assistant that reminds Alzheimer's patients of important things when they leave their home. With words like "Alexa, tell RingABell I'm leaving the house," the skill is activated and reminds the patient to take the key with him/her, for example. These reminders can also be customized for the person concerned.