

## Participant Information Sheet

**Project Title:** Sensible user testing – to assess and improve the usability of the Sensible application

**Primary User tester:**

Ms Maddy Carden – Software Engineering student at ANU School of Engineering and Computer Science

**Testing location:**

CSIT building, Australian National University or online via Zoom.

Before you decide whether or not you wish to participate in this study, it is important for you to understand why the research is being done and what it will involve. Please take the time to read the following information carefully and discuss it with others if you wish.

**General Outline of the Project:**

The Sensible project is a mobile phone application which is being developed to collect data from the sensors on a mobile phone. These sensors include the accelerometer (a device for collecting movement) and the microphone (a device for collecting audio). The application allows you to record data from these sensors and graph it in real time. It also gives you the ability to add labels to this data in real time to record the activity you are undertaking while using the application and export the data you have collected. The purpose of building this application is to give researchers a tool which can be used by any person who has a smartphone and wants to assist in the collection of data for machine learning projects.

The goal of this user testing is to determine if the Sensible application is intuitive and gain information about how we can modify the application to improve usability and user satisfaction.

We are recruiting any participants who are willing to assist us with our user testing and aim to have participants from a variety of age groups. We aim to involve a minimum of 10 participants in this study and no more than 50. We expect that the participant owns a smartphone and if testing can't be completed in person due to COVID restrictions, the participants know how to use Zoom.

The data collected from undertaking this user testing will be used to make changes to the Sensible application and will be added to the Sensible team's open source Gitlab page to share with their client and assessors as part of the ANU Techlauncher program.

**Participant Involvement:**

Participation in this study is voluntary. It is completely up to you whether or not you participate. If you decide not to participate, it will not affect you now or in the future.

You may withdraw from the study at any time and for any reason or no reason. Please tell the study team that you wish to withdraw from the study. Information that has been collected about you, prior to your withdrawal, will continue to be used in the data analysis, however you can request that we not use this data. No new information will be collected or used after you have withdrawn from the study.

The plan for our user testing is relatively simple and has 3 parts (detailed below). The three tests in total should take less than 20 minutes and the total time requested of you is 30 minutes.

### Part 1: Explanation of application

Duration: ~5 minutes

In this section, we will explain and answer questions about our application, mission, and goals. We will also do a short run-through of what the session will involve so you know what to expect.

### Part 2: Application tasks

Duration: ~5-10 minutes

In this section, we will get you to follow a set of tasks, with the aim being to demonstrate and measure how easy and intuitive it is for you to follow and interact with our system. These tests will be performed on a test mobile device, owned by the development team or on your own device if over Zoom.

During this time, notes will be taken on how you perform these tasks, in the interest of bettering the application. These notes may take on the form such as “User found it hard to find the ‘Add Recording’ button, make it more obvious”.

Any participant names or information will not be recorded in these notes.

The set of tasks we will get you to accomplish are (in order):

- Open the application
- Press the button to open the “New Recording” screen
- Add some sensors (accelerometer, microphone) to the recording
- Add a label named “slow walk” to the recording
- Add a label named “fast walk” to the recording
- Start the recording
- Select the “slow walk” label and slowly walk around the room
- Select the “fast walk” label and walk briskly around the room
- Deactivate the label
- Switch the active sensor to the microphone
- Test the microphone by speaking into the phone
- Finish the recording
- Find the recording on the home screen
- Export the recording

If you have any issues with a specific section, we will demonstrate the correct solution, ask if you have any questions, and continue with the next step. During this time, we ask that you verbalise any thoughts you have about the application.

### Part 3: Survey and closing remarks

Duration: ~5 mins

Based on your experience with the application, we will get you to fill out a survey (below), that will give us a better idea of your opinions and thoughts about the application. If there are any particularly important questions or things you wish to bring up, we will have a small conversation with you about it (if you wish to), to try and understand what a better solution might be. The survey responses will be anonymous, but they will be recorded, so that we can refer to them when improving on our application in later stages of the project.

### Survey

How would you rate the looks/design of our application out of 10?

1      2      3      4      5      6      7      8      9      10

What do you think could be improved in the looks/design of our application?

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How would you rate how easy it was to complete the tasks out of 10?

1      2      3      4      5      6      7      8      9      10

What do you think could be improved in how easy it was to complete tasks?

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How would you rate our application on a whole out of 10?

1      2      3      4      5      6      7      8      9      10

What do you think could be improved in our application on the whole?

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Do you have any remaining comments/things you want to say?

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### **Risks and benefits:**

Possible adverse effects or risks related to this study may include sore/tired/dry eyes from using the mobile device or falls from moving around the room. The testers have completed basic first aid training will have their mobile phones with them in the case a severe injury does occur.

The results of the user testing will be made accessible online however your involvement in the user testing and your identity will not be known by anyone except the people performing the testing.

**It is unlikely that you will personally benefit from participating in this user testing**, but you will be assisting university students with their studies, and we expect that this user testing will improve the accessibility of the Sensible application and we hope in the future it will be useful for machine learning research.

**Exclusion criteria:**

If you are no longer for any reason able to provide consent to participate or if you are deemed unable to participate due to poor vision or an inability to walk unassisted, your involvement in this study will be terminated.

**Confidentiality:**

Only the testers will know whether or not you are participating in this study. Any identifiable information that is collected about you in connection with this study will remain confidential and will be disclosed only with your permission, or except as required by law.

**Privacy Notice:**

In collecting your personal information within this research, the ANU must comply with the Privacy Act 1988. The ANU Privacy Policy is available at [https://policies.anu.edu.au/ppi/document/ANUP\\_010007](https://policies.anu.edu.au/ppi/document/ANUP_010007) and it contains information about how a person can:

- Access or seek correction to their personal information;
- Complain about a breach of an Australian Privacy Principle by ANU, and how ANU will handle the complaint.

**Data Storage:**

The results of this user testing will be added to the Sensible team's open source Gitlab page to share with their client and assessors as part of the ANU Techlauncher program. You should not provide any sensitive information to the testers and no identifying information will be released publicly to protect your confidentiality as far as the law allows. Data will be retained for at least 1 year. The data will remain in its de-identified format after this time.

**Queries and Concerns:**

When you have read this information, the researchers will discuss it with you and answer any queries you may have. If you develop a problem which you suspect may have resulted from your involvement in this project or if you would like to know more, have any concerns or complaints, please do not hesitate to contact:

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**Ethics Committee Clearance:**

The ethical aspects of this research have been approved by the ANU Human Research Ethics Committee (Protocol 2021/551). If you have any concerns or complaints about how this research has been conducted, please contact:

Ethics Manager  
The ANU Human Research Ethics Committee  
The Australian National University  
Telephone: +61 2 6125 3427  
Email: [Human.Ethics.Officer@anu.edu.au](mailto:Human.Ethics.Officer@anu.edu.au)