COMPSCI 345 / SOFTENG 350

Assignment 3: Realizing a Design

Walkthrough with Wireframes

Persona

Wendy Lee is married with three sons all going to primary school. Working long hours has led to her kids being independent. The kids can now get to school and come home all by themselves.

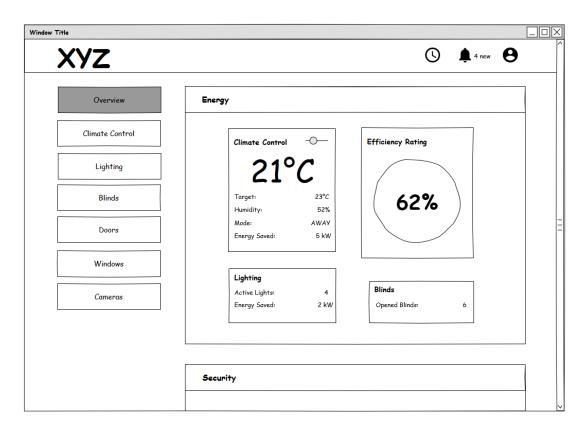
But being a parent, Wendy is concerned about her kids being home alone and likes to keep up-to-date with her children while she's at work.

Scenario

Wendy Lee is at work in the afternoon when she receives a text from her son saying that they had forgotten to take the house key that morning.

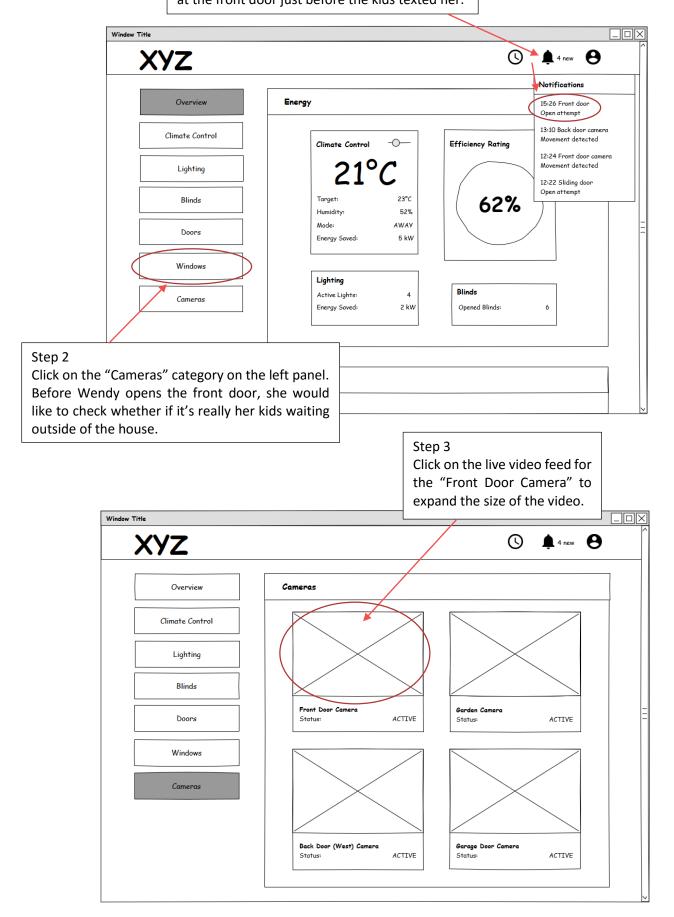
Wendy accesses the XYZ desktop application and notices from the notifications that there has been an opening attempt at the front door just before the kids texted her. Wendy opens the "Cameras" category, then clicks on the "Front Door Camera" video feed to expand the video window. Wendy confirms that it is indeed her kids waiting and not some stranger. She then opens the "Doors" category, before clicking on the lock toggle for the front door.

Walkthrough



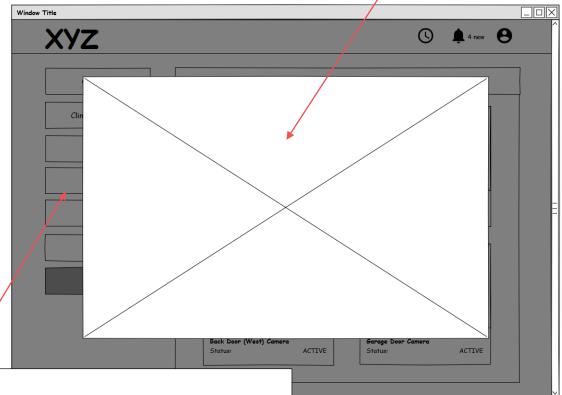
This is the initial screen that the user will see upon opening the XYZ desktop application, which shows an at-a-glance overview of the house status.

Step 1
Click on the bell icon to bring up the notifications.
Wendy sees that there has been an open attempt at the front door just before the kids texted her.



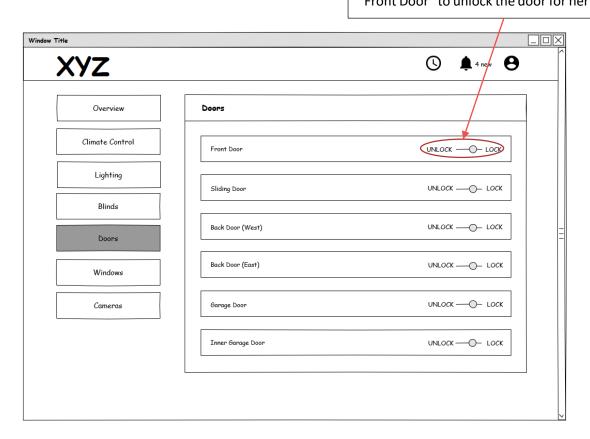
Step 4

The video window expands and the surrounding area darkens. Wendy confirms that it is indeed her kids waiting outside the front door.



Step 5 Click on the background or video feed again to minimize it. Wendy then clicks on the "Doors" category on the left panel to open the lock.

Step 6
Wendy clicks on the toggle switch for the "Front Door" to unlock the door for her kids.



Colour Scheme

The basic type of my website's colour scheme is monochromatic plus white-grey, with the aid of using the 'traffic light' model as colour code.

RGB: 250, 251, 252. Web page body background.
RGB: 231, 76, 60. Navigation bar background and left panel active item font colour.
RGB: 235, 111, 98. Notification dropdown heading.
RGB: 236, 240, 241. Left panel active item background.
RGB: 91, 192, 222. Information label background.
RGB: 92, 184, 92. Secure/success label background.
RGB: 240, 173, 78. Alert/attention label background.
RGB: 217, 83, 79. Warning/danger label background.
RGB: 236, 240, 241. Right panel heading background.
RGB: 38, 166, 154. Toggle switch active colour.

Since XYZ is specializing in home automation, the main theme for my colour scheme is centered on "family" and "interaction". The use of "alizarin" (RGB: 231, 76, 60) as the main colour provides a well-balanced middle ground for both of those ideas, without compromising on the sense of formality.

As home security is an important feature of what XYZ's kit has to offer, the use of the 'traffic light' model provides a natural and immediate feedback of the house condition to the user.

Instead of pure white, a very light tint of grey (RGB: 250, 251, 252) is used for the background colour of the body with the aim of reducing eye fatigue.

Layout Scheme

The most important layout feature in the website is the use of "hoverables". Instead of using thick borders or static shadows, as you hover your mouse on top of a graphical element, the panel will 'hover' or 'lift' itself up, providing a sense of magnetic attraction to the overall user experience. This design feature is consistent for all buttons and panels under the navbar for visual hierarchy.

The overall shape of the website is a left-skewed T letter, having the navbar, left side-panel and right content-panel as the three main components.

The navigation buttons (e.g. overview, lighting etc.) are being kept separate in the left side-panel as opposed to integrating it into the navbar for the purpose of preventing clutter and two-level dropdowns. The background of the right content-panel is pure white whereas the background of the body is light-grey with the aim of providing visual attraction.

All the icons on the screen have been chosen to represent the meaning and functionality of the buttons as close as possible (e.g. lightbulb for "Lighting", bell for "Notifications").

Resources Used

- Bootstrap: front-end framework for HTML, CSS and JavaScript
- Materialize (http://materializecss.com/): front-end framework based on Material Design
- Google Material Design icons (https://design.google.com/icons/) for the navigation bar
- Windows 10 series icon from Icons8 (https://icons8.com/web-app/new-icons/win10) for the left panel
- Colour scheme inspired from:
 - o http://flatuicolors.com/
 - o http://www.flatuicolorpicker.com/
 - o http://www.color-hex.com/
- Pure CSS Percentage Circle (http://circle.firchow.net/) used for "Efficiency Rating" panel
- Camera images:
 - o http://www.mykidsadventures.com/scavenger-hunt-ideas/
 - http://i218.photobucket.com/albums/cc86/Lazylazymo/Gardenweb/DSCN1232.jpg
 - o http://contractorquotes.us/wp-content/uploads/2014/12/garage-door.jpg
 - o http://7desainminimalis.com/wp-content/uploads/2014/06/Simple-Minimalist-Home-Garden-Layout-Idea.jpg