Peer Evaluation 1 Report

Home Together - Group B

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System Description

HomeTogether is a home sharing website designed to facilitate connections between potential home sharers and give easy access to all available services for a particular home-sharing need.

In its current iteration it allows users to see information about the site, search a database for users matching a certain criteria such as Age Group, Gender, and Budget, and search for services by category such as house & Yard Services, Governmental Support Services, and more. See the milestone features section below for exact details.

Milestone Features

In this project milestone, our focus was on establishing a working connection between the primary back-end data, and the key functionalities of the website itself. In other words, creating and connecting a MySQL database, Express server, and React client.

Current features include:
- Users can view basic info about HomeTogether.ca including contact info.
- The site displays a favicon with transparency and multiple internal resolutions so that the site can easily be identified via browser tabs.
- Users can filter their search for members by: Gender, Age Group, Family Status, and Minimum Budget.
- Users can filter by multiple values in each member category e.g: "Single" & "Couples"
- Users can filter by multiple member categories at the same time e.g: "Single" & "Male"
- The site displays filter results in real-time using AJAX.

- Users can filter listings by category.
- Users can view business general & contact information in the listings.

Participants

Participant Name	Status	Evaluation Type	Peer Testing Video
Jean-Philippe Abadir	Completed	Think-aloud	https://drive.google.com/file/d/13QPzQRR-pT99noOLcfnGLwAPHxoHIA2J/view?usp=sharing
Zachary Maludzinsky	Completed	Think-aloud	https://drive.google.com/file/d/1iPZwxw6m7_14Bx1gOq6MKPrbP3jqnxUX/view?usp=sharing
Nicholas McGee	Completed	Remote	https://drive.google.com/file/d/1vCLdaJETrDZkYv9be1Sd9PGApkm60xFq/view?usp=sharing
Rachelle Gelden	Completed	Think-aloud	https://drive.google.com/file/d/1SZBaBDQK6UkcFqWUdynQtmL9Xi5p-cvv/view?usp=sharing
Ren Lin	Completed	Think-aloud	https://drive.google.com/file/d/15ivM-bviAx1hLf6hnMQyqxV_EkSAUCIl/view?usp=sharing
Paul Zapote	Completed	Remote	https://drive.google.com/file/d/1pOCl4RYPyBXk5RDQi0q01GIdu8lKzKo0/view?usp=sharing
Meng Tian	Completed	Think-aloud	https://drive.google.com/file/d/1HWr_IjYkSxpmRZK-qvtFykQTCmG7eS3-/view?usp=sharing
Jing Guan	Completed	Remote	https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Fb6e8_0wIZtilcbdedMKm-lldZlF8ves/view?usp=sharing

Tasks and User Groups

For this milestone, the available features only apply to one user group, which are the members. The following tasks are for members of the site, which would be the general audience looking for others to homeshare with:

1. You are a user looking for other members to homeshare with and you are looking for a single male adult with a monthly budget of at least $2500.

2. You are a user looking for other members to homeshare with and you are looking for males and females aged 19 to 65 that are either a couple, a couple with children, or a single parent. They also need to have a minimum monthly budget of $1000.
3. You are a user looking for other members to homeshare with. Your only requirement is that they have a monthly budget of at least $2000.00.
4. You are a user who has just looked for other users and now you want to check what kind of services are available on the site.
5. You are a homeowner who has just found the site and are looking for a lawn mowing service.
6. You're interested in working with HomeTogether and are looking for their contact info to get in touch with them.
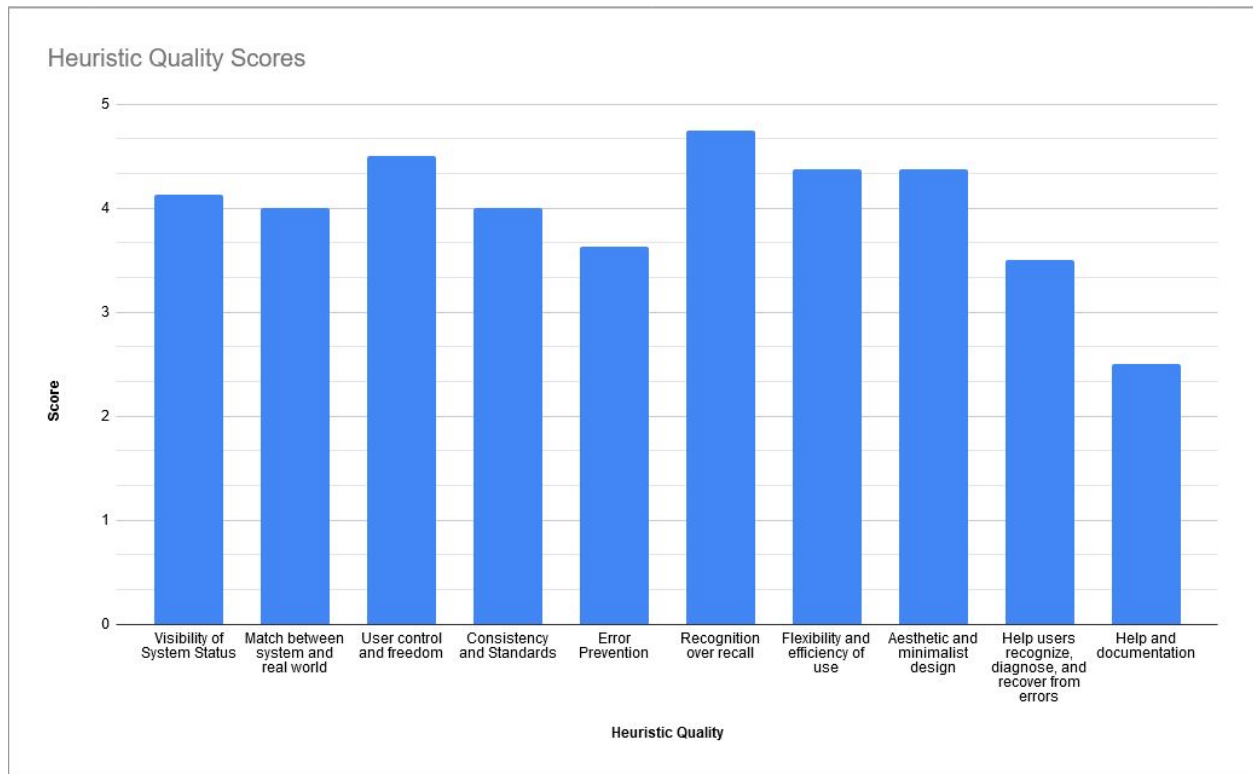
Session List

Host Name	Participant Name	Peer Testing Video
Jaden Balogh	Jean-Philippe Abadir	https://drive.google.com/file/d/13QPzQRR-pT99noOLcfnGLwAPHxoHIA2J/view?usp=sharing
Jaden Balogh	Zachary Maludzinsky	https://drive.google.com/file/d/1iPZwxw6m7_14Bx1gOq6MKPrbP3jqnxUX/view?usp=sharing
Jared Wright	Nicholas McGee	https://drive.google.com/file/d/1vCLdaJETrDZkYv9be1Sd9PGApkm60xFq/view?usp=sharing
Jared Wright	Rachelle Gelden	https://drive.google.com/file/d/1SZBaBDQK6UkcFqWUdynQtmL9Xi5p-cvv/view?usp=sharing
Alvin Krisnanto Putra	Ren Lin	https://drive.google.com/file/d/15ivM-bviAx1hLf6hnMQyqxV_EkSAUCII/view?usp=sharing
Alvin Krisnanto Putra	Paul Zapote	https://drive.google.com/file/d/1pOCl4RYPyBXk5RDQi0q01GIdu8lKzKo0/view?usp=sharing
Athena An	Meng Tian	https://drive.google.com/file/d/1HWr_IjYkSxpmRZK-qvtFykQTCmG7eS3-/view?usp=sharing
Athena An	Jing Guan	https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Fb6e8_0wIZtilcbdedMKm-lldZlF8ves/view?usp=sharing

Issues Discovered

Issue Description	Priority
Monthly budget filter usage needs to be specified as "minimum" or "at least"	High
About page should have '/about' URL	High
Change multi-selector fields to use a persistent menu with checkmarks with clearer user flow	High
Search results should show a search was successful but that no results matched the users filters.	High
Services list should specify showing all, recommended, most recent, etc.	Medium
"Existing group" status is confusing - unclear who group members are, how many, whether the budget belongs to the entire group, etc.	Medium
Display method for users and listings in results list should be less cluttered and display information streamlined (remove unnecessary details)	Medium
About page should be separate from home page	Medium
Ability to contact members found should be immediately visible after search	Medium
Should have a general search bar for categories and members	Medium
Rework up/down buttons on number fields like monthly budget	Low
Should show indication of current page in navbar (highlight link element)	Low
Remove hover effects from non-interactable form elements	Low
Allow users to clear all their current search filters with one click such as a "Reset" or "Clear All" button.	Low
Improve alignment of search fields and table data	Low
Improve UI/UX mapping - should be visual differentiation between types of inputs (multi-selector vs dropdown for example)	Low
Selection fields should not insist that an option must be selected since empty search fields are fine	Low
Handle text overlapping visually for long names in results list	Low
Update text to clarify difference between Find Services and Find Members	Low

Heuristic Analysis

Shown below is the graph of the 10 heuristic qualities and the average of the scores given by all eight of the participants, with the score of 5 being very good and 1 being very poor.

As seen within the graph, the lowest graded quality is help and documentation. However, since the issues most commonly brought up are related to other qualities, these were rated low not because the project is error ridden but just because the documentation was not part of this milestone.

The highest rated qualities are recognition over recall and user freedom, which is good as our target demographic are older users. Given that one of our main focuses with the Home Together website is simplicity, it makes sense that Recognition, Flexibility and Aesthetics would be some of our top scores.

In our responses, we received multiple notes about the lack of error messaging when no results are found in the search. This helps explain why Error Prevention and Error Recognition are some of our lower categories in the results:
"Maybe add a 'no results found' if no results are found, compared to a blank table."
"There was no feedback to the user if the list of search results are empty."