Why Thrownote?

ThrowNote was an idea birthed out of the struggles of using feature-rich long-form note taking tools for jotting down simple ideas. Using larger note taking tools adds extra steps, interface complications, and time that simply should not be necessary for simple ideas or notes. ThrowNote will be designed to tailor to the specific use case of taking short-form notes. Notes with 256 characters or less should not be required to be in a "notebook" or a "folder" as some tools require. The user should be able to open the app and with a couple taps, be able to create a note to come back to later.

Approaching note taking like this allows for many of the extra features found in other note taking tools to be stripped away, allowing for a simple and easy to use interface. With this minimal interface, it will be easy for beginners to learn, and quick for experienced users to create new notes with whatever content they choose.

The simplicity of ThrowNote allows users to define how they want to use it, and in what context. For some, ThrowNote would work best as a simple archive service for articles or infographics found online. For others, it could be used as an effective todo list. For others, it could serve as a simple daily journal, using tagging features to indicate month and year of the journal entry. ThrowNote does not demand a certain style of organization from users, but rather it lets people work in the way that works best for them.

Functions

Online Sync
Once a user creates a note, signing in will allow the user to sync notes to a server that will store them for sync to other devices or simply for backup in the case that the user's phone gets destroyed. Creating a ThrowNote account will be mandatory because of this case.

Attachments
Multiple kinds of media attachments can also be added to a note. The user will be allowed to add a photo to capture a thought, whether it be of a notebook, whiteboard, or a person's face to remember. The possibilities are numerous. Along with photos, audio recordings can be added to a note. Audio recordings are particularly useful for reminders, because they do not take the focus of the user off of whatever task he is performing. The time limit of an audio recording is limited, however to keep with the mindset of short form notes. Notes with media attached can also have text content as well. This is recommended, as having this text makes it easy to remember the content of a media attachment, and makes it searchable.

Bookmarks

Bookmarking is a particularly large interest for ThrowNote. The market for apps to keep a list of bookmarks to read later or to be archived for later reference is surprisingly bare. If a user stumbles upon an article or link online that may be of use later, he could simply open the app and create a new note with a hyperlink in the content of the app. To make this use case even more prominent, the app could recognize on launch if a user has a link copied to the clipboard and recommend a bookmark note be added. This is similar in functionality to a well known read-it-later app, "Pocket" (Figure 1).
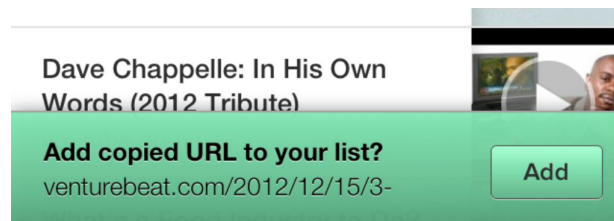

Figure 1. Pocket for iOS link recognition

Integrated Tagging

Finding notes will also be tailored specifically to the short form factor. The first way this works is in using hashtags. Similar to many social media platforms, the user will be able to tag notes with certain keywords to make them easy to search for later. The tagging will work by prefacing a keyword with a pound ("#") sign. Leaving tagging like this allows users to categorize notes however they would like. Multiple tags can be added for more specific tagging. For example, users could tag a thought about web development as simply "#Web" or more specifically, "#FrontEnd #Web", or "#FrontEnd #Web #ReactJS".

Advanced Search

Searching for these tags would be as simple as typing them into a text field, with or without the pound sign. While hashtags have priority in searching by text, the text content of a note can also be searched. These search methods are relatively simple, but can be very powerful. Searching by text is not always the best option, however. Sometimes a user may remember taking a note, but does not remember what text content it had, or it may not have had any at all. ThrowNote will also use "smart" filters that can search for notes of specific types, such as notes with images, notes with audio, bookmarks, or recently created notes.

How-To

<u>Log In to ThrowNote</u>

Login to ThrowNote

username
_____

password
_____

| Login | New User |

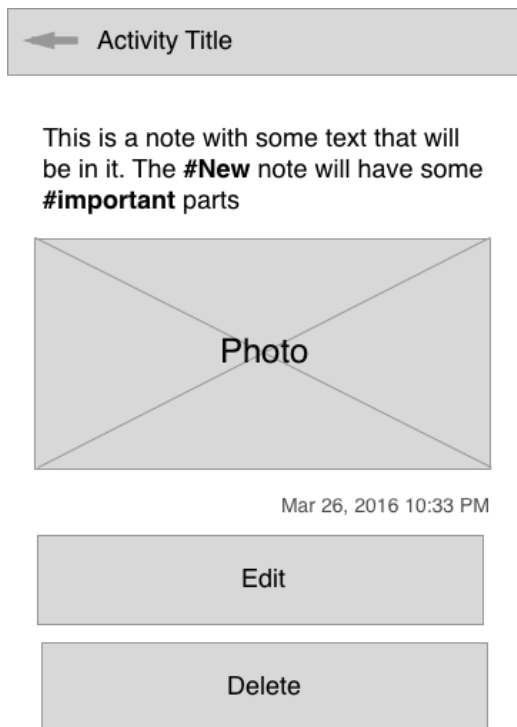**To Log into ThrowNote**, enter your username and password and click "Login".

If you are a new user, create a username and password, enter it, and click "New User". This will automatically create an account for you and log you in.

If you have issues:
- You may have chosen a username that already exists.
- Your username may be too short, too long, or contain invalid characters,
- Your password may be too short.
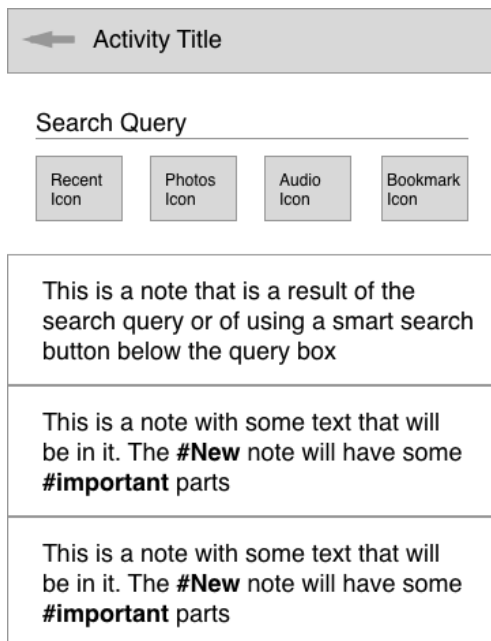
<u>Adding/Modifying Notes</u>

To create a new Note, click the plus icon at the bottom of the main notes list. You will be brought to a page similar to the photo on the left. Enter a note with less than 256 characters. You may add a photo by clicking the "Photo" button, or similarly an audio message by clicking the "Audio" button.

To edit a note, tap on a note in the main notes list. you will be shown the note by itself on the screen along with the time it was created or updated last, similar to the photo on the left. Tap the "Edit" button. The screen you will be brought to will look similar to the new note screen. You will have the ability to change the text content of a note and add or remove photos or audio recordings.

To delete a note, tap on a note in the main notes list. you will be shown the note by itself on the screen along with the time it was created or updated last, similar to the photo on the left. Tap the "Delete" button and click "OK" on the popup to confirm you want to delete the note.

Finding Notes

To search for a note, click the magnifying glass icon on the main screen. You will be brought to a screen similar to the one shown on the left. To search for notes by hashtag or text, simply type in the text box. To find a note based on smart filters, tap on the filter you want to use below the text box.