**Page ID**: **#.# Title**

# Primary Content

**Title**

Enter the **Title** of the **Method** here (REQUIRED).

**Rapid Usability Evaluation (RUE)**

**Description -- i.e., What it is:**

Enter the **Description** here (REQUIRED).

Rapid Usability Evaluation (RUE) is a method designed to provide usability insights that designers can implement more rapidly than findings generated by traditional usability testing. It helps to reduce the amount of time and effort required to perform a usability evaluation using traditional methods.

**Recommended Uses**

Enter the **Recommended Use** here. If there are no details, insert N/A or TBD.

* To evaluate usability when there are significant time constraints between iterations of a design.
* When the focus of the evaluation can be narrowed to a few specific functions of the tool.

**Limitations**

Enter the **Limitations** here. If there are no details, insert N/A or TBD.

* The RUE should not be used as an initial evaluation and it may need to be used in conjunction with a heuristic evaluation or other expert evaluation to address usability issues more completely.

**Outcomes**

Enter the **Outcomes** here. If there are no details, insert N/A or TBD.

* Results in actionable findings for addressing usability issues in a tool.
* Results are organized by priority, saving time for development team.

**Required Skills and Expertise**

Enter the **Required Skills** **and Expertise** here. If there are no details, insert N/A or TBD.

* Best with some experience in usability evaluation.
* No formal training in human factors methods required.

**How to Proceed**

If there are no details, insert TBD.

* **How-To Guide.** Review step-by-step instructions on how to conduct a RUE.
* **Schedule a Consult.** Connect with a usability specialist for support on your project.

[BEGIN: How to Do It]

**Introduction**

Enter the **Introduction** here (REQUIRED).

RUE method is somewhat similar to a traditional usability evaluation, but the focus is narrowed to specific functions or aspects of the design and the time cost is lower than a traditional usability evaluation. Below is a step by step process for how to complete a RUE.

**Procedure**

Enter the **Steps** here. (Required).

RUE involves 10 steps. The first three steps involve preparation:

1. **Develop Scenarios**: Consult with front-line staff or experts to develop scenarios that mimic real world patient care scenarios. Scenarios should focus of specific aspects of the tool being evaluated.
2. **Identify Volunteers**: Recruit participants for the evaluation. Participants need to be representative of the end-user population.
3. **Choose Test Environment**: Determine whether to run the study in a lab setting or in the field. Evaluate pros and cons of each environment.

The next five steps relate to conducting the evaluation.

1. **Introduce RUE**: Explain the purpose of the evaluation to the participant. Also make sure to gather relevant demographic information (role, years of experience, professional training, etc).
2. **Explain Think Aloud**: Most participants are not good at thinking out loud so you will want to explain how think aloud works. You may also want to either demonstrate it or having them practice a bit.
3. **Start Scenarios**: Have the participant complete the scenarios on their own using the tool. Make sure they are thinking out loud as they go. If they get stuck on something, it’s alright to let them struggle a bit. If the participant is not thinking out loud make sure to remind them as they go.
4. **Record Events**: Record any usability issues that the participants encounter during the scenarios. This might be areas where the participant gets stuck or places where the express confusion or frustration. You also want to record areas where participants made an error or places where they are misinterpreting something.
5. **Debrief & Invite Feedback**: Make sure to clarify any issues that were recorded but were ambiguous. After the scenarios, you should ask the participant for any open-ended feedback they can provide such as general thoughts on the tool. If you need to, you can review the video with the participant to job their memory. Ask the user about what they liked or disliked and if they would make any changes.
6. **Compile & Prioritize Findings**: The moderator and notetaker(s) gather all of their notes together and categorize usability findings by priority, 1) must fix, 2) high impact on performance/low effort to fix, 3) high impact on performance/high effort to fix, and 4) low impact on performance/low effort to fix.
7. **Share Summary Report**: Generate a report to present findings. Should include purpose of test, test conditions, categorized findings and any other relevant information.

**Tools**

If there are no details, insert N/A or TBD.

* N/A

**Author**

Enter the **REFERENCES** here. If there are no details, insert N/A or TBD.

* Human Factors Engineering (HFE), Office of Health Informatics, Veterans Health Administration

**Sources**

Enter the **REFERENCES** here. If there are no details, insert N/A or TBD.

* Russ, A. L., Baker, D. A., Fahner, W. J., Milligan, B. S., Cox, L., Hagg, H. K., & Saleem, J. J. (2010). A Rapid Usability Evaluation (RUE) Method for Health Information Technology. *AMIA ... Annual Symposium proceedings. AMIA Symposium*, *2010*, 702–706.

**References**

Enter the **REFERENCES** here. If there are no details, insert N/A or TBD.

* N/A