

1. To explain how Virtual Voice assistants work I used piktochart. I wanted to make the process like a flowchart using pictures and lines. I knew that piktochart would have all the images I needed that would allow me to make a consistent and professional look without making the images myself or stealing them off of google. To make the infographic I would take an image that best represented the step in the process, label it, then make a line coming from it. I would make the lines zig-zag across the page to create a unique flow and create room for titles.
2. What virtual assistants true purpose will become is to help manage every aspect of your life through the data the microphone collects from you and the world around you. CNN made a great article on how VAs will change the aspects of you life and said, "VAs will monitor mental and physical well-being, support lifestyle goals and ambitions through suggestions, prompts, and coaching." (Brauer, 1). Virtual assistants will allow us to focus on what matters in life and do all the micromanagement for us.
3. One of the greatest impacts of VAs is the amount of time we can save with them. Using them we can complete redundant tasks that we would normally have to do daily. In a 3 year study by the Harvard Business Review stated that by removing these tasks, "we were able to help them free up nearly a fifth of their time—an average of one full day a week" (Birkinshaw 1). That's a lot of time when it comes too productivity and it seems that with the rise of VAs will come the rise of innovation and progression.
4. A problematic effect of virtual assistants is that we communicate back and forth with them mostly using audio. As stated on and article about this from wired.com, "As you probably know, talking on the phone while driving significantly increases your risk of crashing. Like, by a factor of four." (Gonzalez 1). This effects everyone as VAs are growing everyday resulting in more potentially distracted people doing activities like driving.
5. In order to make the a guess on what the user said the microphone on the device has to record the vibrations that come from your mouth. The data is stored in a database that could be anywhere in the world. This is where the concern for security comes in. In order for a device to be able to know when to listen for a command the VA needs a input. In some cases it is a button but a lot of the devices with built in VAs are completely hands free. Which means that just like a human, in order to know when they are given a command they are listening 24/7. But unlike humans who block out noise or quickly forget it, VAs remember everything they hear. They take it and store it in that database that could be anywhere in the world. Since the vast majority of people have a smart phone with a built in VA in their pocket almost 24/7. Even when you think you have total privacy, are you truly alone?

Works Cited

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