

Planning

My client, Duha, is a student at Fiorello H. LaGuardia High School of Music & Art and Performing Arts. As a drama major, she has to balance her time between traditional academic subjects and art-related ones. She has had attention problems for as long as she can remember, making it difficult for her to complete tasks and assignments.

Ever since Duha started remote learning, it has been more challenging for her to be productive. She tried multiple strategies to increase her productivity, such as Google calendar and Any.do, but none of them seemed to significantly help her. That is because, as she states in Appendix A, “each one of such applications has some desirable features but none of them have all the features at once.” One thing that also helps her is listening to music to help her focus, especially because she lives in a noisy household. However, she finds that having Spotify open in its own window or tab further slows down her laptop as she multitasks. To solve that individual problem, she plays music from her phone, which by itself distracts her from the task(s) at hand.

I have offered to help her organize the features she needs for completing schoolwork all in one place. I plan to do so by creating a task manager website using HTML, CSS, Javascript, and JQuery. Those languages would allow the online task manager to be user-friendly and offer appropriate interactivity. The website will not take away from her local storage like an application would, which she stated was a concern of hers in Appendix A. Most importantly, all of the features will be accessible from one or two browser tabs, which saves her the trouble of navigating between multiple applications and losing focus. Since Javascript is a client-side script, it saves time from connecting with the server. A faster software product is ideal for ADHD patients because they tend to become impatient faster than usual. Also, unlike Java, Javascript reduces the time for compilation, which would also aid my ADHD client. Also, the interoperability of Javascript allows for extending the product. My friend in college, Mr. Mahmoud, has agreed to be my advisor for this project.

Success criteria:

- A weekly calendar that displays the tasks, along with their description and subject, within its cells. The user is able to input that information as individual tasks and also delete them as individual tasks. The user can reset/clear all tasks in the calendar with one click. The user can also edit the cells by directly typing into them. The ability to visualize where the tasks are, relative to the current day and time.
- A “to-do” list of tasks that the user input into the calendar. The list should be automatically updated when tasks are submitted and deleted from the calendar.
- A visual way to manage time for work and break sessions. It should be designed in a way that is convenient for ADHD people. However, it should also be customizable in case of

the client's desire to manipulate the time intervals for work and break sessions. It should be motivating and it should encourage discipline and time management while also allowing the client's freedom of choice. It should help the client be aware of time.

- The user is able to access Spotify playlists (one for focus and one for motivation) from the website and be able to conveniently play them while using it.
- The design and layout should be non-distracting, minimal, and visually appealing. It must have contrasting colors that make it easy to distinguish various elements. Lower case letters must be dominant in the user interface.
- A reminder for when the webpage is accessed at a time that is outside of the working hours of the client (8 AM to 8 PM).
- User error, in terms of entering data, should either be prevented or should not affect the functionality of the software product. This should include the editability of the calendar cells.
- A designated area for writing, without detectable character and length restrictions. The user should be able to save that writing to their computer and be able to edit it even after being saved to the computer.
- Breathing exercises and small games are accessible on/from the website.