

Task Scenario 1

A man walks into the store after coming home from work. He wants to make sure his daughter has milk for her cereal in the morning. His wife is at work and his daughter is at school so he can not call them to ask what is in the fridge. He is pretty sure they ran out of milk and that his daughter only likes a specific brand and type and he has trouble remembering which brand and type are the ones she likes. He has plans to watch a game with his friends after he finishes with the grocery store so he'd like to get out of there quickly.

A potential shareholder I spoke to was my dad. He inspired user persona number 2 and task scenario number 1. I chose it as an important scenario example because it's important to consider people with food sensitivities when making a kitchen app. Family members of those with food sensitivities might not remember all of the sensitivities as well as the family member who has them does. It's important to consider this issue when making a kitchen app because we could consider adding a like or dislike button to certain food items linked to people's profiles to indicate the foods they do or do not like. This can be considered by the people living with them when shopping for shared food items.

Task Scenario 2

A college student purchased a large quantity of top brand eggs, flour, milk and butter to bake their friend a cake for their birthday next weekend. They live with a few other roommates who don't cook often. There were none of these ingredients in the kitchen prior to their purchase. They realized they bought a lot more than they needed and they know they won't be able to use it all up before the expiration date. They want their roommates to use up the excess before it goes bad. But they don't want their roommates to use up too much as they won't have enough time to go back to the store to buy more this week since they're very busy. One of their roommates accidentally dropped a few too many eggs while making breakfast, so he went to the store and purchased a whole carton of eggs to make up for the eggs he used.

This scenario arose from a combination of brainstorming and some personal experience living with roommates. We sometimes buy perishable groceries in bulk to save costs, but since we don't cook frequently, this sometimes leads to wasted food. Another roommate could have used the ingredients before they spoiled, but they were unsure if they were allowed to and they didn't want to start an argument. We would like to be able to indicate which items in the kitchen are shareable and which ones aren't without needing to put out a group text for each one. Once one of my roommates accidentally used up another's milk, and they bought a replacement but forgot to say it was for them which led to a small argument. This scenario is representative as one of our target audiences is roommates who don't communicate often or well. We know some potential users seeking ways to improve their experience living with others. Our kitchen app could make communication more efficient by preventing disagreements and improving clarity of item ownership.

Task Scenario 3

A group of close college friends moved into an apartment together. Each of them come from different cultures and love cooking and sharing dishes they make. They make large portions leading to leftovers they want others to enjoy when they're hungry. Even though none of them have allergens or ingredient sensitivities, the other friends will often be curious about the dish's name and what ingredients are in it. Since they have different schedules they aren't always at the apartment at the same time, so they can't ask them in person and they don't want to potentially bother them by texting at an inconvenient time.

This scenario arose from hearing about the experience of a few of my friends who recently moved into an apartment together after living in dorms for the past school year. They like to make their own recipes as opposed to following online recipes but they can't easily share their recipes as they've gotten busy from school and work. They expressed interest in an app that would allow them to load dishes and recipes since it would allow them to see whether they needed to go out and buy groceries or if/how they could make something with what they already had. We feel like this task scenario is representative of users who already get along with the people they live with. Unlike the users in task scenario 2 who are looking to establish lines of communications with the people they are living with, these users are seeking ways of enhancing their living experience with new tools.

Task Scenario 4

Four strangers are randomly assigned as roommates in college. None of them have similar eating habits, and none of them were acquainted with each other prior to moving in. As such, most of them do not view the food they store in the apartment as being communal. However, sometimes the roommates buy similar things and forget who bought what food, and also sometimes the roommates have different conceptions of how communal or non-communal someone's food is, causing disagreements.

This scenario is based off of something that actually happened with me and my roommates this year. One of my roommates came back to the apartment one day and noticed that most of his bananas were gone, even though he had not eaten them. This led to a (polite) confrontation between him and the person whom we deduced was the one who had eaten the bananas.

Although this confrontation was respectful and resolved this specific issue, it made me uncomfortable and it made me think that it would have been better if we had some sort of system to keep track of what food belonged to whom, and to what extent each roommate perceives their food as being either communal or individual.

I spoke to my roommate to whom the bananas belonged, and he said that he would want the app to be able to record which food belongs to whom, and if the buyer of the food gives permission for others to share the food. He also mentioned that it would be nice if the app provided information about macros, calories, and other nutritional information.

User Persona 1

Jana is 18 years old. She is a freshman at Prince George's Community College and her major is undecided. She lives in an apartment with 3 other people of various ages that she met on Craigslist. She is unfamiliar with the area and doesn't know her roommates very well. Jana is shy and has trouble connecting with others. She also has a severe peanut allergy and will go into anaphylactic shock if she comes into contact with or consumes peanuts. In her free time, she enjoys skateboarding and learning new tricks. She has a few friends from high school that she likes to keep in touch with and she is also trying to form new connections with people in her classes.

User Persona 2

Mark is 40 years old. He works on a navy base as an engineer. He has a 13-year-old daughter on the autism spectrum who has a lot of different sensitivities to certain types of foods or food textures. Mark doesn't have the best memory for things outside of engineering. Mark and his wife both have jobs and split household chores equally. They both go to the grocery store at different times during the week after work. In his free time, Mark enjoys fishing and crabbing and will often bring his catch home to make into dinner. He also enjoys having friends over on weekends to watch whatever sport is in season.

User Persona 3

Julie is a 60 year old Asian woman. She has a PHD in microbiology but is retired. She lives in a two story cottage house in the suburbs of England surrounded by many families with kids. She is

known as the grandmother of the neighborhood and is always making food for the kids. She makes cakes, cupcakes, cookies, and all sorts of sweets for the kids. However, some kids have allergies, sensitivities, and enough preferences to what they would like that recipes are sometimes necessary. Since she is old however, her memory is starting to fade and she can not always remember what she has in the fridge or freezer or where she is in a recipe. While she loves spending time with the kids and cooks, in her free time she crochets by the fireplace and reminisces on her life.