COMP2213 - Interaction Design
Deliverable 3

Design Concept One

Group 25

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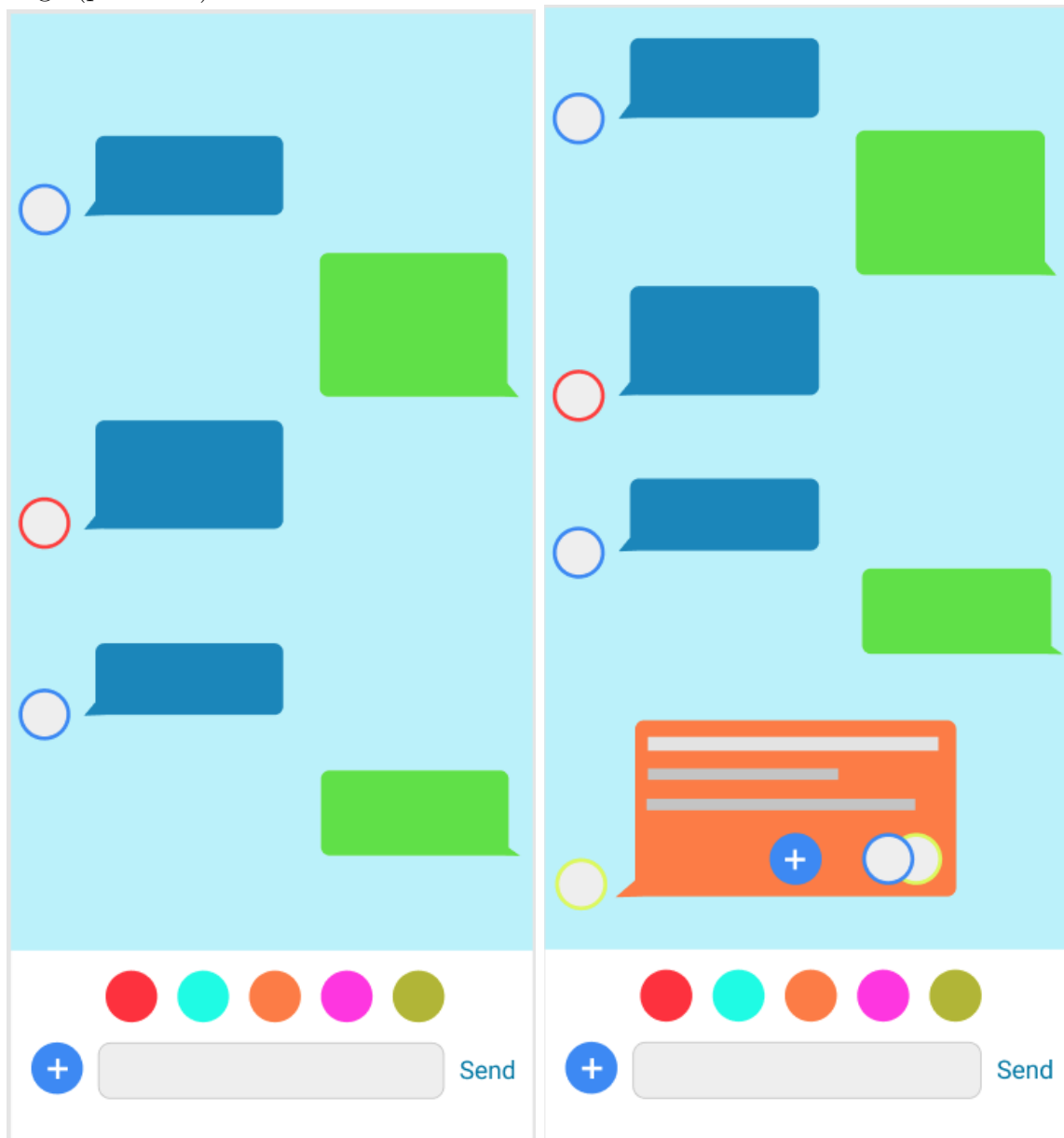
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Type of Interface

To solve the problem posed by our problem statement another selected interface is similar to a messaging app. Above the Textfield used to input the regular chat messages, the user will find several icons that represent shortcuts to create different activities, ranging from coordinating online grocery shopping to organizing meals with the other members of the flat. Each user can personalize the list of activities that appears above the Textfield. The full list of available activities can be reached by pressing the blue "+" button on the left of the Textfield. Once the user has created an activity, the other users can decide to join simply by pressing the "+" button on the generated message (picture 2).
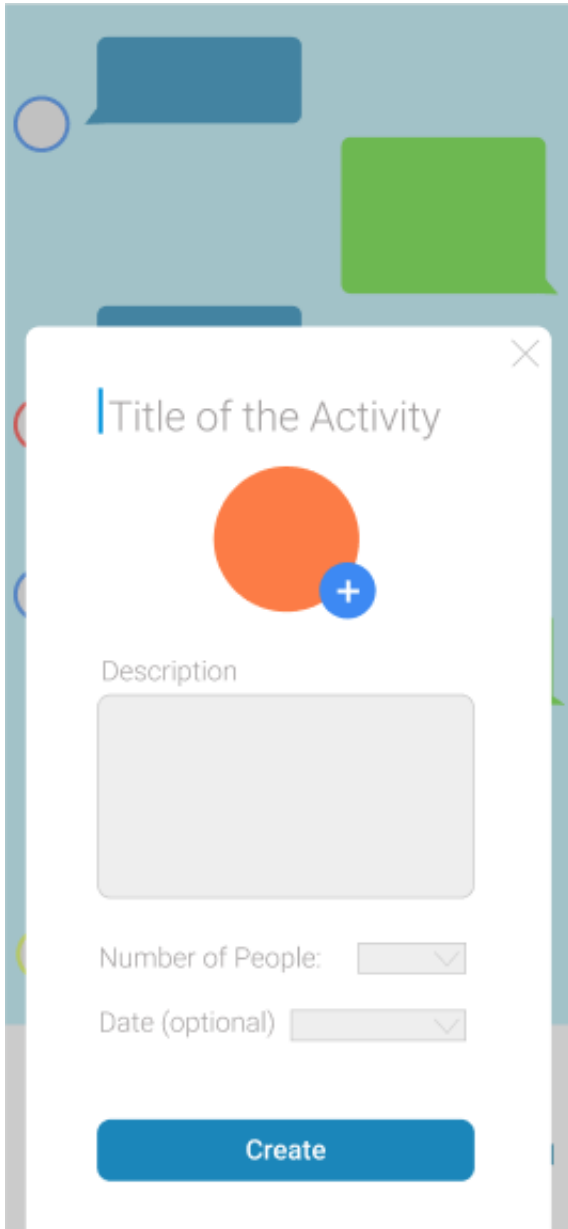
Benefits

This type of interface allows to seemingly integrate the already existing communication through texts with a system to manage and coordinate the various activities of the flat. The interface is

simple, intuitive, and similar to other chat apps already on the market. This allows for an easy adoption by the user who won't have to waste time figuring out how to use the app, but will instead be able to focus on getting the benefits from the various features.

General Interface to create an Activity

Creating an Activity

In order to create an activity, the user will have to tap on the plus button and select the category that most suits the activity (such as "meal", "food sharing", "cleaning duties" etc...), or click the icon of the corresponding activity displayed in the "favorites" section above the TextField.

In the task creation menu the user then needs to provide a title, an optional description of the activity, select an optional date and number of people. The user can also decide to invite specific people of the flat. These invitees will receive a notification once invited. By tapping on the notification they can decide right away if they want to join the activity or not. Finally, to create the activity, the user simply taps on the "Create" button. Once the new meal has been created, A new special message will appear in the chat which will show all of the details of the event. other

people will be able to join simply by clicking on the "+" button that will appear at the bottom of the newly generated message. The profile pictures of the users that decide to join an activity are displayed on the bottom right corner of the message.

Types of Activities

Along with the general activity creation view (displayed above), a whole range of custom views exist in order to facilitate the creation of specific activities such as meal sharing, cleaning duties organization etc. Each of these views allows for more details to be added, compared to the general activity creation view.

Sharing a Meal

In order to create a meal sharing activity, the user will have to tap on the plus button and select the "meal sharing" category, or click the corresponding icon displayed in the "favorites" section above the TextField. The user will then need to fill in the various fields as in the general activity creation view. The "meal sharing" activity though, features a "dish list" which allows for the user creating the activity to add which dishes are requested for the meal sharing. He also has the option to allow for other users to add the dish they are bringing to the list. In this way, everyone in the flat can be updated in real time on who is bringing what to the party.

Cleaning Duties

In order to create a cleaning duty activity, the user will have to tap on the plus button and select the "cleaning duties" category, or click the corresponding icon displayed in the "favorites" section above the TextField. The user will then need to fill in the various fields as in the general activity creation view. The "cleaning duties" activity features a "chores list" which allows for the user creating the activity to add which chores are to do and also by what day and time they need to be completed. The user also has the option to allow for other users to add other chores to the list. This allows for a better coordination in the flat.

Sharing appliances

In order to create an appliance sharing activity, the user will have to tap on the plus button and select the "appliance sharing" category, or click the corresponding icon displayed in the "favorites" section above the TextField. This is one of the quickest activities to create. The user will see a grid of icons of common appliances and just needs to select one of them to create the task and notify everyone else in the flat that he is going to be using that appliance. In case the user is going to use the appliance at a later date than when he is creating the activity, he can simply add a time and date to the activity.

Sharing near expiration date food

In order to create an activity which allows for sharing food that is near to expiration date, the user will have to tap on the plus button and select the "soon expiring food" category, or click the

corresponding icon displayed in the "favorites" section above the TextField. The user will then be able add all of the items which are close to expiration to a list, along with the expiration date. Once the user creates the activity, the app will remind everyone in the flat on the days before the expiration date that a specific food item is very close to expiring. This would allow the people in the flat to reduce the amount of food that goes to spoil because of carelessness.

Drawbacks

This interface can be very efficient even when there are a wide range of very different tasks. However, because of its nature of being a chat, it could be subject to activity spamming if the members of the flat create too many activities in a short amount of time. Moreover, without a supporting interface which allows for an overview of all of the recent activities, it would be easy for the users to miss out on some activities simply because they get lost along the other messages in the chat