

15 March 2018

From: Spoiled Tomatillos Development Team
To: Mystery Startup Stakeholders
Re: Spoiled Tomatillos Team Experiences & Project Updates



After working on Spoiled Tomatillos for a month and a half, the Development Team has identified some areas of weakness in our skillset, as well as steps we have decided to take to address the concern.

The main need that has been met with varying success is the use of React.js for the frontend of our site. Although the majority of the team had little to no experience using React, the choice was made since we believed that the initial learning curve would be worth it in the long run. In order to get up to speed, the team has been reviewing the resources from Professor Annunziato, as well as learning the library through React tutorials on reactjs.org. This learning process will continue as we further build out the frontend of Spoiled Tomatillos, and we will additionally use each other as resources since some of the team has more knowledge of Javascript in general.

Another need that we have that is not being met to its fullest potential yet is the need for proper communication between the Development Team. This certainly was not helped by the Development team having a week break in the middle of this last sprint, but we should do better in general. We don't believe we are using Jira to the extent that we could, so for the next sprint we will endeavor to get tasks assigned earlier in the process, so everyone knows exactly what they are doing. Additionally, we will implement some form of stand-ups through our group chat. In previous sprints this wasn't really an issue, but particularly with a break in the middle there was a strong lack of communication for a good portion of this sprint. We likely will not have them every day, but a schedule will be devised.

We have also noted that we don't have much experience with UI styling. In order to negate this, one course of action could be to have a large portion of someone's tasks for the next sprint be working on the styling and becoming the team lead in that. We intend to work as a team to come up with some more ideas for our UI, as it has gone beyond what we had in our usability studies. One way to do this will be to look at other examples of similar UI's and get some ideas for style choices.

Despite the obstacles we've faced so far in the creation of the Spoiled Tomatillos webapp, we are confident in our ability to overcome these obstacles and in the end, create a viable solution for Mystery Startup.

Quick outline:

1. Incorporating React
 - a. Not knowing much javascript
 - b. Using resources from Annunziato, and the react tutorials on reactjs.org
 - c. Using each other as resources -- some members of the team are better at this than others
2. Communication between team members
 - a. Some communications are falling through the cracks
 - b. Utilize Jira more to appropriately assign tasks
 - c. Try to have more organized “stand-up”s through messenger
3. UI Styling
 - a. Lack of experience in styling webapps
 - b. Look at more examples online to get inspired
 - c. Brainstorm best form+function way of styling
 - d. Assign one person to lead the UI