

Lose It! iOS App User Guide Usability Test

Introduction

To test the usability of my Lose It! iOS App User Guide, I found some participants to run through the user guide and follow the step-by-step instructions within, with the goal of analyzing the document's ability to accurately guide the participants through a task.

My first goal was to determine if my explanatory content was effective at teaching users how the Lose It! app works. Success was measured by the participants' number of correct responses to 3 questions before and after reading through my document.

My second goal was to have the participants test the usability of the document by completing each task. Success was measured by the participants' ability to complete each task by following the steps within. The results of the usability tests are described below.

Goal 1: Effectiveness of Explanatory Content Testing:

I found 2 participants who had no experience with the Lose It! app and asked them to answer the questions below. Initially, the participants were not confident that the answers they provided were correct.

1. What are the 3 main features of Lose It!?
 - Participant 1 Response:
 - i. Lose weight
 - ii. Keep track of calories
 - iii. Track water intake
 - Participant 2 Response:
 - i. Lose weight
 - ii. Keep track of exercise
 - iii. Track water intake
2. How do calorie budgets work?
 - Participant 1 Response:
 - Calories in and calories out must balance
 - Participant 2 Response:
 - You get a certain number of calories to eat per day
3. What tools do you need to reach your Lose It! goals?
 - Participant 1 Response:
 - The app
 - Participant 2 Response:
 - The app

After the participants answered the 3 questions, I instructed them to read the explanatory material in my document. I removed the document and asked the 3 questions again. This time, both participants were able to answer the questions correctly and with confidence.

Goal 2: Task Completion Testing

The Description:

The expected outcome of this usability test is that all participants will be able to follow each step to successfully complete the following tasks:

- Create an account
- Add food to your diary
- Add exercise to your diary
- Add friends
- View or edit your goal

The Instructions:

This document consists of several tasks made up of multiple steps. Complete each task by following the steps in the order they are presented. Feel free to work through the tasks aloud, noting any gaps or issues you come across as you complete each step.

The Outcome:

As participants attempted to follow the steps and complete each task, some necessary improvements in my document became apparent. Both participants struggled with a step that was ambiguously worded that was then repaired in a final draft. Additionally, the participants noted that one step could not be executed from the preceding step. The steps were then rearranged so that each step logically followed the preceding step. Ultimately, participant success was achieved by following the steps within the Lose It! iOS App User Guide.