Sitemap

'SCOOP'

The app's purpose is to allow users to find and compare supplements, and then plan and track their progress in taking them.

Initial Actions

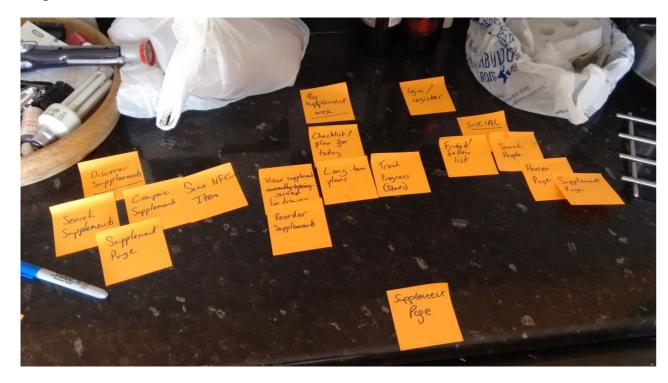
The key functions of the app were listed to ensure completeness, and an initial sitemap sketch was drawn up by the author to ensure that at least one layout existed that included all of the functions.

Open Card Sorting

The open card sorting technique was used to improve the chances that the app structure would fit the mental model of its users.

The functions were individually written on post-it notes and presented unsorted to a participant who had similar task and experience goals to the Persona 1 (created previously), who would be the more demanding of the 2 personas.

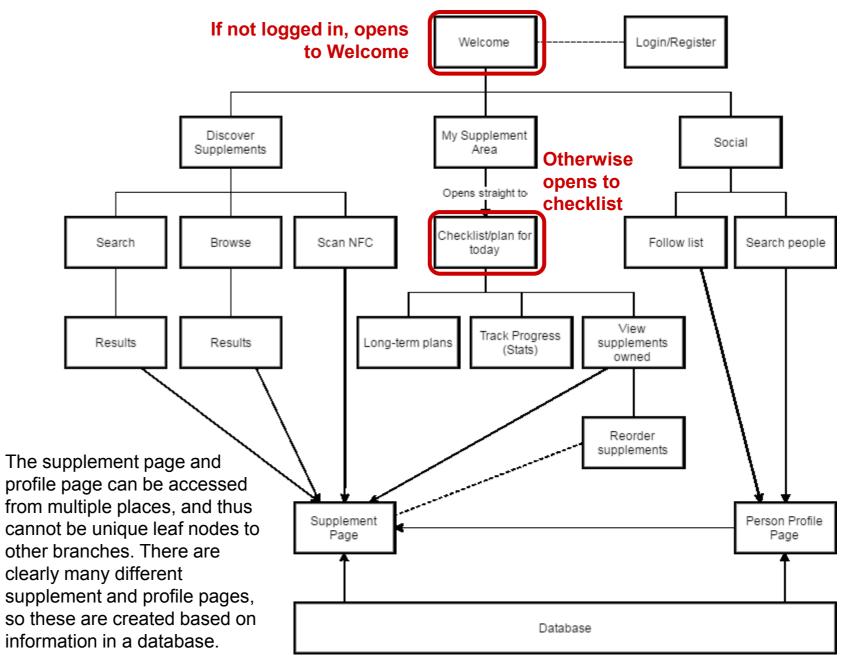
The participant was asked to group the cards, with spare post-it notes and a pen for creating group titles, describing her thought process as she went along. Once the cards were grouped, she was asked to structure the groups into a hierarchy, shown on the right.





Comments on structure

It was felt both by the author and the participant that this broadly hierarchical layout did not lend itself very well to structuring the app in question, as, unlike many websites, the user flow involved going through nominally the same pages multiple times, but with the content conditional on variables set in other pages. The structure based on this can be seen below, although it cannot be called a strict hierarchy, it retains some of the features of one.



Task Flow

Possible first-time use - choosing

These were created as an intermediary step between the sitemap and the wireframes, allowing for a shift of focus from structure to process. The key flows provide a plausible route that uses the key functions of the app, including previously created storyboards. As these flows include the most important and frequently used functions, they are the priority for optimisation. Applicable to both personas.

Key User Task Flows

supplements to buy Open App Read Welcome Info Find a supplement Want to start Still taking chosen considering taking supplement? supplements? Register Return to supplement

supplement

in store

ndicate started taking

Schedule

dose/frequency

(specify/default)

Taking the participant's preferred process and related storyboards into account, the flowcharts above were created, with the subtasks on the right extracted as independent.

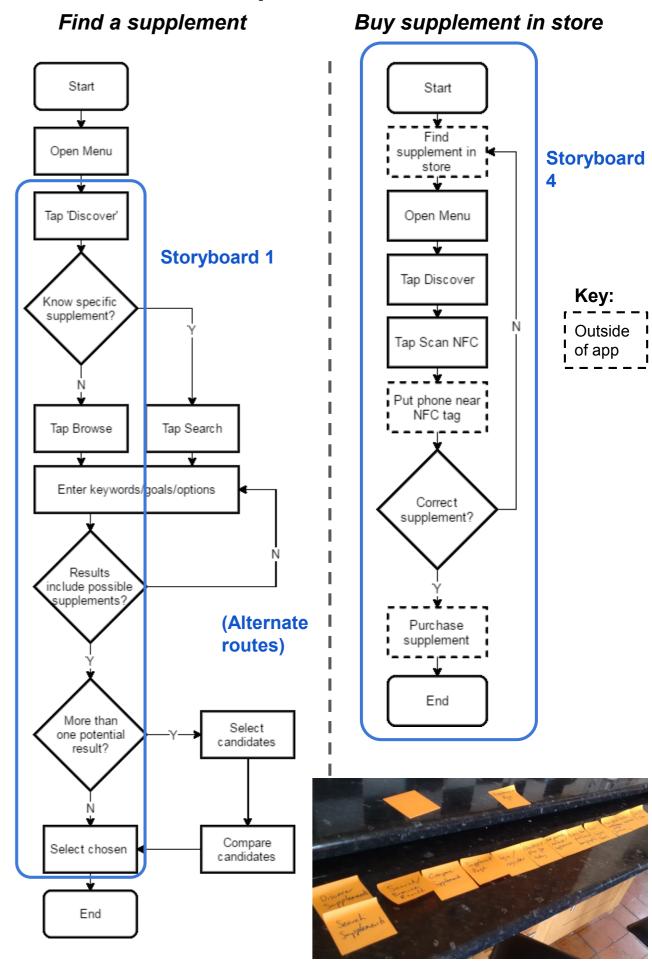
Exit app

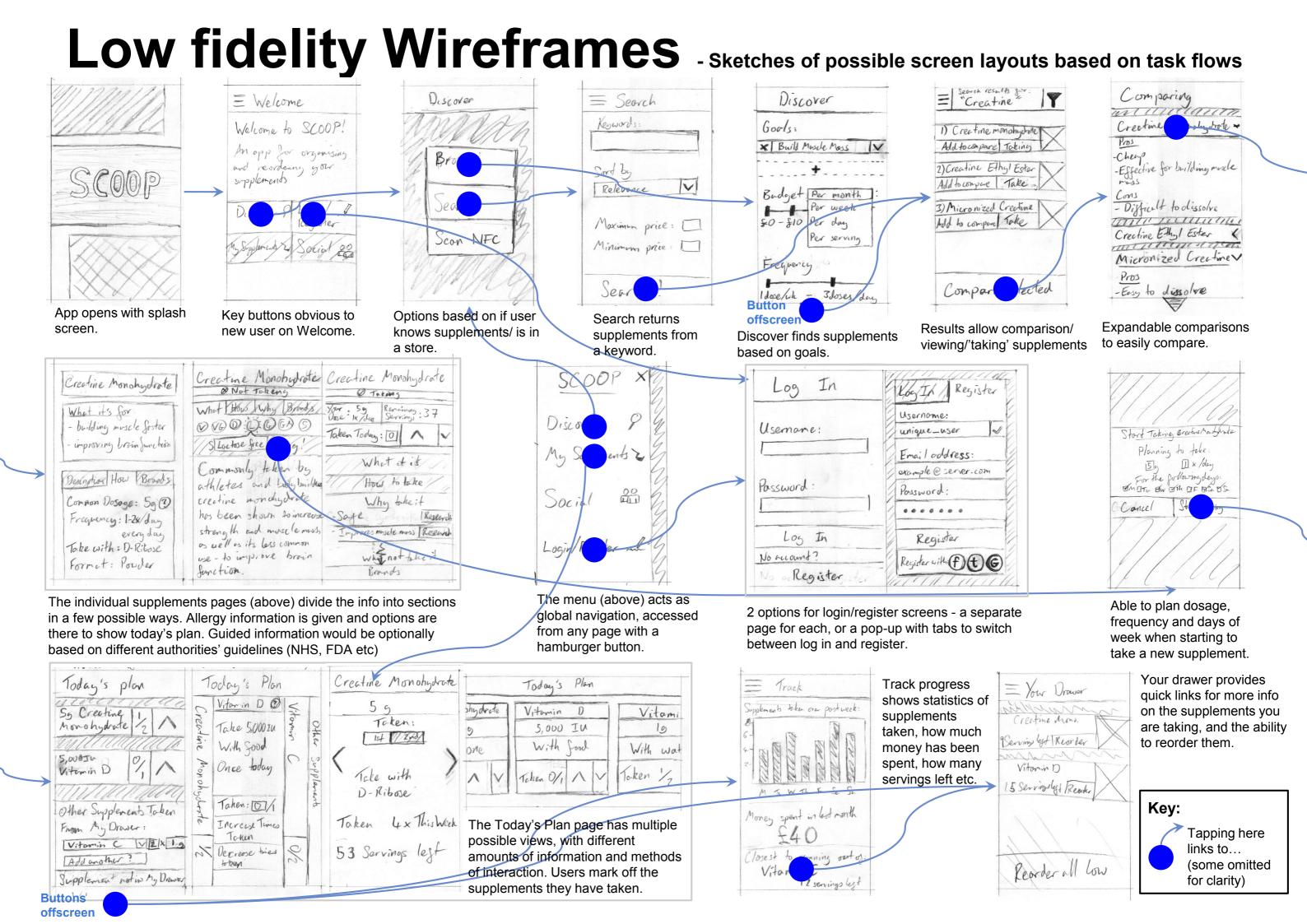
The target platform for the app is an Android system, meaning that there will always be the global navigation option to go 'back'.

Later use - checking off taken supplements Open App Logged in? Log in Notice app opened to checklist Take shown supplement as described ncrement taker counter More Swipe to next supplements supplement to take? Storyboard 2 Go to Track progress Reorder Supplements supplements running low? running low

Exit app

Sub-processes





Design Evaluation - Testing the wireframes with 2 participants using different techniques

Interactive prototyping with POP

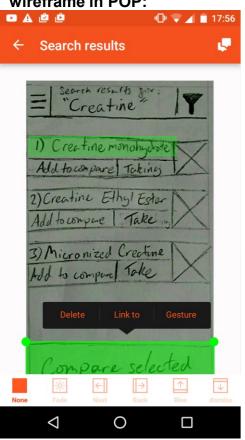
Prototyping On Paper (POP) is an app that allows photos of paper wireframes to be linked together by creating areas on each photo to act as buttons.

A participant was found who had attributes similar to Persona 1:

- High level sportswoman
- Familiar with supplements
- Similar task and experience goals

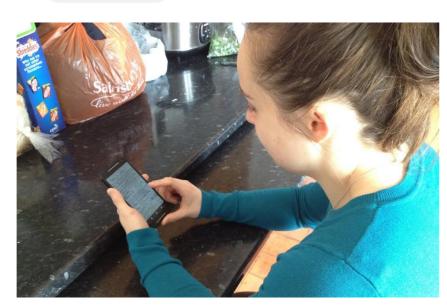
With the wireframes already drawn, this allowed for a prototype to be made up very quickly. The participant was able to use the target platform, and interact with the prototype as they would an actual app, improving the ecological validity of the testing. She was asked to talk through her thought process as she navigated to pages chosen from the task flows.

Adding links to the wireframe in POP:





POP -Prototyping On Paper



One of the major limitations of the app is that it can only show static screens, so any scrolling or popups have to be drawn as entirely separate screens, or worked around some other way.

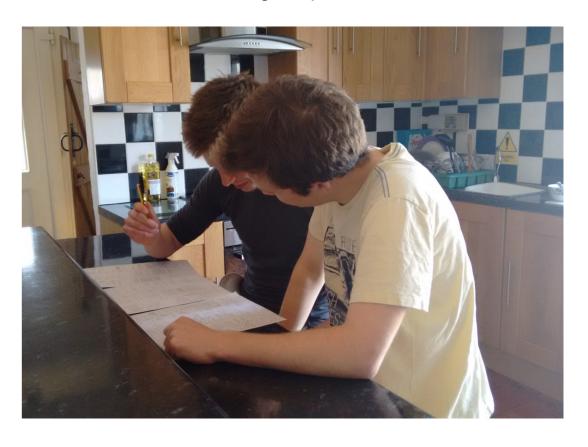
For this evaluation, popups had their own screen, and pages with scrollable content, where an intended button was off-screen, were given an additional swipe button somewhere visible instead.

Discussing Wireframes

The wireframes were also presented to, and discussed with, another participant, with some important characteristics that would make him the least likely to be able to use the app easily (so if he could make sense of it, most others should be able to as well):

- No prior knowledge of the workings of the app
- Has never taken supplements.

Questions that were asked included "how would you interpret this slider?", "what would you expect the app to do next after selecting this?", as well as more general discussion on why features did or did not work well, and what might improve them.



This provided the opportunity to go more into depth with issues raised by the first participant

Design Iteration - Deciding changes for screens based on user comments

Usemane:

Password

No account?

Log In

Register

- 2) The search and browse pages seemed redundant with too much overlap, a better solution being to combine them.
- It was also felt that it would be helpful to have the scan NFC directly on the menu, so it could be used quickly multiple times. Together, these obviate the need for the popup when discover is pressed (wireframe 3), and simplify the task flow. This would be particularly important for e.g. scenario 4, where time saving for going through the process once would be multiplied by a large number of times doing it.
- 3) It was awkward for the button to be offscreen; it meant that even if enough of the sections had been filled out, the user would still have to scroll to the bottom.

Taken:

Take with

D-Ribose

Taken 4x This Week

Vitami

19

With wat

Taken 1/2

53 Servings lest

Today's Plan

5,000 IU

With food

Vitamin

Tchen O/1

1st 1/2 xd/

- 4) There was some concern that frequency might be a confusing metric for beginners, so this was tabled for discussion with the other participant.
- 2) The participant less experienced with supplements felt that the number of doses (frequency) per day/week was a more useful metric than an alternative 'number of different supplements to take', as it would more directly affect everyday use. It was noted, however, that it's meaning was slightly unclear, and would be improved by a help popup next to it.

Taken Today: 01 1

8 What it is

Sage

How to take

Why take it

Improves muscle mass Research

wind not take it

- 5) With the other changes, 'My Supplements' would no longer accurately describe the sections that came under it. It made more sense to extract the different pages. Both discussions suggested that a virtual drawer of supplements, organisation/plans, and progress tracking could each be separated out.
- 1) As the menu was now getting quite full, it made sense to move login/register to a more conspicuous place, such that it would be obvious to newcomers and easy to tap for experienced users.

- 1) The sliding blades (left) were considered cool, but possibly gimmicky, harder to read, and slow compared to the simple list (right), which would be more appropriate for fast everyday use, especially considering that the more detailed information could be accessed by turning the phone landscape (below). The bottom-right would also be too slow.
- 1) The up/down buttons were preferred to separate buttons for each dose, although the text edit option could be left in (for easily entering large numbers) without any loss in functionality or understandability.

shydrate

one



A number of comments were made on the supplement pages:

function

0 V Q Q Q Q A

SLactore free aking!

Commonly taken by

athletes and body brilles creatine monohydrates

has been shown to increase

strength and muscle moss,

as well as its less common

use - to improve brain

- 7) The separate summary took up too much screen real estate.
- 8) The single word section titles were preferred to phrases, but the small tabs were thought more awkward than the expanding ones.
- 9) The allergen info pop ups were well liked.

- building muscle foster

improving brain function

Description How Broads

Compon Dosage: 500

Frequency: 1-2x/day

Take with: D-Ribose

Format: Powder

every day

- 4) The 'Start Taking' button should be outside the 'What' section, so it can be accessed from any tab.
- 5) The What tab should have an image of the supplement.

- 3)The planning popup when adding a supplement to your drawer should have an option to not plan to take it, so that it matches someone's physical drawer, and for quick access.
- 2) 'Start Taking' is a bit unclear as to what the app will do. a more clear action is needed. Combined with the idea of a virtual drawer, one of the (now three) options could become 'Add to Your Drawer', and the other would also create a plan.
- 6) The pop-up login/register screen (right) was preferred to a separate login/register page. This is because the popup feels less like the app is taking you on a "round trip" such that you will have to find your way back to where you were. Instead it suggests that once complete, you will continue on the page you opened it from.



unique_user

Possword:

Email address:

.

Register

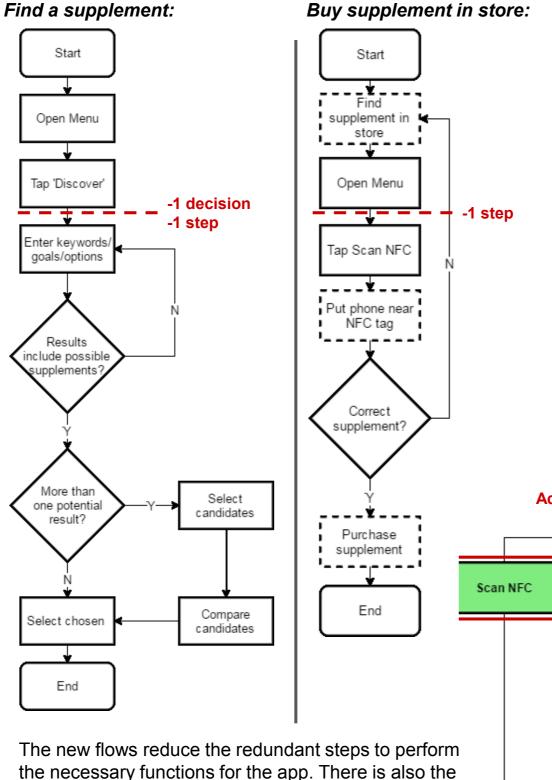
Register with (F) (+) (6)

example @ server.com

Revised sitemap & flow - Information architecture improved based on user feedback

Check off taken supplements: Open App Logged in? Log in Notice app opened to checklist Turn phone on taking next landscape supplement' +1 decision (faster normal use) Take next supplement ncrement taker counter More supplements t take? Go to Track progress Reorder Supplements supplements running low? running low Exit app

Buy supplement in store:



option to turn the phone landscape for more information on how to take a supplement (with

off their supplements for the day, but still allows

without taking up much more time.

another supplement, the dose, with a meal etc.). This

provides an experienced user with a fast way to check

anyone without sufficient information to easily get it,

The revised sitemap is now shallower and simpler. This should help both the mental model of the user, as well as the speed with which they can use the app.

Through discussion with participants, it became apparent that it would be helpful to differentiate the different types of page. To do this, they have been colour-coded in 5 groups (as shown in the above sitemap):

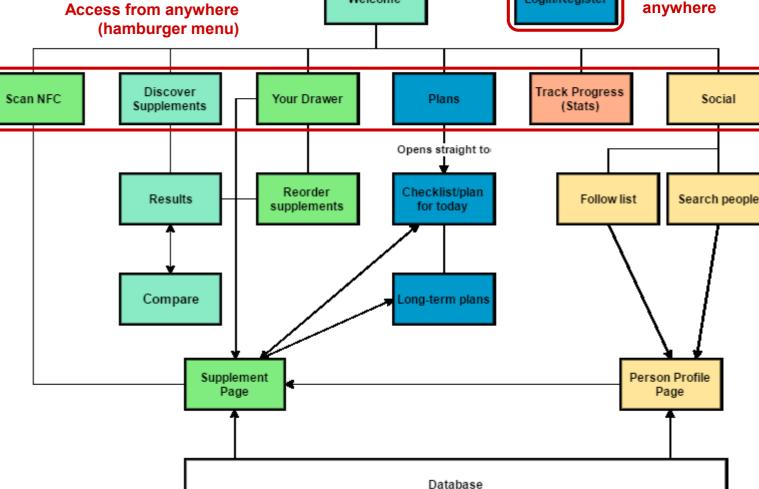
> Supplement Planning/Organisational Discover/Welcome Stats Social

These were based on the original colourscheme, however further testing is required to determine if there are any problems, e.g. for colourblind people or readability issues.

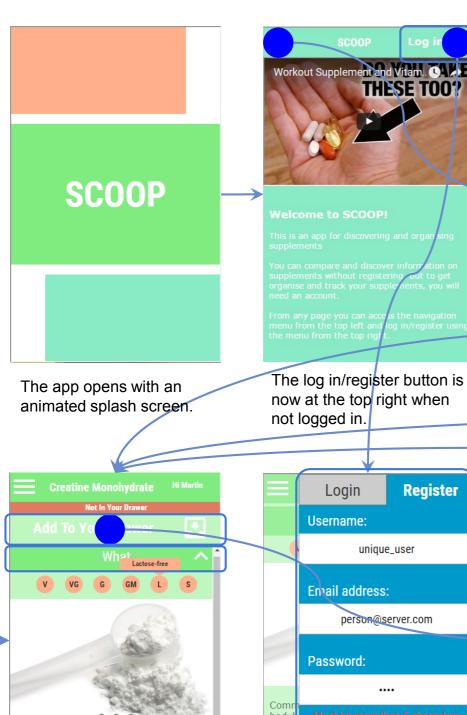
Welcome

Access from

.ogin/Register



Revised wireframes - Designs improved based on user feedback



The add to drawer button is above the expandable sections. Titles have been changed to single words. An image carousel has been added.

The login/register tabbed panel now slides in from the side instead of being a pop-up/new page, in order to mirror the action of the menu.

Commonly taken by athletes and bodybuilders,

use - to improve brain function

Creatine Monohydrate has been shown to increase strength and muscle mass, as well its less common

SCOOP

Dis Coop

Production

NFC

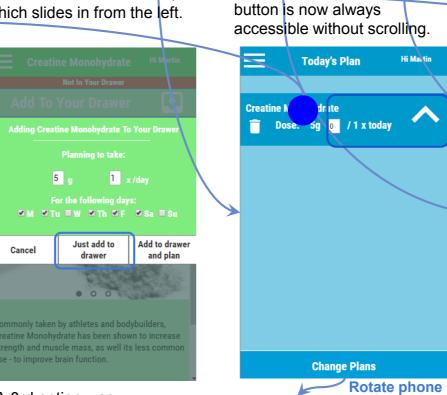
Production

In ments

Social

Iron the op right.

More pages are now at the top level - available through buttons on the main menu, which slides in from the left.



The browse and search pages

have been combined into one

'Discover' page. The discover

A 3rd option was added to the drawer/planning pop-up.

in K2

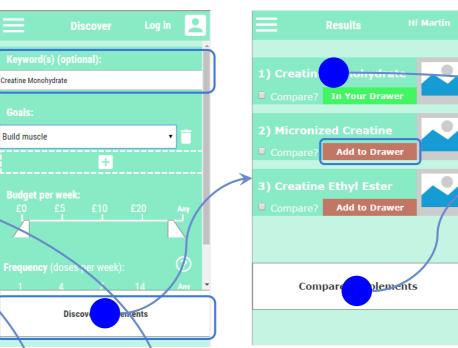
Creatine Monohydrate

Dose: 5g

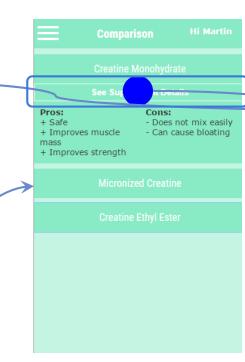
Take with D-Ribose

Taken 1 / 1 x today

Today's Plan



Supplements can be jumped to, compared, or added to Your Drawer from the Results page.



Expandable sections allow for quick comparison between multiple supplements.

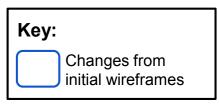


Track progress gives some useful overall statistics.

The fast version of the plan is portrait, and the more detailed is landscape. Both arrows and a text box can be used to edit number of doses taken today.



Your Drawer allows users to quickly see how much of each supplement is left, and to reorder one or all that are running low.



Final thoughts: Testing and iterating on the initial designs, incorporating user feedback into the revisions, has allowed the information architecture, the task flow, and the usability of individual pages to improve drastically.

Register

With: