ToDoGotchi

A Productivity App by Vince Casmirri, Ben Mulholland, Zach Yingling, and Marena Ferrel



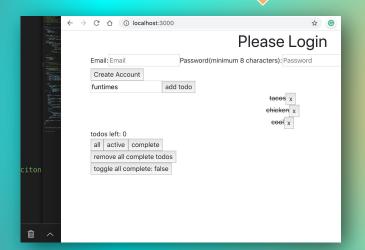


Concept Overview

- A productivity app that stores to-dos while linking your accomplishments to the happiness of a virtual pet.
- The pet gets less and less happy over time.
- Accomplishing to-dos earns energy points that enable you to play with your pet and restore its happiness.
- ToDoGotchi aims to:
 - Harness the user's emotional attachment to the pet to improve motivation.
 - Make gamifying productivity a more gratifying experience.
 - Improve the user's time-management skills.

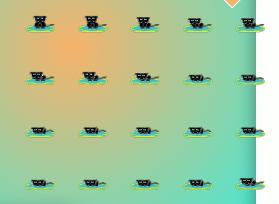
Initial UI

First draft of the login screen and to-do list



First iteration of the pet page

Ben designed all of the pets and their movements



Happiness: 17 Energy: 27



Our theme was inspired by several sources including the Tamagotchi Encore look and Lisa Frank.







Account Creation

- Express-Sessions
 - Stores login info
 - Login info can be access in request parameter of each route
- Email Validator
 - Validates emails on creation
- Bcrypt
 - Encrypts account passwords on creation
 - Tests if plain text matches hashed pass in database on login

Database

- Mongo database with 3 collections
 - Users contains login info, todolists, and a unique pet, is the parent of the following 2 collections
 - Todos contains todo text, boolean for completion, last update timestamp
 - Pets energy level, mood status
- When new account is created, new pet is created object ID attributed to current user
- New todos are attributed to a specific user by the unique objectID
- Current pet state is also sent to the database where it is stored and continuously updated, the contentment of the pet depletes over time

Minigame Probs

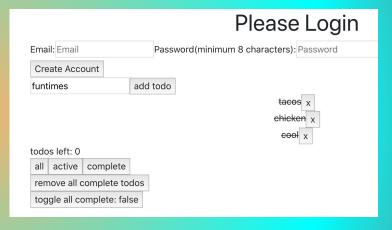
- Decomposition and abstraction of minigame
- Used skifree.js; Canvas, HTML5
 boilerplate; piskelapp for pngs and gifs.
- Time spent animating monster, cat jumps, and crashes.



The TodoList Component

Users can:

- Create new todos
- Check off todos
- Delete todos
- Toggle between active and completed todos
- See number of remaining todos



An early iteration of the component.

Making Our Pet Sad

- Interval functions & API calls to the database
 - track time
 - decrement happiness every 2 hours
- When user logs out, database stores timestamp
- When user logs in, back-end logic calculates decremented happiness
- Additional setTimeout function accounts for elapsed time <2 hours



Making Our Pet Happy

- Complete a todo to gain 2 energy (API call to database)
- Spend 1 energy to pet, increasing happiness
- Full happiness user gets access to the minigame
- Interval automatically checks happiness/energy
 - Updates indicators
 - Updates animation state



Technologies Used

- React.js
- MongoDB
- Mongoose
- Express-Sessions
- GET/POST Routing
- HTML Canvas
- SkiFree.js

- Email Validator
- User-Authentication
- Encryption
- AJAX/jQuery
- Piskel

Future Iterations

- Multiple pets to choose from
- Text editor ability to set word count goals
- Sound effects
- More minigames
- Reorganize components to rely less on database calls
- Use Firebase instead of Mongo