

Usability Test: **Beatle**

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Introduction

Thank you for agreeing to do this usability test for our app. We are currently part of the CS 262 Software Engineering class and have been developing a metronome app, BEATLE. However, beyond simply making a standard metronome with a consistent pulse, we have implemented the ability to design your own custom click track which allows for changes in the time signature and tempo. Hopefully, this gives musicians increased flexibility and versatility, allowing them to practice not only rhythm, but also rhythm changes.

We have asked you to come today to do a usability test on our app, and to test whether our app is usable, intuitive, and runs smoothly. Please remember that we are testing our app, and not you. You can't do anything wrong here. We want to hear exactly what you think, what you like and don't like, what works, and what could be improved. Be honest and don't worry about hurting our feelings. That will help us find problems that exist and fix them.

For the test, we'll ask you to do certain tasks and we'd like you to think out loud while you're doing them. If you have questions, just ask. If you have comments, go ahead and say them. We'll record your comments, but won't make them public. If, for any reason, you'd like to quit this test, then just say so.

Background Questions

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| What's your musical background? |
| Do you play any instruments? |
| What kind of music do you listen to? |
| Have you used a metronome before? |
| Any comments about your metronome? |
| Do you have experience reading sheet music? |
| Have you ever seen music that includes rhythmic or tempo changes? |
| Have you played music that changed rhythm or tempo? |
| How did you practice? |
| Before we begin, do you have any questions? |

The Test

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| Looking at the main screen, is it clear to you what all the things on the screen are for? |
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| General tasks: I'll ask you to do some of the following tasks, depending on how much time we have. | |
| Basic functionality | |
| Set a beat for 111 BPM, with 5 beats per measure | |
| Notice that the accent defaults to the first beat. Can you change it to the 4th beat instead? | |
| Can you change the sound to the snapping sound? | |
| Set the beats to 7/8 (3+2+2) | |
| Less basic functionality | |
| 1 | We have already built a custom click track, somewhere. Can you find it and play it? |
| | Delete the second item. |
| | Add in two more measures of 4/4 at 120 BPM, after the first measure. |
| | Delete the whole thing. |
| 2 | Observe this piece, "Drafting Excuses to Talk to Someone". Notice that it has a looping pattern. Build a click track for it. |
| Extra, if there is time | |
| 3 | Build a click track for Prokofiev mm. 176-181 |
| Final observations | |
| Would you consider using it? | |
| What would you change about it? | |
| Do you have any final observations on the app? | |

Final Remarks

Many thanks for your willingness to help us test out the Beatle app! We are still developing it, so we appreciate your help in figuring out how to improve it.

We'll contact you soon with a summary of what we found and how we hope to use it to improve the site. We'll keep the data from your individual session private and will only release aggregate data.