**Project description**

Xpendit is a group finance managing application designed to help friends and roommates keep track of what they owe each other. The application will allow groups of people to track any fee that a group of people might share with each other, such as rent, apartment maintenance, or the cost of going out to eat. Regularly recurring costs can be set up to ensure that continual expenses such as rent or utility bills are paid on time. Xpendit will also allow groups to create shared shopping lists to make it easy to keep track of what the group needs, how much each item costs, and how much each member of the group needs to contribute financially.

    Out of applications that already exist, the most similar to Xpendit is RoomMate. RoomMate is specifically designed for a group of people living together, and includes features such as recurring bill tracking, collaborative shopping lists, and even shared to-do lists to keep track of which roommate is in charge of doing which chore. RoomMate even includes a chat client and the ability to find companies near the user to take care of household chores. RoomMate’s features are nice, but they limit the scenarios for which the application can be useful - such as going out to dinner and tracking who needs to pay for different items. This is not possible with RoomMate, but will be easy to do with Xpendit. An additional benefit of not including features with such a specific use case is that Xpendit’s user interface is less cluttered, which will make it easier for users to set up and use quickly. Overall, it will be flexible for the individual use case.

Similarly to Xpendit, the application Splitwise allows for one-on-one cost tracking as well as cost tracking for a group of people. Unlike Xpendit, Splitwise does not allow for the creation of collaborative shopping lists. Additionally, Splitwise does not allow for recurring costs, and would require a cost such as rent to be manually created every month. This makes it easier for this type of fee to be forgotten, which is not an issue with Xpendit. Beyond Splitwise’s lack of collaborative lists and recurring fees, it works similarly to Xpendit.

Xpendit is also somewhat similar to Settle Up, which is an expense tracking application built specifically for groups. Settle Up does not allow for one-on-one expense tracking; only group expense tracking is supported, whereas Xpendit supports both one-on-one and group transactions. Similarly to Splitwise, Settle Up does not support the creation of collaborative shopping lists or recurring costs. Settle Up is instead intended to track which person spent what amount of money during, for example, a road trip taken by a group of friends, as well as to ensure that the total cost of an excursion is split equally among a group.

The application Splid tracks only expenses shared among a group, similarly to RoomMate or Settle Up. Splid supports the creation of an itemized list of costs for an event, such as a trip or night out, as well as noting who paid for each fee and which members of the group owe money to other members of the group. Splid’s most unique feature is the ability to create a PDF or Excel report detailing the costs associated with an event and who paid what for each expense. Splid also supports sharing expense reports by link, allowing users to use the application without having to sign up for an account. Xpendit will not support usage of the application without an account nor exporting cost reports.