­­Usability Test Report

Date of Report: Thursday April 14, 2016

Date of Test: Thursday April 7, 2016

Location of Test: Olsen Hall Rm. 109

University of Massachusetts Lowell

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# Executive Summary

# Methodology

### Who we tested

9 male participants, having the following characteristics, evaluated trackstudio.

# Usability Test Methodology

## Form

Participants were asked to first fill out a form with the following questions, with the types of answers following in parenthesis.

* Name (Open Response)
* Age (Open Response)
* Gender (Male, Female, Other)
* Do you consider yourself a musician? (yes or no)
* Have you ever recorded yourself? (yes or no)
* Do you download music creation software? (yes or no)
* Are you computer savvy? (yes or no)
* Do you play an instrument? (yes or no)
* Can you sing? (yes or no)

## Task List

Next the participants were given a task list with the following tasks.

* Ensure you’re at <https://trackstudio.herokuapp.com>
* Allow microphone access to trackstudio
* Register for an account at trackstudio
* Click “Learn trackstudio”

Within the task list was a sub task list the was pertaining to the “Learn trackstudio” tutorial.

* Grab those headphones
* Record to a track
* Playback my recording
* Stop my recording
* Add a reverb effect to my recording
* Playback my track

After completing the tutorial, the user was asked to complete the remainder of the tasks.

* Change the volume for the first recorded track
* Record a second track
* Change the volume of my second track
* Change the treble and bass of my second track
* Add a “PingPong” effect to my second track
* Play my song from the beginning
* Record over a previously recorded track
* Pan a track to the left
* Replace the first track with the “WahWah” effect
* Play your song from the beginning

## Questionnaire

Lastly, the participant was given an open response questionnaire with the following questions.

* What is your overall impression of trackstudio?
* What did you like the best?
* What did you dislike the most?
* Would you use trackstudio again?
* What would you like to see improved?
* What would you like to see removed?

# Data Collected

## Proctor Comments

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Comment | Solution | Occurrences |
| More tooltips throughout site | We will add tooltips to all controls of the mixer/site that we find necessary to do so. | 2 |
| User would close out of tutorial, leaving tutorial partially uncompleted. | hide "x" buttons from tutorial modals | 1 |
| Clicking play button multiple times, specifically immediately after playing would replay the buffer, even though the previous one was not completed. | Disable play button when playing | 2 |
| The mixer as a whole is too large for the screen. |  | 1 |
| After signing up there was not a clear direction of where the user should go. | Close partial after successful login | 3 |
| The colors that appear in sign-up/sign-in validator are hard to read. | Change colors | 1 |
| Confused after allowing access to microphone (in allow access page). | Create a mini tutorial that shows where allow access button is, then press ok (which will refresh page) | 1 |
| Stop timer when the song is completed. | make "click" event on stop button when track is over | 1 |
| Instead of tracks call them layers. | preference\* | 1 |
| When click + (add FX) should not need to click "add to track 1" again | after click "+", FX partial drops down, user hovers for info, user clicks to add it | 2 |
| The “PingPong” effect sounds like a “Reverb” effect. | Change "time" parameter to give more space in between repetitions | 1 |
| Tutorial button is in an awkward place. | Place tutorial in navigation bar. | 1 |

## Questionnaire Responses

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Question | Responses |
| What was your overall impression of trackstudio? | Generally positive, keywords were “cool” and “easy”. |
| What did you like the best? | There was a trend of people liking the effects the most. |
| What did you dislike the most? | Although there was quite a bit a variety in responses, ending the timer when the song is over, was the only response that came up twice. |
| Would you use trackstudio again? | “Yes” was the majority. |
| What would you like to see improved? | There were a mix of results, but “more effects” were the only ones to come up twice. |
| What would you like to see removed | Half of the responses were “nothing” the other half was a mix of concerns. |

## Task List Completion

Fortunately, every task was completed by each participant. Although it did not cause any complications, it is worth mentioning that some participants did complete the task list out of order the order expected by the proctors.

# Planned Changes

To help the trackstudio team formulate what changes should be made, we looked toward 3 response areas:

* What would you like to see improved?
* What did you dislike the most?
* Proctor Comments

Analyzing these three areas allowed us to come up with this list of changes.