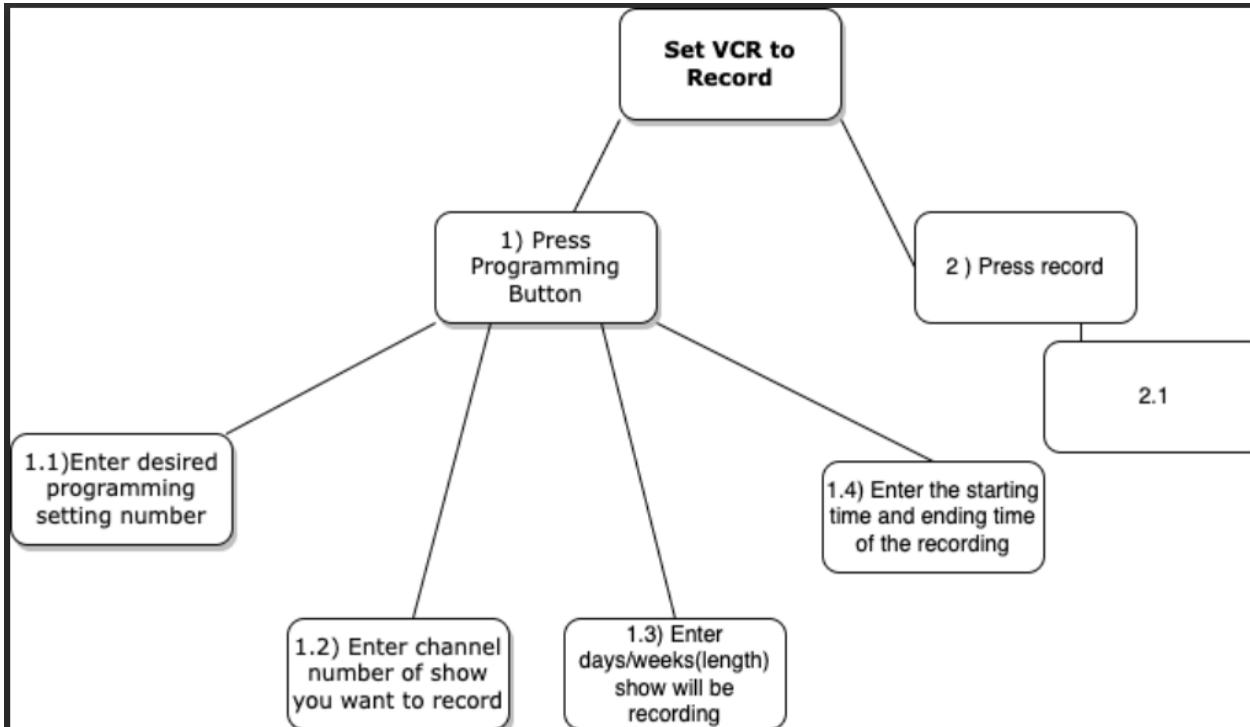


Part 1 Steps: Create a preliminary HTA.

1. Create a task breakdown needed to program a VCR to record.

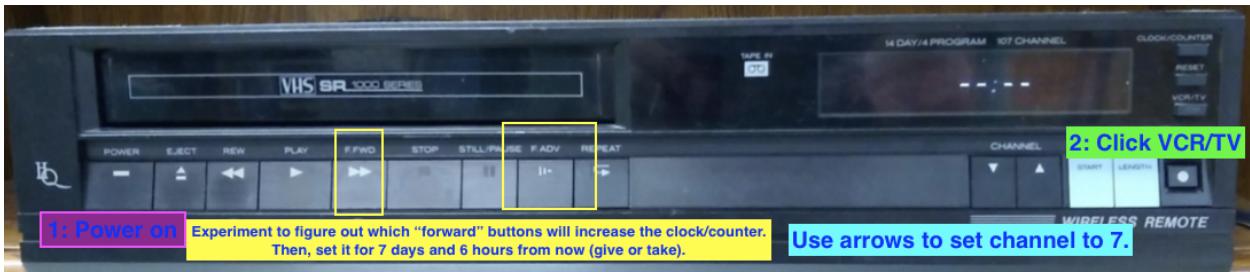
2. Create a prelim "HTA" based on the tasks needed.



https://drive.google.com/file/d/1IC40dxbkn9d1FpEh9Mhsfla_SreuDtXC/view?usp=sharing

Part 2 Steps: VCR Programming w/o instruction.

1. Marked up (paste image here). (Done by Karsten.)

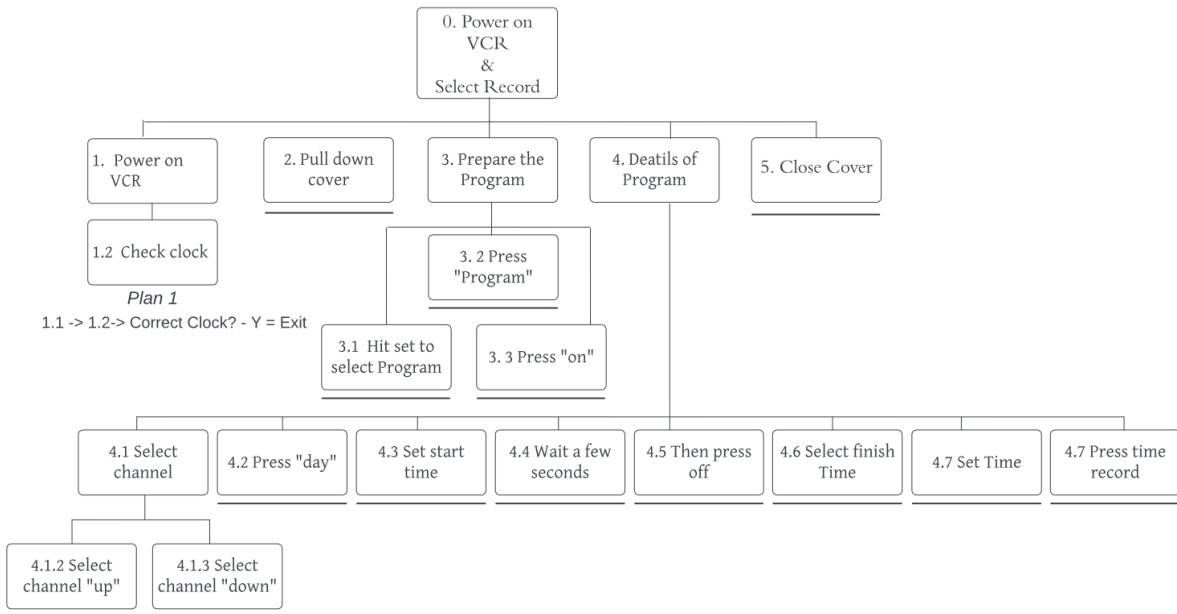


2. Attempt recorded. Video is available (somewhere: recorded by Gabe)



Part 3 Steps:

1. Revise our HTA based on the demonstration video we watched.



2. Perform 2nd re-recording with our revised HTA in mind.

We have performed the second re-recording.



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

3. Discuss and answer the following questions in your group:

- a. How did your preliminary HTA compare to the actual VCR task? What tasks remained the same? Which tasks were revised or changed? Which tasks were removed?

Our preliminary HTA was vastly different from the actual VCR. We did not remove tasks. Instead, we had to extend and expand on nearly every part of the HTA to create a 3-layer HTA. Tasks were revised in that they were decomposed into the many substeps.

- b. Compare the basic task of programming a VCR to programming a DVR. How are the two similar? How are the two different?

Recording a VCR requires correct setup and extensive programming. In comparison, a DVR is easily used and accessed through simple button presses on a remote. The reason why the VCR process is so complicated while the DVR is simple, is that the VCR's primary use was to play back cassette tapes. If the option were there, accidentally pressing "record" and permanently overwriting a cassette would be bad for the end user. In comparison, recording on a DVR has little to no "consequences" for the end user provided they have adequate space for their shows.

- c. In general, what features do you consider important for video recorders (VCR, DVR, computer, or tablet)?

I have not used VCRs or DVRs. However, I believe that ease of use is extremely important. People underestimate the lack of technical knowledge/intuition that both new and older generations have, and striking a balance between making it customizable+fully usable and easy to use by a technologically inept person is important. With regards to computers and tablets, there are hardly ever consequences to storing new data (unlike with VCR), and deleting data comes with multiple fail-safes such as asking for confirmation to delete a file from a file explorer, or prohibiting the user from deleting files critical to the operation of a computer, and retaining the file(s) data even after deletion so that it can be undone and recovered. So, the features that are important: Multiple confirmations to delete media, easy-to-use record and stop recording buttons, and functional if limited built-in editing software and video scrubbing for manipulation of media.

- d. How would you redesign the VCR control interface based on your observations?

I would hide the record button behind a big glass box that says "DO NOT PRESS" on it, so people would only press it if they were sure they wanted to overwrite a cassette. Instead of this arcane process, I would redesign the VCR control interface to have a warning confirmation directly informing the user that the cassette would be overwritten. In addition, before a scheduled recording can be confirmed, the tape holder would eject and require the user to at least touch or see the cassette (which is hopefully labeled) to further avoid overwrite errors that would negatively impact the end user.

Part 4: Developing instructions

- a. Create a one-page instruction manual to explain to users how to program the VCR.
(on next page)

How to Program the VCR: A one-page instruction manual.

First, power on the VCR, and check the clock to ensure it is set to the correct time.

Second, pull down the cover located on the bottom of the VCR to reveal a second set of buttons.

Third, hit set to select Program- then press the “On” button.

Fourth, select the channel using the “Up” and “Down” buttons. Select the “day,” and set the start time. Wait five seconds, then press “Off.”

Select finish time, and set time. Press time record.