

### Consider

What kinds of personal information do you make available in public space? Who has the capacity/capability to 'read' this information or to change it? What role does this play in your participation in social life?

### Make:

Plug in sensor, servo, and battery

Test with remote

Fold box

Fold lid

Use knife or scissors to cut hole for battery connector on side of enclosure and side of lid  
Use foam tape to place arduino inside the enclosure.

Tape battery into place on top of arduino and feed battery connector out the hole you cut.

In lid, cut hole for servo axle and for IR sensor

Feed sensor out through hole and tape in place  
Install lid.

Install pointer and mark positions for tags using the universal remote to move the pointer through its positions.

Reinstall lid. Secure with rubber band if necessary.

### Tags

Decide on a set of 5 'tags' – descriptive words or short phrases – that would be useful to share in public space. Write the tags in the appropriate places on the lid.

### Questions

What kinds of personal information do you make public and where? Is there a connection between the kinds of information and the types of social capital such information is intended to support?

What tags did you choose and why? Where should you wear your tagger?

Who should have control over the tag you display? Should they be anonymous? Do you require reciprocal power over their tagger?  
What kinds of social capital do you want your device to foster?

What are the limits of notions of social capital?

### Reflect

"the sum of the resources, actual or virtual, that accrue to an individual or a group by virtue of possessing a durable network of more or less institutionalized relationships of mutual acquaintance and recognition" (Bourdieu and Wacquant, 1992:14)

Social capital is typically considered as both a personal and a social good, with high measures being linked to a variety of positive outcomes; increased individual opportunities, greater individual commitments to community and the ability to mobilize collective action.

Online social networks (such as Facebook and LinkedIn) are often considered a place where participants can increase their social capital. However, such sites are also thought of as a place of risk, when privacy and safety concerns – and a lack of attention to such by participants – create a wide ranging series of negative outcomes. Stories of parents, employers, or partners seeing revealing photos or movies are commonplace these days. **The prevalence of these stories point to a contradiction at the heart of current social network technologies.** On one hand, making personal information public on such sites helps one accrue social capital, but on the other hand, doing so puts one at risk of unintended consequences.

Scholarship tends to distinguish between two types of social capital; **bridging social capital** which describes connections between individuals who provide useful advice or information to each other but not emotional support; and **bonding social capital** which describes close, emotional, tightly-knit relations such as those between family and close friends. (Putnam, 2000) More recently, researchers have explored a third dimension they call **maintained social capital**, a term that describes resources that facilitate the ability of individuals to support and extend the life of both bridging and bonding social relationships. (Elison, Steinfield, and Lampe, 2007)