

Project 1 - Recording the Journey

Github Link: [melakueb/UI-Project-1-Recording-the-Journey](https://github.com/melakueb/UI-Project-1-Recording-the-Journey)

Describe the project:

Job Search Tracker is a web app that helps college students organize job applications, networking, follow-ups, and self-reflection, allowing them to see their progress over time and stay motivated. The concept is inspired by the Growth/Learning theme and was scoped specifically for students seeking full-time roles.

The goal is to replace the current fragmented process (spreadsheets, note-taking apps, and memory) with a consistent, visual workflow that supports deadlines, reminders, and small wins reflections. Interviews confirmed that students struggle with forgetting follow-ups, losing track of deadlines, and staying motivated when progress isn't visible.

Present your design work:

Interviewing

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5	Q6	Q7	Q8	Q9	Q10	
Interview 1	Applied on LinkedIn, had 2 interviews last month	Spend 1-2 hours daily scrolling and applying	Notes app with deadlines	Yes, spreadsheet is hard to update consistently	Mostly mental, sometimes LinkedIn connections	Forgot to follow up with alum, missed referral	Too many portals, deadlines everywhere	Yes, often feels overwhelming	Support from friends	Occasionally journal feelings	
Interview 2	Career fair this week, submitted apps	3 days a week searching, rest networking	Google Sheet for job details	Yes, liked seeing progress but tedious	Keep emails starred	Missed recruiter's deadline once	Tedious repetitive applications	Yes, when rejections pile up	Parent encouragement	Yes, monthly review of spreadsheet	
Interview 3	Internship rejections this summer	Set aside mornings for searching	Trello board with stages	Yes, Trello helped visualize steps	Save numbers in phone contacts	Forgot coworker's advice, missed opportunity	Unclear job descriptions	Yes, especially with no replies	Hoping for long-term career growth	Yes, tracks wins in planner	
Interview 4	Applied for 15 jobs in 2 weeks	Mostly evenings, 2-3 hours	Sticky notes on desk	Tried apps but gave up	Just remember mentally	Didn't reconnect with classmate recruiter	Losing track of follow-ups	Yes, feels lost sometimes	Seeing peers succeed motivates me	No formal reflection	
Interview 5	Networking on LinkedIn, 5 apps submitted	Check postings during lunch breaks	Saved links in bookmarks	Never used spreadsheets	LinkedIn messages saved	Didn't reply to a recruiter in time	Too many platforms to check	Yes, feels chaotic	Future career goals	Yes, weekly journal	

Interview 6	First full-time search now	Search evenings, apply weekends	Physical notebook	Notebook works, but messy	Contacts on LinkedIn	Forgot to email mentor back	Managing deadlines	Yes, especially after rejections	Peer accountability group	Sometimes reflect in conversations	
Interview 7	Summer internship hunt ongoing	Daily LinkedIn alerts	Screenshot postings	No apps, just screenshots	Save chats on phone	Forgot recruiter's name at fair	Hard to compare roles	Yes, feels exhausting	End goal of landing role	No reflection habit	
Interview 8	Career fair this week, submitted apps	Alternate days job search	Use Excel sheet	Yes, works well but time consuming	Write contacts in notes app	Missed chance to reach out to recruiter	Too many logins	Yes, overwhelmed juggling classes	Encouragement from mentors	Yes, quarterly reflection	
Interview 9	Submitting apps for tech jobs	Set goals of 5 apps per week	Airtable tracker	Yes, Airtable easy to filter	Track in Airtable too	Missed recruiter message on LinkedIn	Tedious cover letters	Yes, lose motivation sometimes	Future vision of self in role	Yes, writes weekly reflections	
Interview 10	Interviewed twice this semester	1-2 hours daily LinkedIn browsing	Calendar reminders	Google Calendar is okay but not detailed	Save emails and add calendar notes	Missed scheduling call with recruiter	Deadlines overlapping	Yes, overwhelmed by juggling school	Hope for stability	Yes, monthly planner reflection	

Needs Finding

- Simple, visual way to see what they've accomplished
- Reminders for next steps
- A simple, reliable way to log applications (company, role, deadline, job board used, status)
- A place to record networking contacts + advice
- Reminders for deadlines, follow-ups, and interviews
- Features that reinforce motivation by highlighting small wins and overall progress
- Minimal interface that doesn't feel like tedious work

Sketching

Level 1

Goal: Something for a day

- name
- date/time
- how long used machine
- having item
- size/what day entry

More Details | Date/time | Day size active

Menu

- ☐
- ☐
- ☐

Set up/notifications

Notification ready?

YES

NO

Permissions:

Table rows great looking today

Level 2

- previous entries
- sorry to edit entry

Select Date: [calendar]

Entry for: _____

:

:

Monday, September 22, 2025 8:10

Level 3

- set goals
- overview
- customization

[goals] [overview] [customization]

Set goals (per day)

to: Set to apply to: _____

to have great morning/evening

Overview

- hold it up jobs
- late start: has something
- pre start: mind

Customization

day/night toggle

Describe your interface in detail:

Explain the features and controls

Job Search Tracker

User: Elshaddai | Date: 9/23/2025 9:22:55 PM

Days since start: 106 | Total days active: 1

1. Header

Displays the application title ("Job Search Tracker"), the logged-in user's name, and the current date and time.

Days since start: number of days since the user began tracking.

Total days active: number of days with at least one logged entry.

Log Today's Activity

Entry Date: 

Mood:

Jobs Applied:

Networking activity today?:

Reflection:

Hours spent job searching/networking today:


2. Daily Activity Logging

Form-based entry system where users can log their daily activity.

Fields include:

- Date (auto-filled but editable with a calendar picker).
- Mood (dropdown selection).
- Jobs Applied (numeric input).
- Networking Activity (Yes/No dropdown).
- Reflection (free-text box for notes or thoughts).
- Hours Spent (numeric input for time spent on job search/networking).
- Save Entry button stores the data.

Review Past Entry

Select Date to Review: 09/24/2025 

Review Entry

Entry for 2025-09-24:

Mood: neutral

Jobs Applied: 2

Networking: No

Reflection: Good day

Hours: 0.5

3. Review Past Entries

Allows users to select a past date with a calendar picker.

Clicking Review Entry retrieves and displays that day's logged information, including mood, jobs applied, networking, reflections, and hours spent. Also populates the form for that date above in the "Daily Activity Logging" section for any edits.

More Features

Set Goals

Overview

Customization

Set Daily Goals

Jobs to apply:

Hours applying/networking:

4. Progress & Goal Tracking

Located under the More Features navigation tabs.

Set Goals tab: users can input daily targets for the number of jobs to apply for and hours to spend applying/networking..

More Features

Set Goals

Overview

Customization

Progress Overview

Goal Jobs Per Day: 2, Today's Jobs: 2

Goal Hours Per Day: 2, Today's Hours: 0.5

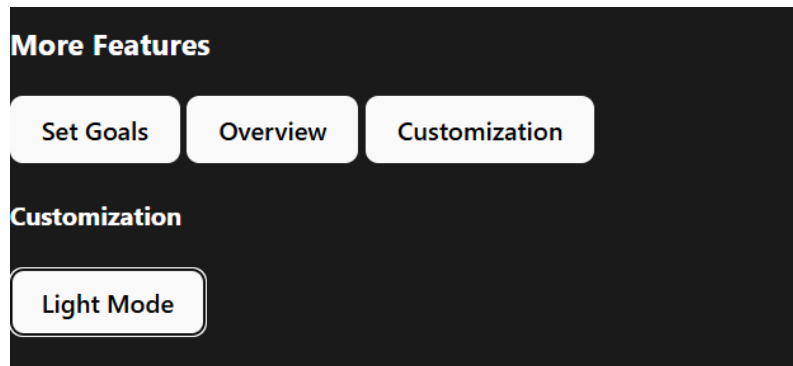
Total jobs applied: 4

Overview tab:

Displays current progress against goals.

Example: "Goal Jobs Per Day: 2, Today's Jobs: 2."

Tracks total jobs applied overall.



5. Customization

Users can switch between Dark Mode and Light Mode for visual preference.

Example: in Dark Mode, the background becomes black with white text, while buttons remain highlighted for visibility.

Use of AI

I used AI mainly through VS Code's built-in tools to accelerate development. These tools helped me align functions with constants and keep my code consistent. AI support was helpful for fixing syntax errors and making sure the logic was clean and organized.


Future Work & Next Steps

Next, I plan to expand progress indicators with weekly/monthly trends, charts, and streak tracking to keep users motivated.

Job Application Tracker

Company:

Role:

Deadline: 

Job Board:

Status:

Add Job

I am also working on logging specific job roles and companies to which applications are submitted, which will enable better tracking of application stages. So far, this accepts an entry, but does not display. Longer-term improvements include adding reminders for follow-ups, more customization options, and optimizing the interface for mobile use.