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Programming Project

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Contents

Analysis 3
Problem Identification 3
Clients 3
Interview 3
Research 3
Existing Solutions 3
Features of the Proposed Solution 5
Limitations of the Proposed Solution 5
Requirements 6
Stakeholder Requirements 6
Functionality 6
Measurable Success Criteria for Proposed Solution 6

Analysis

Problem Identification

In exam time, students can get stressed from revising for exams. Many students use video games as a way to escape from revision from time to time, but many games require too much of a time investment to be able to play for short periods of time. Multiplayer games can help during exam time as it can be a time to socialise during breaks while revising. Many recent games also require powerful computers to run the graphics requirements they meet, so I propose a game which has simpler graphics, shorter round times, and is multiplayer.

Clients

My users are a group of 15-19 year old students which sometimes play video games. Many of them prefer smaller games where you do not have to worry if you have time to finish the game/round. Many of them also have low powered laptops, so a game that is easier on the graphics is more enjoyable due to less lag.

Interview

1. Have you played a multiplayer arcade-style game before?
2. If so, how many different games in this genre have you played?
3. What were your favourite parts of these games?
4. What were your least favourite parts of these games?

5, What would you like to see in a game like this?

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1. How would you like to control your ball?
2. How many holes would you like to play per game?
3. How long should the time limit be per hole?
4. What items would you like to see in the game?
5. What type of music would you like in the background?
6. How should you be able to join a multiplayer game with a friend?

Research

Existing Solutions

ogcopen.com

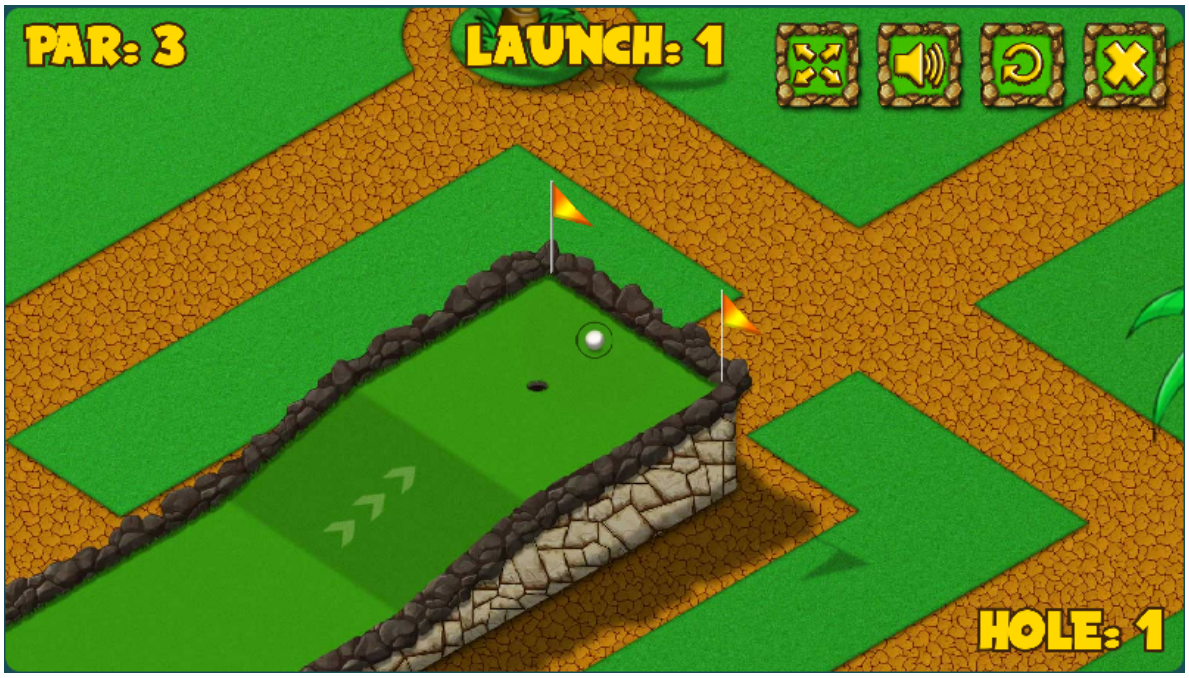
`ogcopen.com` is an online 3D golf game. It has multiplayer with random people and groups.

This game has high-detail graphics to look similar to real golf, as well as complex controls for the ball such as intensity, accuracy and placement.

Unfortunately it does not seem to have settings for UI theme and does not seem to respect browser text size in some places. This makes it difficult to read for visually impaired people.

This game is a bit too complex for the style of game I am looking for. The controls are too hard to understand, and there are too many elements like equipment and training. I am going more for a crazy golf style game where anyone can get started with a shallow learning curve.

Backyard Mini Golf



`Backyard Mini Golf` is a 2D mini golf game. It is single-player only with levels.

Despite it not having multiplayer, the interface is similar to what I am looking for. Simple and easy to understand, no initial skill required. The text is large but not intrusive, and there are no complicated elements added.

One disadvantage is that you cannot rotate the camera around the ball, so you are stuck with a static orthogonal camera where you can only pan. The green/yellow colour scheme looks all "yellow" with protanopia and deuteranopia colour blindness.

Features of the Proposed Solution

Limitations of the Proposed Solution

My game would require a Wi-Fi connection. It could use a LAN for local play, but not bluetooth. This is a limitation as school/college Wi-Fi can be unreliable or not accessible at times, and some students may not have access to Wi-Fi at home.

Some visual impairments may be a limitation too. As the game will be 3D, it may be difficult to interpret with a visual impairment. I will try to make the game as accessible as possible with changes such as high contrast, but it may not be possible to make it accessible for all visual impairments.

The game will be controlled with a keyboard and mouse. This is a limitation as some students may not have access to a mouse, or may not be able to use a mouse due to a physical impairment. This would not be something I can solve completely initially, but a low amount of keyboard inputs would mean they can be remapped to a controller or an accessible input device.

Requirements

Stakeholder Requirements

Design

Requirement	Explanation

Functionality

Requirement	Explanation

Hardware and Software

Functionality

Requirement	Explanation

Measurable Success Criteria for Proposed Solution

Criteria	How to get evidence