

AUSIGN - An AUSLAN Interpreter

The primary idea behind the project is to design gloves that when worn, can interpret Auslan (Australian Sign Language) and output the result to built in speakers, enabling deaf/mute individuals to easily communicate with the wider public. We plan to use variable potentiometers in the gloves, whose resistance would change with the flexing and stretching of individual fingers, enabling us to identify hand patterns made. An obvious characteristic that we think would be important would be compatibility, as we would want the gloves to be lightweight and portable. But in order to identify other potential factors that customers would look for in these gloves, we decided to carry out market research - first in the form of survey questions.

Our target audience for this project would be deaf as well as mute individuals. In order to obtain valid data for this, we decided to target _____. The goal of the surveys would be to

- Help us validate real-world usefulness
- Get feedback on design
- Explore the attitude towards current available tech in the deaf community

Keeping this in mind, we came up with the following survey questions:

- Age:
 - Under 18
 - 18 - 24
 - 25 - 39
 - 40 - 55
 - 56 - 65
 - Over 65
- Degree of hearing impairment:

- Unimpaired
- Mild hearing loss (21 - 40dB)
- Moderate hearing loss (41 - 70dB)
- Severe hearing loss (71 - 90dB)
- Profound hearing loss (91 dB+)
- Do you currently use any external device that helps you communicate?
 - Yes
 - No

Depending on the answer to the above question, we asked them two separate sets of questions.

If yes:

- What device do you currently use?
 - On a scale of 1 to 10, how useful is the product to your everyday life.
- 1 to 10 scale

If no:

- On a scale of 1 to 10, how open are you to using a tech product that could potentially aid your everyday life?
- 1 to 10 scale

Then we follow up with the same questions for both answers:

- Would you be interested in a product like AUSIGN that would help convert sign language to audio? If no, why?
- How much would you pay for such a product?
 - Less than 50 AUD
 - 50 to 100 AUD
 - 100 to 200 AUD
 - Over 200 AUD

- Aside from the main feature of converting sign language to audio, do you think that there are any other features that might help a deaf person open to using our product?