Delta Ticket Redesign LMC 3705 Rita Young

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Introduction

After observing different boarding passes for various airlines, we noticed that many of them were difficult to navigate in terms of finding information relevant to the user. The lack of data hierarchy and underdeveloped design language made standard boarding passes unappealing, so we took on the challenge of creating an artifact that would reflect the sequential process of boarding an airplane as well as provide an attractive and clear way to present information to the user. We started by creating user personas and generating ideas based on the needs of the primary users.

Keith (age 36)



Keith is a businessman from Atlanta and travels a lot for work. Every time he needs to fly out for a meeting or conference he receives a printed boarding pass for his flight.

User Persona 1 The Passenger



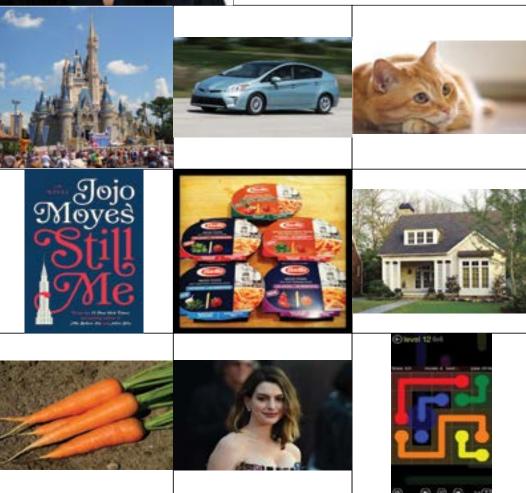
Out of the three personas we chose, the passenger spends the most time looking at and using the boarding pass. They need the information about their flight to be clear and easy to read. The information that is most important to them are the gate number (although this may change), the boarding time, the zone or group for boarding, the departure time, and the seat number, so these pieces of information need to be clearly labeled, legible, and organized in a way that makes it easy for the passenger to find what they need at a glance. Using a grid may help in this case, as well as having a clear hierarchy between the information and its label. A potential challenge could arise if the information that the passenger needs is unlabeled or in a typeface that is not easily read, or if the information is organized in a way that does not make sense considering the boarding process (e.g. the seat number is bigger than the gate number, which the passenger is more concerned with when they first arrive at the airport).

Leslie (age 46)



Leslie is a Delta employee who works at Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta airport. She verifies the information on each passenger's boarding pass and scans their ticket before they board the plane.

User Persona 2 The Airline Official



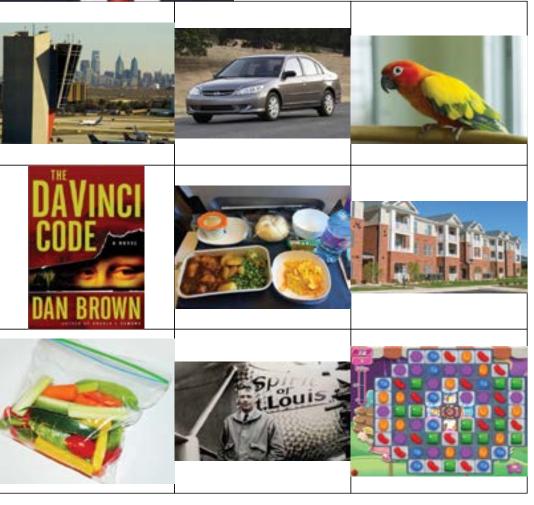
The airline employee who verifies the airline, flight number, and the name of the passenger needs to have these pieces of information easy to spot, especially when they have to verify dozens of passengers for every flight. This information would ideally be concentrated in one part of the ticket so that the employee does not have to look all over the ticket to find the information they need. The barcode should also be in a place that is easy to scan but does not get in the way of the organization of the relevant information that the passenger needs to see. A potential challenge could be the employee having to look in multiple places to verify the passenger, slowing down the boarding process.

Samual (age 40)



Samual is a flight attendant originally from Salt Lake City and now works for Delta Airlines. He greets passengers as they board the airplane and helps them find their seats.

User Persona 3 The Flight Attendant



Flight attendants like Samual aren't concerned with as much information on the ticket, since it has already been scanned and verified by the employee at the gate. Samual only needs to see the class and seat number for passengers who need help finding their seat on the plane. This information could be in a corner of the boarding pass so it's easily visible at a glance. A potential challenge could arise if this information is not easily distinguishable or if it's hard to locate on the ticket.



Preliminary Sketches

As a group we decided that our boarding pass redesign should have the following content:

- Delta name and logo
- Passenger name
- Flight number
- City of origin
- City of destination
- Gate number
- Boarding zone/group
- Seat number
- Departure time and date
- Barcode

We also agreed on a small set of content of secondary importance:

- Time of boarding and doors closing
- Passenger classification (coach, economy, etc)



Refined Sketches



We chose five concepts with the most potential and recreated them digitally. We also included a rough mockup of what the ticket stub would look like for each concept. The bottom left concept received the most favorable response from in-class critique.







Polishing



As we finalized the design concept we experimented with different fonts, font weights, and colors. This included further research into the branding of Delta to ensure that the final design would be consistent with the corporate image.

Final Design

Because the black background was too heavy visually, we opted for Delta blue on the bottom panel and grey on the top banner. The final font is Whitney, the same font Delta uses on their branding.

