Week Six: Simulate the Lifecycle Stages for UI Design Using the RAD Model, and Develop a Small Interactive Interface Using Axure RP

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Aim

To demonstrate the lifecycle stages of UI design using the Rapid Application Development (RAD) model and develop an interactive shopping app interface using Axure RP.

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1. Requirements Planning

Objective: Gather user needs and identify key UI features.

Key Features Identified:

- Navigation: Home, Categories, Product Details, Cart, Checkout, Order Confirmation, Order History.
- User Actions: Browsing, Searching, Adding to Cart, Checkout, Order Tracking

Deliverable:

- A documented list of required features.
- Defined user stories and use cases (e.g., *"As a user, I want to search and add items to my cart to purchase later."*).

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2. User Planning

Steps:

- Installed and launched Axure RP.

- Created a new project: **"Upholstery"**.

Wireframes Designed:

- Home Page
- Product Categories
- Product Listings
- Product Details
- Cart
- Order Confirmation
- Order History

Interactions Added:

- Used OnClick events for navigation between screens.
- Functional buttons (e.g., “Add to Cart” leads to Cart Page).

Masters & Reusability:

- Created reusable components like a header for consistency.

Annotations:

- Descriptive notes have been added to explain the functionality and purpose of each element.

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3. Construction

Prototype Development:

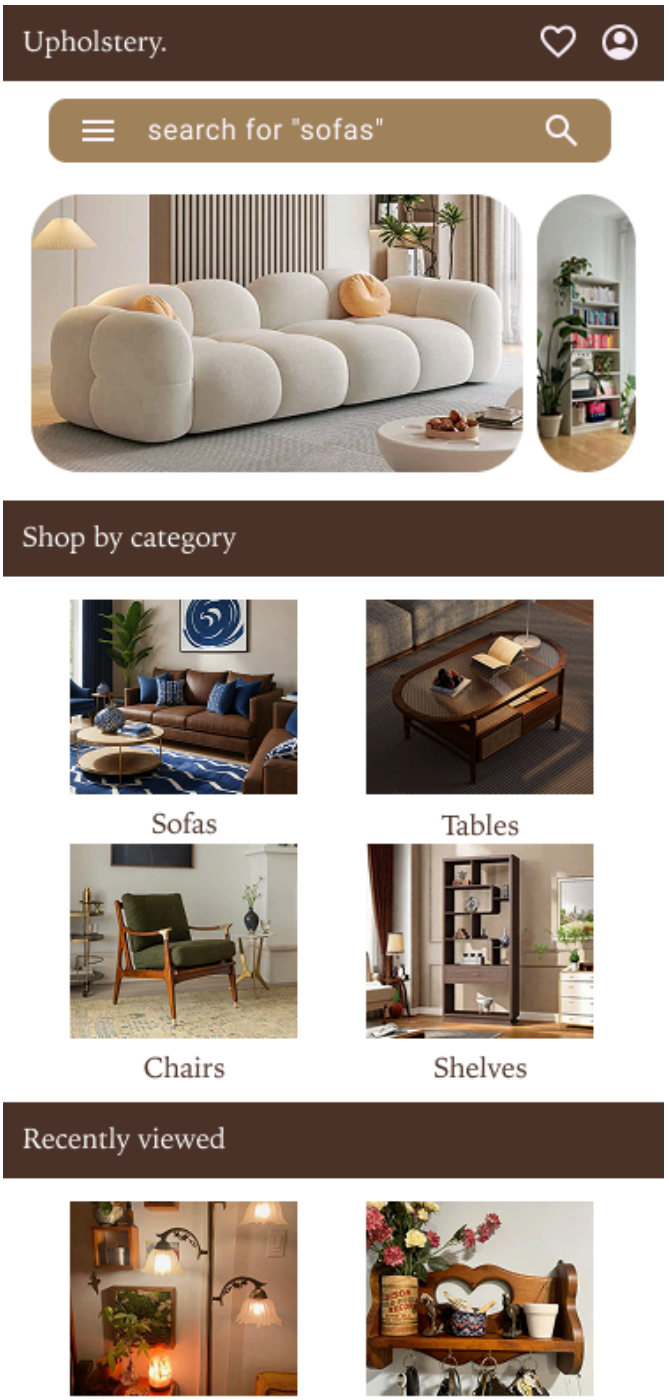
- Converted static wireframes into clickable, interactive prototypes.
- Used dynamic panels to simulate popups and interactive menus.

Testing and Iteration:

- Previewed prototype in Axure.
- Collected stakeholder feedback and updated interactions accordingly.

Prototypes:

- Home Page and Product Categories.



- Product Listing

Upholstery.

Sofas

Rich brown sofa with navy accents

3 seater cloud cushion sofa

Olive green sofa with brown accents

Rust brown L-shape sofa

Black sofa with gold accents

Lounge off white 4 seater sofa

Velvet cushion floor sofa

Jet black 2 seater sofa with pillows

- Product Details

Upholstery.

Rich brown sofa with navy accents

About:
Indulge in sophisticated comfort with this inviting brown leather sofa. Its rich, warm-toned upholstery exudes a sense of luxury, while the inclusion of stylish navy blue throw pillows, some featuring a subtle pattern, adds a touch of contemporary flair. Designed for relaxation and socializing, this sofa appears to comfortably seat three adults. The sturdy frame and plush cushions suggest lasting quality and support, making it a perfect centerpiece for any modern living space.

Implied Specifications:

- Upholstery: Genuine or High-Quality Faux Leather (Brown/Cognac)
- Accent Pillows: Fabric (Navy Blue, potentially with a pattern)
- Seating Capacity: 3-Seater
- Frame Material: Likely Wood (for stability)
- Cushioning: Appears to be a comfortable fill (foam, possibly with down blend)
- Style: Modern, Contemporary
- Leg Material: Dark or possibly hidden
- Arm Style: Padded, slightly rounded

Price:
$1000

- Shopping Cart

Upholstery.

Cart

Rich brown sofa with navy accents

Quantity: 1

Flower lamp

Quantity: 1

Total: $1200

Checkout

- Order Confirmation

Upholstery.

YOUR ORDER IS CONFIRMED!

Order Summary:

Rich brown sofa with navy accents

Quantity: 1

Flower lamp

Quantity: 1

Expected date of delivery: May 01 2025

Click here to download invoice.

Continue Shopping

- Order History

Upholstery.

Past Orders

April 01 2025

Rich brown sofa with navy accents

Quantity: 1

Flower lamp

Quantity: 1

January 25 2025

4. Cutover

- **Finalization**:
    - Completed and refined all interactions.
    - Exported the final prototype as an HTML demo and also uploaded it to Axure Cloud.
- **User Training & Support**:
    - A walkthrough was conducted to explain navigation and features.
    - A user guide was created to explain key screens and user actions.

Conclusion

This experiment successfully demonstrated the **RAD lifecycle** for UI development. Through Axure RP, an interactive prototype for an online shopping application was developed, covering essential flows from browsing to order confirmation. This approach enabled rapid design, testing, and iteration, promoting better user experience and alignment with real-world expectations.
