

CS3240: Critique for Liu Xiaoyu

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1 Introduction

This critique was done from a new user's point of view, which aims to register as either one of the two user groups:

1. A user **who owns a room** and is looking for a roommate.
2. A user **who does not own a room** and is looking for a roommate.

2 Wireframes Pages Critique

2.1 Sign Up Flow

As a new user, I would have expected there to be a registration form for me to indicate my details as a new user. It was confusing as to how I could register as a new user. I assumed that from the wireframes, the registration flow would be trivial and hence, not covered in the wireframes. However, there was a **Me Page** for me to edit my personal details, which helped me to understand which details I was supposed to fill in.

2.2 Home Page

As a new user, it is **great** that there are posts recommended based **on my search history** to recommend me rooms / houses which suit my preference better. I really liked that feature.

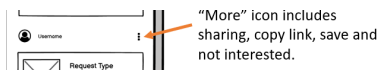


Figure 1: Interactions on Room Card

It would be great if **some primary actions**, such as **save** would be listed as a primary action on the bottom of the card as a button. Else, it would be slightly frustrating as a new user to click on the **More Icon** just to save a listing.

2.3 Story / Forum Page

It was an interesting addition, given the idea that the forum is meant for other room owners / room seekers to gather information and tips about other users / rooms. It would be good if there was a form of hierarchy or ranking such that the top posts of the topic would be at the top, which grabs the attention of the user viewing the page.

2.4 Messages Page

A key observation to note that there is no indication for me to open a current chat. I was clueless as to how to open an existing chat.

2.5 Search Page

It is good that tags are given to help the user better filter what he or she needs from a room. However, **there were missing interactions** in the wireframes provided. For example, I was clueless as to the steps needed to open the map view, which was provided in the sketches.

It would be great if there were additional explanations as to how me, as a new user, could open up the map view as it would be great for viewing the location of a room.

2.6 Post Page

Location of the tags and icons are generally well-placed. There was no collision or overlapping with respect to the icons.

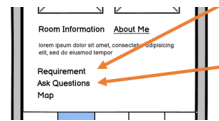


Figure 2: Bottom Buttons on Post Page

However, I found it misleading as I did not recognize that the **Requirement, Ask Questions and Map** text were actually buttons. It would be good to display it as button so that a new user would know that these elements are actually clickable.

3 Prototype Pages Critique

I was provided with the home screen. Colour contrast is good and that **the comment and like buttons** were visible as compared to the wireframes given. However, it would be better if there was accompanying text to describe what the icons represent.

4 User Flow

Many interactions were missing from the user flow, I have listed them down as follows:

1. As mentioned earlier, how am I supposed to register as a new user? Most importantly, is there a way for me to indicate myself as a room seeker or a room owner?
2. Main User Flow is missing, there are several interactions that I feel that could be included:
 - (a) Accepting and Rejecting Offers to live with a new roommate. As there was no indication as to how as a new user, can do so.
 - (b) Stating the differences between the user flow of a room owner and room seeker, if any.
3. Features to enhance a roommate's living experience is missing. It would be good to have an additional duty roster / to-do list feature once an offer has been accepted, so that it would enhance the living experience between the user and his or her new roommate.