

Yet Another Personal Organization Application

(Working Title)

Design Document

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Overview

Yet Another Personal Organization Application (YAPOA) is what it sounds like. Personal Organization tools include *notes*, *journal*, *tasks*, and *goals*. The goal for YAPOA is to help users organize their lives and serve as a motivational and therapeutic outlet. We all have so much to do and so much we want to accomplish – so much to stress out about. For me, the organizational aspect of managing my life can stress me out just as much as the actual things I have to do. YAPOA will take the stress away by, not only, storing one's organizational information in one place, but also by having a simple and intuitive UI, as well as visual tools for being able to see what one has to do, not read.

The therapeutic aspect of YAPOA will come from these visual tools, and from the *journal* feature. I keep a personal journal, and I find dumping my thoughts in it relaxing. It would be nice to have my journal on the cloud, accessible from anywhere. I hope YAPOA users might *start* keeping a journal from using this app. As far as visual tools go, some examples of satisfying feedback might be animations for crossing things off a to-do list, node-branch style graphs of one's notes for easy contextualization, and a view to see (not read) what's coming up in the next week. A user needs to be able to open the app and understand their tasks *at a glance* – no sifting through menus, reading blocks of text, etc.

The motivational aspect of YAPOA will come from the *goals* tool, and some part of *tasks*. Some examples are having a view of a user's long term goals which is visible from many parts of the application. To remind the user of their ultimate goals. Also, user's can link a task with a long-term goal, so they might see what they've been doing towards their long-term goals.

It is probably evident from this summary that **YAPOA will focus heavily on visual feedback as a means of organization. This is the main component of YAPOA which will separate it from its competitors.**

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Storing the organizational information of one's life is not a challenge, displaying it to user's in a way which will increase their understanding is the challenge. Ideally, a user can look at the front page of their account, and have a complete understanding their relevant logistics. Likewise, a user should be able to open the app and take a note from 1 page. Ease-of-use and smooth user experience are the main focuses of YAPOA.

Most important features:

- I. At-a-glance organization
- II. View much information at once, but in a digestible way
- III. Organize the way we *think* about organization.

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Competitors

Evernote, HiTask, many others.

Monetization

Development Schedule

1. Notes
2. Auxiliary Tools
 - i. Login / Logout
 - ii. Signup
 - iii. Landing
 - iv. Profile / Settings

Developers

- Shane Sims
 - B.S. Computer Science
 - 2 years industry experience
 - Relevant framework experience
 - Ruby on Rails
 - Server Configuration – Some, web hosting RoR apps
 - NGINX
 - Passenger
 - Capistrano
 - Sinatra
 - Heroku
 - Digital Ocean

Functional Description

Views

I. *Notes*

Notes have titles and bodies. The Notes page shows all of a user's notes using a *directory, file* style view which is simple, and visually descriptive. The goal being that a user can access individual notes, while visually contextualizing all of their other notes at the same time. The single note being inspected has both its title and body visible and editable. The other notes and directories only have their titles in view. The directories and other files are visible in an intuitive, and helpful way; perhaps a tree, some other node-branch graph.. Exact visual layout unknown. A tree structure could go from left to right with

individual lines going from directory nodes to child nodes. Maybe from top-to bottom.

// Add Drawing

- I. Single note
- II. Note and directory navigation
- III. Site navigation bar