Evaluation

Critique

Summary assessment from user's perspective

The interface was easy to understand and use. Adding tasks were intuitive, and the ability to add a task just by typing it into an empty bar was effective and efficient. The in-place editing option also streamlined the whole user experience as additional dialogs and/or windows where not needed. The use of stars to prioritize tasks was very intuitive, and the automatic reordering of tasks based on what was prioritized meant that the user was able to quickly assess the amount of work that needs to be done. The text "you have x tasks remaining" serve as a succinct broadcast to the user, and is effective in terms of summarizing the user's tasks.

Summary assessment from developer's perspective

CSS was dealt with in a custom file, which allowed for easy reading of the views. The use of partials and re-rendering of the partials to deal with updated views allowed for clean code as well as an easy understanding of what each partial actually is. The scripting could have been extracting to an external file to allow even cleaner code. Using the remote option in rails to implement asynchronous requests was successful, and meant that little to none extra javascript was required. Methods in the controller and models were succinct and uncluttered.

Successful

1. Prioritizing certain tasks and allowing the ordering of tasks to change so that the prioritized tasks appear first
2. Tasks are added to the bottom of the view
3. AJAX updates views and database as intended.

Unsuccessful

1. Pages are sometimes cached, so hitting "Back" button does not return to the updated list of tasks.
2. Current filtering sometimes switches ordering when not necessary, eg. switching two starred tasks.

Priorities for improvement

1. Fix cached pages issue.
2. Increase robustness of task ordering so that unnecessary switches aren't made.
3. Add additional features (adding a due date)

Reflection

The most successful aspect of the project was the use of AJAX to create a seamless user experience. By using partial views and updating the view each time a task is added, deleted, or

starred, the user was able to instantly see changes without a page refresh. The ability to prioritize certain tasks by starring it and seeing the visual reordering is also useful for the user.

The least successful aspect of my project was the narrow scope in features. A useful feature to add would be some sort of indication of a due date, so users will also be able to set reminders for when tasks are due.

While the project overall was successful in meeting the goal and providing a clean, easy-to-understand interface, I felt the project could have been improved by adding slightly more features to allow for a more customizable experience.