Tiny Home Configurator Website (Figma Prototype)

The Need

Our population is growing at an exponential rate, and the urgency to fight climate change is greater than ever. Moreover, affordable housing in the US is still far out of reach. All these issues point out a need for affordable, sustainable, and efficient housing solutions. Tiny homes offer a fashionable solution to all of these problems, as they have glamorized the sustainable, minimalist lifestyle into one of luxury as well. As such, this configurator would bring tiny home design to the masses, making it easier than ever to build your dream tiny home and incentivize sustainable living.

Current Understanding

Tiny homes are designed to essentialize living and space. They often implement clever design solutions to ensure that residents do not lose functionality despite the smaller space they occupy. Moreover, tiny homes are meant to be carbon conscious, which means that they must also take into consideration typical home processes such as water, electricity, and gas in a way that is gentle on the environment. Finally, the lost cost and beauty of tiny homes ultimately wins over individuals who are looking into the market, which means that modularity and standardization must be thoroughly considered from both a practical and aesthetic point of view when designing the configuration of these homes.

Further Research

I need to learn how to make the process of constructing a tiny home more modular, particularly studying companies such as BOXABL which can deliver and assemble homes within an hour. This is important for making the configuration process possible, as well as for keeping the prices of these homes affordable (thanks to cheap mass production). Moreover, finding exemplary tiny homes will be necessary in order to identify the best design solutions to implement as features in my configuration process. I'd also need to learn about how this tiny home would have electricity, water, and gas systems (whether it's connected to the grid or self-sustaining). Getting an idea of pricing is also important, such that users can keep track of the total cost of their home during configuration. Finally, learning about laws surrounding tiny home installation might offer an idea about where these tiny homes would have to go location-wise.

Potential Configurations

size (small, medium, large)

weather/climate/location

- perhaps entering a zip code and we can recommend insulation/heating based on that area's climate

amenities

- # of beds/baths (up to 2bd/2bth)
- kitchen appliances (microwave, fridge, stove, etc.)
- tv, wifi, etc.

lighting and built-in furniture (foldable tables, pull-out storage, etc.)

week	deliverables
1 *3.14 / 3.16*	- complete thorough background research - create 3-5 user personas
2 *3.21 / 3.23*	- wrap up research - figure out content architecture - develop low-fi questionnaire to mimic configuration process
3 *3.28 / 3.30*	- low-fi wireframes (3 directions) - refine configuration process - test user personas/write down feedback
4 *4.4 / 4.6*	- experiment with visual language - mid-fi wireframes (2 directions) - run user personas through again/get feedback
5 *4.11 / 4.13*	- develop visual language - hi-fi wireframes - think about additional elements that might be on website - run user personas through again/get feedback
6 *4.18 / 4.20*	- refine visual language - prototype out the wireframes - get more feedback
7 *4.25 / 4.27*	- finalize design - fix any bugs - submit