

Description: The prototype is a mobile app for spontaneous travelers who want cultural/media recommendations for their intended destinations but do not want to be burdened by too much research.

Simple Task: Getting a recommendation

Moderate Task: Searching for a location or an event

Complex Task: Syncing with calendar







Good recommendation

Solid Recommendation

Bad Recommendation

No SH: we were planning it

Watch images here if helpful

Problem #	⚙️ Heuristic	📌 Task	🔴 Severity	Description	Rationale	Fix	🔍 Found by	COMMENTS
1	HS: User Control & Freedom	2. Moderate Task		"X" button on top of the October/Nov screen (after simulating swiping) screen not working	The user needs to be able to return to the home page from the October/Nov screen (if any recommendation was given) so they can't find it to use the back button to go home because I was stuck.	Link the button to the homepage	D, A, C, B	
2	H2: Flexibility & Efficiency of Use	2. Moderate Task			The "Recommend Me" button is not clickable before specifying a destination event in the search bar. The README claims that the button gives a personalized recommendation based on your schedule, or if your schedule is not filled, a relevant recommendation to your current location.	Make sure the "Recommend Me" button is clickable as claimed to be in the README. Add it to a page where there are recommendations. Make sure the function is visually apparent from the search bar right above it so that the 3 functions are differentiated.	D, A, C	This is another thing we obviously know, but is important for us to consider the functionality of the button
3	H1D: Help & Documentation	4. All Tasks			There are no signs of "recommendations" - the core mission of the app, on the home page. We don't understand the purpose or the function of the app at all.	Add a sentence that suggests this is a recommendation app based on the events and travels. A sentence like "Get your recommendations" below the "Recommend Me" button or the search bar would be helpful. You could include a placeholder text in the search bar that gives examples, such as "Search cities, events, ...". To guide users on the type of inputs they can enter. As an alternative, you could provide a dropdown of suggested search terms when users tap the search bar. OR Consider the placeholder to be an actual event example such as "October/Nov" and where to be a header above the text input.	D, A, C	Good idea here, we need to be consistent
4	H2: Match b/w System & World	2. Moderate Task		[1]	It is unclear for users what inputs the search bar would accept: is it just cities, is it events, is it restaurants, etc. This would require a good amount of trial and error for the user to see what kind of inputs are valid.		B, C, D	Good idea, either change our sentence (Where to?) or do a dropdown kinda thing. I think I prefer the former because it's more clear
5	H12: Value Alignment & Inclusion	5. Extra Violations			Although one of your values is having user control and you have a clear profile icon button, you fail to provide a profile page. The ability to specify preferences as far as media categories etc. to streamline recommendation suggestions.	Add a settings section and more specific info relating to that person could lead to authentication as well.	A, C	No SH
6	H12: Value Alignment & Inclusion	2. Moderate Task			considering that your main value is focusing on the delivery of recommendations, it's important that the search mechanism is very clear and easy to use. The mode of acquiring these recs.	Make a very obvious search button (consider adding the text "search" somewhere near it on the home page).	A	
7	H2: Match b/w System & World	5. Extra Violations		I use the calendar that there are flights around to certain locations. Where do I input these in the app? Is there some place where I am supposed to say "oh I'm traveling to LA this weekend"? Is this due to calendar syncing? Otherwise I have the plane trip in my Apple calendar already?	User will be confused about how to input a plane trip.	To this is a necessary feature on the app to show that you're getting a plane to go to the place that you are already going to because you are using the app to research media / attractions in that area. The same can be said of the bus train and where it is unclear where I would use these events elsewhere in the app.	D	This is very reasonable, need to add functionality to maybe build in our calendar or add to calendar related to app. If not, then make sure that we get the calendar syncing working well and explain that in tutorial
8	HS: User Control & Freedom	1. Simple Task	3 [2]	It is unintuitive to click the "next" button because functionally we are going "back" to the page before its containing that "top 3" means. If the "simple navigation" guidelines what the top 3 is, how is the recommendation? Is there a rating system? These questions must confuse the users mind.	The button could be changed to a backwards arrow, implying the function of "going back".		D, A, B	
9	H2: Match b/w System & World	4. All Tasks	3		From the slides I see that the "Recommend Me" button and it is not clickable before specifying a search input in the search bar in the prototype. It is unclear why it acts like a search bar.	Explaining how the top 3 is determined by typing, but top 3 based on "or" input would be more clarifying.	C, D	Find somewhere to explain the relevancy meter
10	H1D: Help & Documentation	2. Moderate Task	3		To complete the simple task of getting a recommendation, we are asked to input right in the calendar section and sync the calendar with it. However, syncing is a complex task. Confused about why the complex task is embedded in a simple task.	This is not directly related to the real life prototype. However, a clearer division of tasks, especially while prototyping/testing could be more helpful. Coming up with a simple task that doesn't include a complex task could make more sense.	C	
11	H4: Consistency & Standards	3. Complex Task	3		Viewing the dates day by day makes it harder to consume material for a trip that's more away - that would mean a lot of scrolling.	Having a calendar like view, or a date viewing option where the user can see what day the week/month looks like could be beneficial.	B, C	This makes sense, I think we transfer to calendar view, I agree with this
13	H6: Recognition Not Recall	1. Simple Task	3 [2]	It is not clear which Wednesday or Thursday we might be talking about.	For clarity, instead of saying "Wednesday" it might be better to have the actual dates as well such as 11/3/2024		A, C	Not a big deal since we'll probably move to calendar view but if not this is important
14	H4: Consistency & Standards	5. Extra Violations	3 [4]	Unclear what the arrow next to Bay Area means. Does it mean that we click Bay Area? It looks like it's a button to go to the recommendations, the arrow next to the bar doesn't seem related to this function.	Getting rid of the upwards arrow in the bar might be helpful. Also, as an alternative, another button could be used such as "Bay Area" itself could be a button and it would be more intuitive for users to click it.		D, C	
15	HS: User Control & Freedom	3. Complex Task	3 [5]	Calendar page doesn't have a back button. Inconsistent with other pages. Every other page has a back button. It takes the option away to sync with a different calendar as well.	Add a backwards arrow.		D, A, C	
16	H2: Match b/w System & World	2. Moderate Task	3 [6]	It is unintuitive that the top 3 recommendation means search. After typing in an event/location, the user might look for a similar method such as a search bar. The top input area to search.	Add a smaller search button next to the search bar with text like "search" or "find". A clear input field might be helpful. Additionally, as the user keeps typing in the search bar, possible results could pop up where the user could select what they are looking for.		D, B, A, C	

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17	H7: Flexibility & Efficiency of Use	5. Extra Violations	3		Can't load more options besides our "Top 3". Doesn't account for the scenario where I might want to see more than 3 options.	Add a "Load More" button.	C																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																										</

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Simple Task Getting a recommendation Searching for a location or an event									
Good recommendation Solid Recommendation Bad Recommendation No idea we were planning it									
Which images here I helped?									
Problem #	Heuristic	Task	Severity	Description	Rationale	Fix	Fused by	COMMENTS	
30	H1: Accessible Design	1. Simple Task	3	Displaying audio media, such as songs or audiobooks, maybe inaccessible to those with hearing impairments	Users with hearing impairments may have had trouble to use the app if they are always a bit of results for songs	Allow users to customize what type of media they are viewing permanently e.g. through settings rather than needing to filter every single time	B	This is pretty bad, but the we can add something up in the profile for types of media you want so you don't have to filter each time	
31	H7: Flexibility & Efficiency of Use	5. Extra Violations	3	I don't really see any personalization for making frequent tasks more efficient	If we give user a lot of time to have my frequent tasks/notifications more accessible	Those page is very unattractive. Consider adding recommendations about tab below the RecMedia button with most recent locations or suggestions to make given user experience better	A	Very reasonable point and could be into our overall based recommendations of personalizing your feed	
32	H12: Help & Documentation	2. Moderate Task	3	No documentation for main button	main buttons functionality is unclear and there is no documentation or help for how this should work	Provide documentation or a help button	D, A	We're gonna talk about this	
33	H12: Value Alignment & Inclusion	5. Extra Violations	3	No profile page	One of your values is being user centered, yet you provide no profile page or ability to specify preferences as far as media categories etc to personalize recommendation suggestions	Consider adding both an onboarding flow where users can select what kind of media they prefer as well as a profile page where users can edit these selections	D, A	We will incorporate some onboarding flow	
34	H2: Match b/w System & World	1. Simple Task	2 [H]	It is hard to understand what the percentage mean and the metrics they are based on. The builders might know but the user doesn't know what that means. I can make an assumption that it's like "other users, experts, etc" or if its a percentage result to the location being visited. RecMedia doesn't have a hint for it, or any in the way that from Translators or NEW has	Instead of the RecMedia symbol, they could add another symbol that explains the meaning of the percentage such as a heart symbol. Heart symbol could indicate the percentage of people who liked the recommendation. Another alternative would be to use words to explicitly explain what the percentage is doing such as "Liked by 90% users" etc.	B, D, C, A	Clearly a confusion with what the percentage mean thing does. Could be explained somewhere on the UI or in an introduction		
35	H2: Match b/w System & World	1. Simple Task	2 [H]	The functionality of the people appears area is not clear, and it is not clickable	If it's not going to have a function, it could be removed from the page OR other indicate what the functionality is with a more clear symbol or touch entirely	D, A, C			
36	H8: Aesthetic & Minimalist Design	1. Simple Task	2 [H]	Visually not pleasing to have the upwards purple symbol next to the location symbol, especially considering that one of them is a line and the other one is not	Again, either the upwards arrow symbol could be removed or the location symbol could be removed	C, D			
37	H4: Consistency & Standards	4. All Tasks	2 [H]	It is visually distracting that different containers are engaged in differently sized containers	To ensure consistency they could make all recommendation containers the same size across the app, regardless of content type. Another alternative would be to implement a responsive design that adjusts the container sizes proportionally based on the screen size	A, C			
38	H4: Consistency & Standards	5. Extra Violations	2	The inconsistent page transition animations (shifting left to right or right to left) create confusion	This disrupts the user's functional journey and the timeline of the function they are performing. It keeps the user from keeping track of the actions they are completing in the app.	Standardize the animation direction or catch screens immediately on tap without a "motion effect"	A, C		
39	H4: Consistency & Standards	1. Simple Task	2	It is confusing that even though I have selected "all" as filter to see my recommendations, "more recommendations" of the bottom are just "more"	Instead of recommending more movies when the "all" filter is selected at the top, recommend others. You could replace it with "more recommendations"	A, C	This will obviously be implemented		
40	H5: Error Prevention	1. Simple Task	2	Unclear if I can choose multiple calendars to sync with.	Based on the functionality we want to provide, explicitly ask the user to pick one option, such as a calendar or "choose all the platforms you want to sync with"	B, C			
41	H7: Flexibility & Efficiency of Use	5. Extra Violations	2 [H]	You have to scroll on to the top of the page to see the "back" button, might be irritating for some users.	Always keep the back button visible, even while scrolling down.	C	This is very important given we are heavy on the scrollability feature		

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Good recommendation **Gold Recommendation** **Bud Recommendation** **No SHK we were planning ?**

Watch images here if helpful

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H12: Value Alignment & Inclusion	1. Simple Task	2	Potentially racist or historically biased content might be displayed	Certain populations may not feel safe around the suggested media content, even though it might have a neutral or positive sentiment	Filtering out specific media that had certain ideologies or being transparent with the user	B, D	
H12: Value Alignment & Inclusion	1. Simple Task	2	Works with a potentially religious undertone may not include everyone	This may not apply for this different people but proper can mean strong things for suggesting it as a form of media can bring up these tensions	Filtering out specific media that had too many ideologies or being transparent with the user	B	
H8: Aesthetic & Minimalist Design	1. Simple Task	2	When in Explore page, there are arrows on each item (Blue Area, Audiovisual etc), but none are clickable without the arrows	Arrows are redundant and not necessary as they already have the ability to just click the item. They clutter the page and don't provide any actual value, taking away from the aesthetic of the app	Remove the arrows or make why the arrows clickable (I suggest removing the arrows through the filter that the entire item is clickable for accessibility reasons).	A	
H6: Recognition not Recall	1. Simple Task	2	Recommended media is not clearly labeled	on the recommendations page where the media display have any text explaining what kind of media it is. Since all I get is a banner, I either have to click them to see more or guess based on the tags available (profile, Spotify, etc) whether it is a movie or book etc. This can get confusing when multiple kinds of media are available on one platform	Would suggest a small section saying "Movie" or "Book" to make the category of the media instantly clear	A	
H5: Error Prevention	1. Simple Task	2	When I click on Netflix logo on left and move, it takes me to Netflix, but I get an error once I get there because apparently that title just available in my country (in here in the US)	I don't want to go to an external site to verify and then be told that it's not available	Make sure the title is available on the services you list	A	
H11: Accessibility Design	1. Simple Task	2	The text saying Our top 3 is very small	It is small enough that even for me with normal vision I have a hard time seeing it. Not a major concern, but still an accessibility issue	Make top 3 text larger and maybe centered as well	D, A	
H4: Consistency & Standards	4. All Tasks	2	Images are all different sizes	Images being different sizes is inconsistent and hurts both the aesthetic and the screen time management for images that are smaller or need to be formatted	Format all the images the same	A	
H2: Match b/w System & World	3. Complex Task	2	It is unclear to me why we have this syncing feature with the calendar app of our choice if, otherwise, I am taken to an in-house calendar feature. Why do I sync to my personal calendar if it is in the app and why, after syncing, does it take me to the in-house calendar?	if the functionality is unclear to me, the app itself can become cluttered. If this feature is an important part of the app, there is a better way to emphasize this?	Streamline management of calendar	D	
H4: Consistency & Standards	2. Moderate Task	1 [16]	For other screens the "back" button is an arrow but for Octoberfest it is an "X", it is inconsistent	Some pages have a purple background whereas other pages have a black background. I would feel aesthetically more consistent to maintain the purple theme throughout the app background to not overstate the users with the color changes	Change the button to be a back arrow	B, B, A, C	
H8: Aesthetic & Minimalist Design	4. All Tasks	1	Different background colors for different pages	Users could be encouraged to explore and not encouraged to skip where it says "skip" if the explore list was placed somewhere else or it explicitly stated in another way that the explore page serves more "act of the moment" inspiration by recommending media based on recent events or nearby landmarks	Keep the background color shades of purple in all pages for consistency	A, C	
H5: Error Prevention	5. Extra Violations	1 [17]	It is more intuitive here, compared to the homepage, to search for a destination (potentially where I want to explore). It is confusing to me that I can't search for a location, because it is an action event that only indicates so.	Unclear if my preferred calendar platform is saved. Users may think that they might have to type something in the app to sync with their calendar. The lack of confirmation before syncing a calendar could lead to accidental syncing, which might cause clutter in the user's Calendar page	Users want to track the components of an iPhone status bar while they are using the app, as this is the established standard.	D, C	
H7: Flexibility & Efficiency of Use	1. Simple Task	1	Number of times of details for movies, books, and songs differ	Users may lose trust in the system if about on "performing media magic" across for a short time. Also, no need to be "bunny" on the app, better to be more informative of what's going on	Add a capital of the platform they have synced with and add a save button	D, A	
H5: Error Prevention	3. Complex Task	1	The time, battery, internet connection etc. are not visible like the way they would typically be on an iPhone app.	Users want to track the components of an iPhone status bar while they are using the app, as this is the established standard.	Ask for confirmation before the syncing starts	C, D	
H1: Visibility of System Status	5. Extra Violations	1	It is unclear if this was intentional because the navigation bar is the same color as the app background, or if it was an accident. The white shadow is unnecessary and awkward	Remove the shadow and find another way potential color change or content density to differentiate the navigation bar from the background of the app. The app could also just get rid of the shadow and protect the navigation container and users could just differentiate by the buttons on the navigation bar due to their colors.	Add the top iPhone status bar with the necessary components such as time, battery, internet connection, etc.	A, B, C	
H8: Aesthetic & Minimalist Design	5. Extra Violations	1	White shadow above the status/navigation bar	Remove the shadow and find another way potential color change or content density to differentiate the navigation bar from the background of the app. The app could also just get rid of the shadow and protect the navigation container and users could just differentiate by the buttons on the navigation bar due to their colors.	Remove the shadow and find another way potential color change or content density to differentiate the navigation bar from the background of the app. The app could also just get rid of the shadow and protect the navigation container and users could just differentiate by the buttons on the navigation bar due to their colors.	A, C	
H1: Visibility of System Status	3. Complex Task	1	Loading message "performing media magic" ambiguous and isn't transparent with the user	Consider showing the user what service the app is recommending with behind the scenes of a loading calendar items, sorting relevant, etc.)	Consider showing the user what service the app is recommending with behind the scenes of a loading calendar items, sorting relevant, etc.)	A, B	
H4: Consistency & Standards	1. Simple Task	1	Number of times of details for movies, books, and songs differ	Users may lose trust in the system if about on "performing media magic" across for a short time. Also, no need to be "bunny" on the app, better to be more informative of what's going on	Consider showing the user what service the app is recommending with behind the scenes of a loading calendar items, sorting relevant, etc.)	B	
H4: Consistency & Standards	1. Simple Task	1	Spacing between icons	Spacing inconsistent across pages and icons seem to lack consistency in an apparent reason	Keep spacing consistent in line (probably just a type error)	B	
H4: Consistency & Standards	3. Complex Task	1	Different button names to connect with calendar	Users may think app calendar does something different than of connect with calendar	All the signs in or something equivalent	B	
H6: Recognition not Recall	1. Simple Task	1	Users must remember what saved items appear since the button to access saved items are not displayed on every single page	After a user saves an item, it is not clear how to access that item and other saved items. Currently the user must navigate home then to the profile icon, which relies on recall not recognition since it is not intuitive	consider displaying access to saved items button on every single page similar to the "Add" bar	D, B	
H7: Flexibility & Efficiency of Use	5. Extra Violations	1	No way of filtering by date of saved items	Saved items are not being sorted by any particular order currently (PG, LS, ES) - assuming sorted by most recently added, which may slow down the user from finding what they are looking for	Add filtering buttons for saved items	B	
H7: Flexibility & Efficiency of Use	1. Simple Task	1	All events are synced without user's choice	Could reduce efficiency by adding unwanted events (e.g. school classes)	give experienced users the chance to choose which are the important items/reactions they are taking	B	

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82	H8: Aesthetic & Minimalist Design	3. Complex Task	1	Gradient on buttons	Visual design is beyond the "essential", and the gradient doesn't add any value (could be accomplished with flat color on the same)	Consider using basic/essential UI elements for the buttons (e.g. the outline is essential for making it stand out from the screen)	B
83	H8: Aesthetic & Minimalist Design	1. Simple Task	1	Order many different icons for each event	Too many icons can detract from the benefits of the icons, which is being easily recognizable for the user, and without being recognizable, these icons are not essential	Consider categorizing events more generally, and having 3 to 5 icons max (e.g. I think the park icon could go unused a lot)	B
84	H8: Aesthetic & Minimalist Design	5. Extra Validations	1	Bottom of the screen cuts off the last piece of media on saved for later page	Because there is no status bar on the saved for later screen, the curvature of the screen cuts off part of the media image, which looks unprofessional/cheap	add a bottom border so that media doesn't move into this area (essentially create a safe area for content)	A
85	H4: Consistency & Standards	1. Simple Task	1	There is an exit (X) button once you reach the most detailed description of a piece of media but there are back arrows in other places	There should not be inconsistent back buttons (especially when animation into the screens are the same)	Pick either arrows or (X)	D, A
86	H4: Consistency & Standards	4. All Tasks	1	Some of the media titles are highlighted in line with the images	This just looks bad and unesthetic.	Make sure top of title text is in line with top of image	A
87	H11: Accessible Design	1. Simple Task	1	Gradient on percentages is a bit dark at the bottom	Bottom color is quite similar to background and provides little contrast, making this text less clear to people with vision issues	I like the gradient but make darker part slightly lighter	A
88	H1: Visibility of System Status	3. Complex Task	0	I appreciate the loading feature when the calendar button is clicked. However, it does make me as a bit out of place since there is no other feature in the app that has this loading screen, so then it makes the curious why it's included here	Not consistent with other button functionality and there's not a clear reason why it would need here.	No fix -- more of a curiosity	B
89	H8: Aesthetic & Minimalist Design	1. Simple Task	0	What is the logo? I am not too sure.	Users might be confused of the purpose of the app with an ambiguous logo that doesn't necessarily align with the app name.	This is subjective and I made it that I just don't see the vision for the logo (since making it a V severity) but you might consider reflecting more internally about what your logo design should signal to users about your app.	D

- [1] "Where to?" in the search bar.
- [2] "Next" arrow
- [3] Days on calendars.
- [4] Upwards arrow in a box, next to Bay Area
- [5] No back button
- [6] Big round purple button
- [7] Description text
- [8] The purple percentages with the logo next to them
- [9] Purple upwards arrow
- [10] Purple upwards arrow next to the location symbol
- [11] Sizes of the recommendation containers
- [12] No back button when scrolled down,
- [13] Arrows
- [14] Description text
- [15] "FLIGHT TO LOS ANGELES TEXT"
- [16] "X" button
- [17] "Explore" text