

HW2

Marcus Lowe (mglowe@mit.edu)

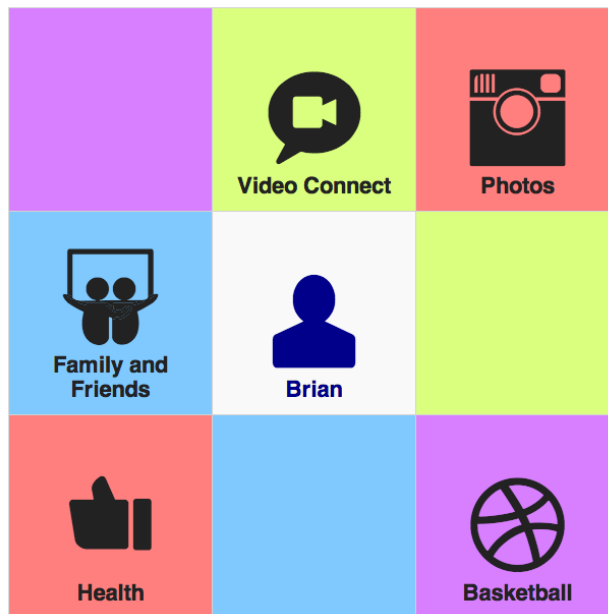
Interface: AgedToPerfection

URL: <http://web.mit.edu/sxc2/www/agedtoperfection/index.html>

Collaborators: None

Main Screen index.html

1. **Learnability** - The interface reminds me of the new Windows 8 UI which provides a little external consistency and I immediately realize upon opening the page that I'm supposed to click on one of the tiles. However, this is probably a fairly loose external consistency since the Windows 8 UI is relatively new. (Good)



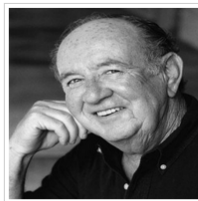
2. **Color** - The background color of each tile is saturated and then becomes gray on hover. I feel like it should be the opposite of that--colors become brighter to designate an action. Tiles also seem to be paired off based on colors colors indicating that there might be some sort of similarity. However, as far as I can see, "Photos" and "Health" are paired but don't have anything in common and the other tiles are paired with empty tiles. If there is a similarity, it doesn't seem very strong. If not, these probably should share the same color. In general, limiting the amount of colors on this page would be good. For instance, the middle tile could use black writing to be consistent with the other tiles. (Minor)
3. **Safety, Learnability** - I realize that customizing the tiles isn't yet complete, but it might be appropriate to have some sort of placeholder tile image when the time is blank. Right now, the

blank tiles look like empty spots and don't give any affordance to the ability to customize. (Major)

4. **Layout** - I think vertically centering the group of tiles would be beneficial. Right now, the empty white space at the bottom seems misplaced but evening the spacing on top and bottom would make the interface look more like a web app. (Minor)
5. **Learnability, Graphic Design** - Placing an AgedToPerfection logo somewhere on the page could be helpful. Right now, the interface looks a little unbranded. (Cosmetic)

Video Connect Page [video.html](#)

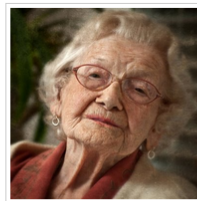
1. **Learnability** - The subtle highlight shadows on hover of the people is a really nice touch. I would say that it might be a little too subtle, and I wouldn't be afraid to make it slightly more noticeable, especially given the size of each profile picture. (Good/Cosmetic)
2. **Efficiency** - The gridded display of contacts is certainly nicely done and it looks pretty, but it definitely isn't very efficient. I could imagine a user having 100 friends and it being extremely tedious to scroll through the grid looking for individuals--especially since the contacts aren't ordered alphabetically. I would definitely order them alphabetically, and probably make them slightly smaller so that it's possible to see more contacts simultaneously. (Minor)



SAM



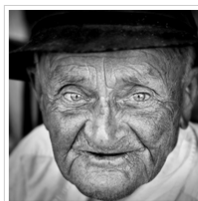
BOB & JAN



MARY



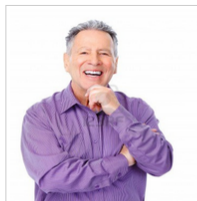
JANE



JOEL



JOHN



BEN



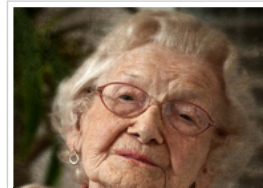
TED

3. **Efficiency** - Again, if a user has 100 friends, then scrolling is going to be extremely tedious. Alphabetizing will help, but adding search and/or filtration functionality could really make it easier on the user for finding the person they would like to contact. (Major)
4. **Safety** - If a user has 100 friends and gets scrolling through the grid, it might be easy to have a slip and accidentally realize their scrolling through the not available users when they are meaning to scroll through the available ones. This is especially true since the profiles of available and

unavailable have no distinguishing features. One fix would be to differentiate the profiles depending on the state, or to implement sticky section headers for available and unavailable so that the section header floats on top of the profiles even after scrolling past it. Here's a link explaining how to implement sticky section headers: <http://css-tricks.com/persistent-headers/> (Major)



AVAILABLE



5. **Typography** - I would suggest varying the font size between the one used for profiles and the section headers. It will make the page easier to scan for the semantic meaning of each section. (Cosmetic/Minor)
6. **Graphic Design** - I see some nice CSS3 animations on the buttons on the video chat page. Nicely done. (Good)

Health Page questions.html

1. **Layout** - I think this layout could use some restructuring. The table headers seem unnecessary and can probably be removed since each column is distinct in content type and the content meanings are easily discernible by almost all users without the headers. The "Answered?" column seems redundant. If a question is answered, it has a box surrounding the answer. If not, it has an input field with a button reading "Answer this question". When I covered up this column, I thought the interface was easier to understand because there was less to parse and there was no loss of information. (Major)



2. **Layout, Efficiency** - For some reason, this section is paginated, but this is unclear. It seems a little inefficient, especially given that the interface is currently only displaying at most 3 questions on each page. Also, these questions should probably be searchable or filterable because it would be extremely inefficient to have to page through all of the questions to find the one a user might be looking for. This is especially important since it seems the questions aren't sorted by recency--what are they sorted by? (Major)
3. **Layout** - There's a large space and seemingly unintentional space between the "Answer This Question!" button and the text area. (Cosmetic)



4. **Color, Learnability, Graphic Design** - It would be great to distinguish the answer text from the rest of the question text for quicker scannability. I would recommend changing font weight of the answer text to normal (not bold) and making the background color the answer box a light pale green color. (Minor)

How to reduce blood pressure?

Eat grapefruit!

5. **Output, Learnability** - The "Go to page [X]" buttons are at a lower opacity and don't look clickable (even during hover where the mouse doesn't change to a pointer). However, I noticed that they actually are clickable. This looks like it was an accidental bug, but it should be fixed to match the other buttons in the interface. (Major)

