VALIDATE IT BEFORE YOU BUILD IT!



PRACTICAL TOOLS FOR A PRODUCT OWNER



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"I MIGHT BE WRONG"

- Think of a product or a feature you built that your customers didn't use, didn't understand, or complained about.
- What assumptions were made that turned out to be wrong?





EXPERIMENT CANVAS

1. Problem/Opportunity	2. Customer segments	3. Possible Solution
Existing solutions or alternatives?	Early adopters?	What makes it costly?
4. Uncertainties / Risks (re: the problem, customer, market, competition, usability, cost, tech)	5. Experiments	6. Success Criteria
Which is riskiest / least certain?	Lowest cost viable experiment? (survey, lo-fi mock, hi-fi mock, fake, concierge, prototype, MVP)	What does success look like? (Objective / quantifiable)



EXPERIMENT CANVAS: PRODUCT EXAMPLE

1. Problem/Opportunity

 Small merchants can't easily sell perishable (last minute) inventory (e.g. event tickets)

Existing solutions/ alternatives?

- Online & email marketing
- Storefront banners

4. Uncertainties / Risks (re: the problem, customer, market, competition, usability, cost, tech...)

- Many merchants will offer deep discounts on last-minute inventory
- Consumers will buy lastminute deals from app

Which is riskiest / least certain?

• Merchants - deep discounts

2. Customer segments

- Small brick-n-mortar merchants
- Bargaín hunters

Early adopters?

Small town merchants catering to locals

5. Experiments

- Survey Chamber of Commerce members
- Facebook page for local merchants to offer lastminute deals

Lowest cost viable experiment? (survey, lo-fi mock, hi-fi mock, fake, concierge, prototype, MVP, A/B test)

3. Possible Solution

 Mobile app marketing last-minute deals

What makes it costly?

 Large scope, multiple platforms to support

6. Success Criteria

- 10+ deals offered/week
- Avg discount 40%+
- 1000+ likes in 1 month
- 100+ purchases month 1

What does success look like? (Objective / quantifiable)



EXPERIMENT CANVAS: FEATURE EXAMPLE

1. Problem/Opportunity

 Customers can save their credit card info to more easily make future purchases

Existing solutions/ alternatives?

 Enter card info every time

4. Uncertainties / Risks (re: the problem, customer, market, competition, usability, cost, tech...)

 Customers don't trust a startup app to store their credit card info securely

Which is riskiest / least certain?

2. Customer segments

- Repeat customers
- Security-conscious consumers

Early adopters?

Tech-savvy users
 familiar with ecommerce
 payment services

5. Experiments

- Market research
- Pop-up asking if customer wants to store card info
- Implement the feature!

Lowest cost viable experiment? (survey, lo-fi mock, hi-fi mock, fake, concierge, prototype, MVP, A/B test)

3. Possible Solution

 Use Stripe (payment processor) to securely store customer credit card info

What makes it costly?

 Requires switching payment platforms

6. Success Criteria

 > 25% of customers select 'Yes' in first month

What does success look like? (Objective / quantifiable)



EXPERIMENTS / MVP

Different types of experiments or MVPs

- Market research / surveys (?)
- Video MVP
- 'Coming soon' web page how many people want it?
- 'The man behind the curtain' defer automation (opaquely)
- Concierge MVP defer automation (transparently)
- Paper prototype
- Clickable mock / wireframe
- Minimal Viable Feature (MVF) simplest thing possible
- Use an existing platform, e.g. Facebook, Wordpress
- 3D printed prototype



YourLogo

COMING SOON TO A BROWSER NEAR YOU

Unfortunately, we're not quite ready yet. But, you can see our progress below:

Launch day

WANT TO BE THE FIRST TO KNOW WHEN WE'RE READY?

your@email.com

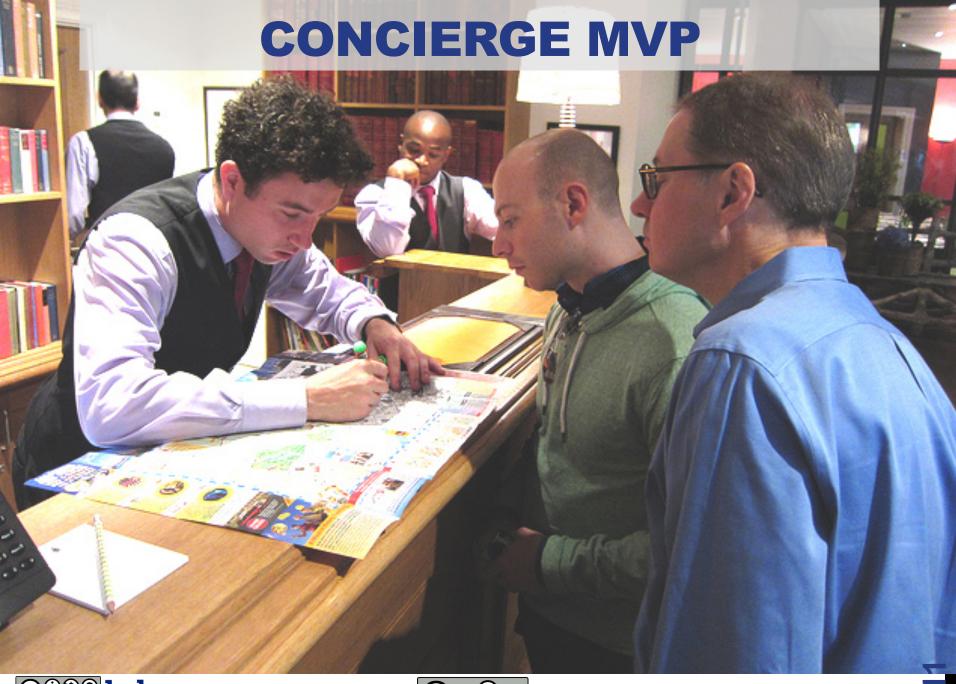
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PROTOTYPE PAPER

About this promotion*?			
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HI-FI MOCKUP W/ SKETCH



< Back

Receipt













Gourmet Meal

Vin48 Restaurant 123 Main Street Edwards, CO 91234 970-345-6789

Four course meal prepared by our executive chef. Wine pairings with each course, plus a delicious dessert. Enjoy fabulous food with...

Redemption & Restrictions

Cannot be combined with other offers. Tax and gratuity are not included.

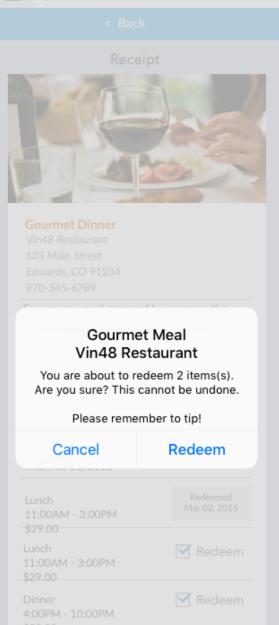
Must be redeemed by: Mar 31, 2016

\$29.00



REDEEM SELECTED ITEMS

Subtotal: \$129.00



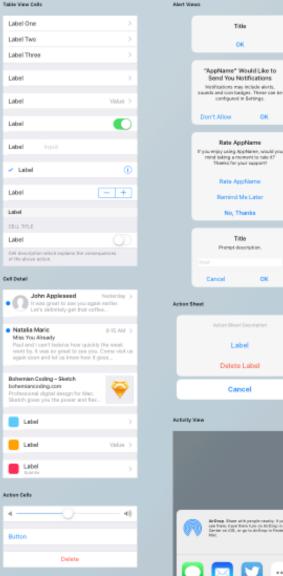


EMPLATES





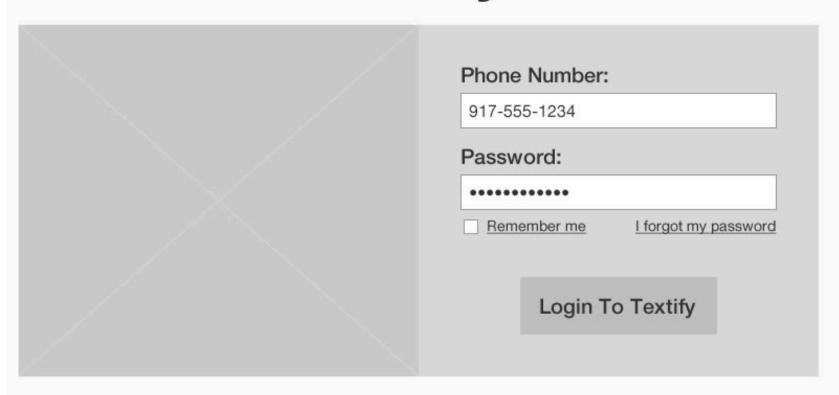




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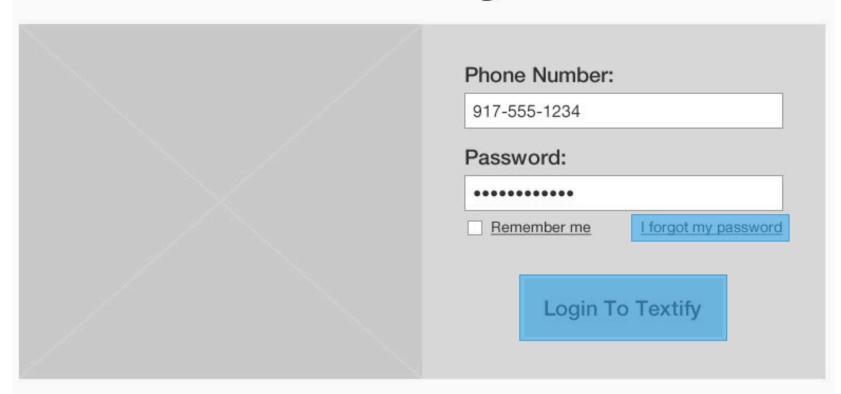








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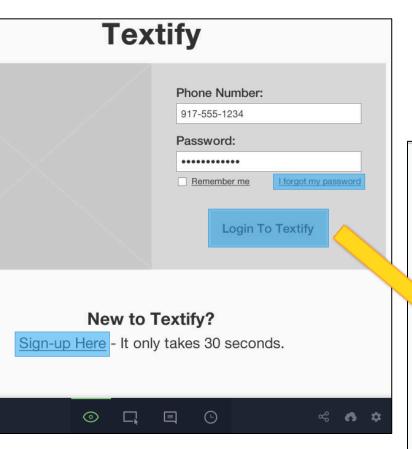


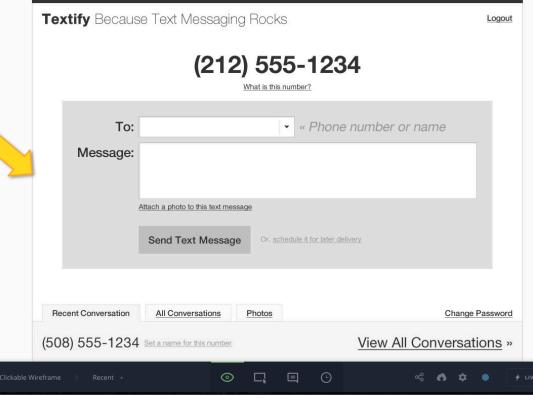




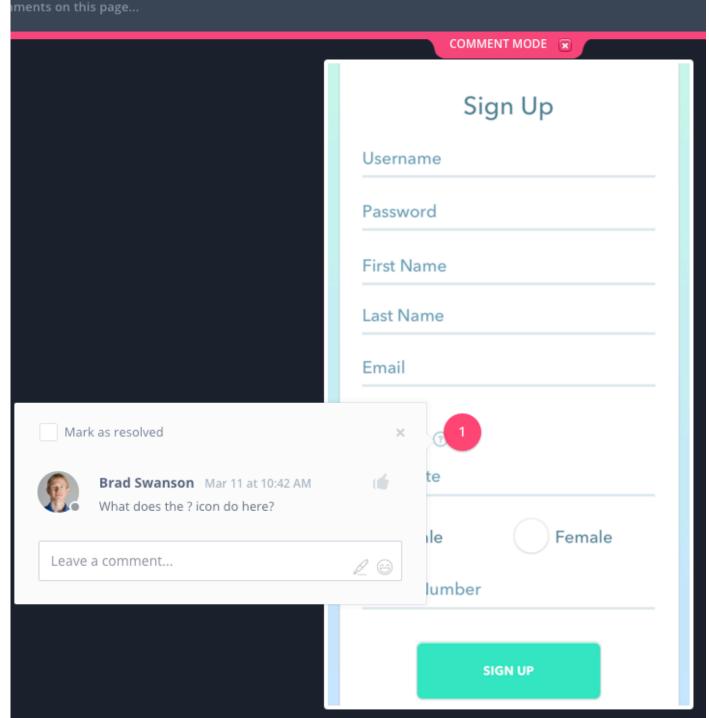


CLICKABLE MOCK - INVISION











YOUR TURN TO EXPERIMENT

- Form groups of 4-6 people.
- Select a real-world product or feature.
- Create your canvas!

- Stumped for a good idea? Try this one.
- Problem/Opportunity:
 - Conference-goers want to meet others with the same interests to help each other.
- Possible solution:
 - The conference mobile app allows users to indicate their interests and find others with the same interests





THANK YOU!

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www.slideshare.net/bradswanson/validate-it-before-you-build-it







