

BID Spring 2009, A3: Personalized web experience Nate Colker | Ayan Kishore | Varnali Shah

problem statement

good teahouses have hundreds of tea varieties. customers often have a hard time picking a tea. the tea barista is the sole source of knowledge. often baristas are busy.

sneak peek

since most tea selection happens in the store, the value of recommendation is in the store and not online.



user research

directed storytelling 6 customers, 6 baristas

brick and mortar observation 20+ tea selection orders, 10 tea-houses

competitive analysis teavana, tea forté, adagio teas ...



Interview-Tea recommendations

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1	Question	Person#1: Female, Student, 22-23	Female, Comp Bio Student	Female, Grad Student	Female, Senior a Oakland
	Do you buy/drink tea regulary?	Yes, buys more than visits the cafe	Drinks tea and coffee	reavana. romk tea everyday ever since I was in high school.	l drink everyday (5
3	How do you decide which one you want?	Taste: don't like dry, likes sweet, caffeine content, goes well with honey, smell is very important, cure cold/cough, seasons affect	Wants caffeine in the mourning to study	I have two modes: normal and experimental. When I come here I first get a pot of my normal (Earl grey, Jasmine, Silk Oolong etc.) and then a second pot as part of my experimental mode. For experimental, I look for teas I don't have at home - I look through the tea catalog, and ask the barista. Based on my mood and desired caffeine content, I choose green or white or black.	content: morning is afternoon is chai ar green by night. Dep of tea
4	What do you do to order/get tea?	internet mostly, mall, shop around the corner	Wants something that is "different" but also motivated by convenience.	(answered above)	What her clients do but there are a lot of recommendation, s questions to detern herbal - her next of something fruity, b choosing something something to them
5	Do you brew tea at home?	Yes, around 3 days a week	No	Yes, have 5-6 varieties of loose leaf tea at home	Yes. I drink mostly economical not to I around different tea
6	Why come to cafe? where else do you go?	Cozy, not pretentious, people are not snobby like in starbucks, mostly to sit and study, don't mind music and use iPod in case it is annoying	Comes to work or meet friends,Likes the atmosphere	This is a mile from my place, so it is good exercise to come here. They have the best loose leaf tea. It is more social than being at home. I come and study here every weekend. Sometimes they brew it better than me.	Depends on the pe Cafe sometimes w
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design process

Search

brainstorming analysis and selection low-fi prototyping analysis and selection hi-fi prototyping review and fix



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target

exotic tea is mostly not bought from the web. tea-bag recommendation is rarely available. no experimentation at online purchase scale.

strata of tea places oriental tearooms teahouses or tea lounges gourmet tea and coffee shops pick-up or quick-stop cafés

observations on tea selection

have their regular

ask barista for recommendation, and barista interrogates customer to determine one. often involves understanding what the customer liked before. sometimes, customer ends up picking regular despite this procedure.

experiment, which is largely mood and café atmosphere dependent

system navigation



Suzie: College Student on journey of self discovery

Life Goals: Discover her own identity, be a student of the world

Experience Goals: Try new and exciting things

End Goals: Learn about tea, discover interesting tea she can brew on her own

Suzie, a college student, is living away from her family for the first time. Suzie cares about her class work and spends much of her free time studying. Along with her academic curiosity Suzie likes exploring and seeking out new experiences. She sees college as a journey of learning as well as self discovery.



This year Suzie has started going to a local tea café every Sunday to read and study. She doesn't know a lot about tea and usually tries something she hasn't had before. She likes the mellow lounge atmosphere of the shop and has gotten to know Gabe, the owner of the shop who chats with her now every time she comes in. Suzie is starting to brew tea on her own but isn't impressed at the selection of teas at the local markets.

Linda: Knowledgeable tea partron and barista

Life Goals: A calling, feel like I've made a difference

Experience Goals: Meeting interesting people, chat and keep up with friends, glad when people appreciate her tea choice

End Goals: Find high quality tea, work temporarily until she figures out what she wants to do down the road

Linda graduated from college two years ago and doesn't know exactly what she wants to do down the road. She spent last Summer traveling in France, teaching English, learning French and painting.



Linda is now back home in Portland and she still has a few friends from college she likes to hang out with. She has taken up the job of a barista at Tea Chai Te, a tea house. Every now and then, her friends come to the tea place after her shift ends or druing her break to sit and chat with her. Linda has been brewing tea at home for years and is fairly knowledgeable. She likes to keep her knowledge up-to-date and feels happy when customers enjoy a choice she recommends.





























interface design considerations

touch screen experience with barista no account or recording of preferences closely reflect decision making tea culture constructs

concept validation

validated with baristas computers are there in tea houses tea culture is not hurried DIY tea culture

Advantages

explore and learn easier way to browse tea catalog reduce barista burden during peak times make up for a lower quality barista get people interested in different teas, & in buying them from the teahouse to take home to brew



