Tectonic Fitness

Case Study

Research, methodology, and execution of UX and UI design for mobile-first guided fitness application

Christophe Alise | Consortium1



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Overview

Introduction

Tectonic Fitness is a mobile-first at-home fitness application start up designed to engage both users and trainers with an elegant user experience and a broad range of exercise tools for all skill levels.

Perspective

The app-based fitness market is led by established brands who dominate market share and augmented by start up brands seeking to separate themselves from the competition. Users seek intuitive, motivational fitness apps to assist with their fitness and wellness goals.

Overview

Goal

Develop a native app that engages users and creates new revenue opportunities for fitness professionals.

Project Scope —

iOS and Android App, Responsive Website

Timeline

6 months

Tools -

Adobe Creative Suite Figma Visio Trello

Target Audience

Users from 15-60 years old with varied levels of fitness and wellness goals.

Role

UX/UI Product Designer

Responsibilities

Strategy
User Interviews
Personas
Affinity Mapping
User Flows
Wireframes
Visual Design

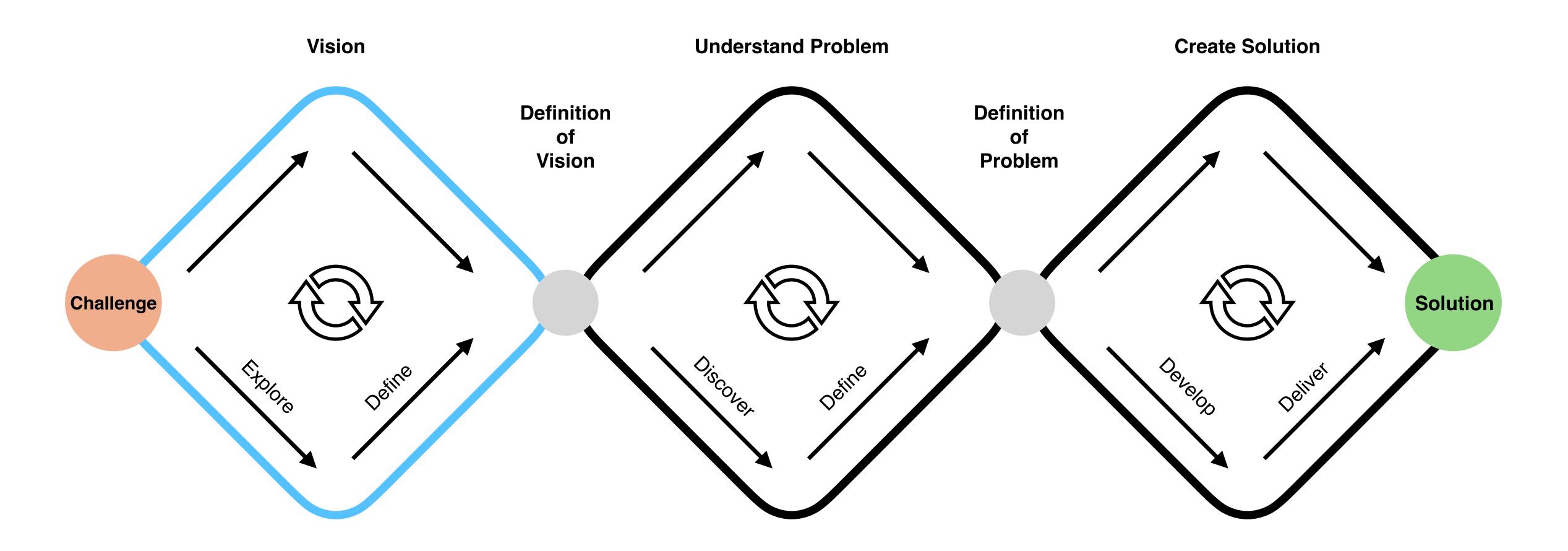
Competitive Analysis
User Surveys
Journey Mapping
Empathy Mapping
Card Sorting

Information Architecture

Usability Testing

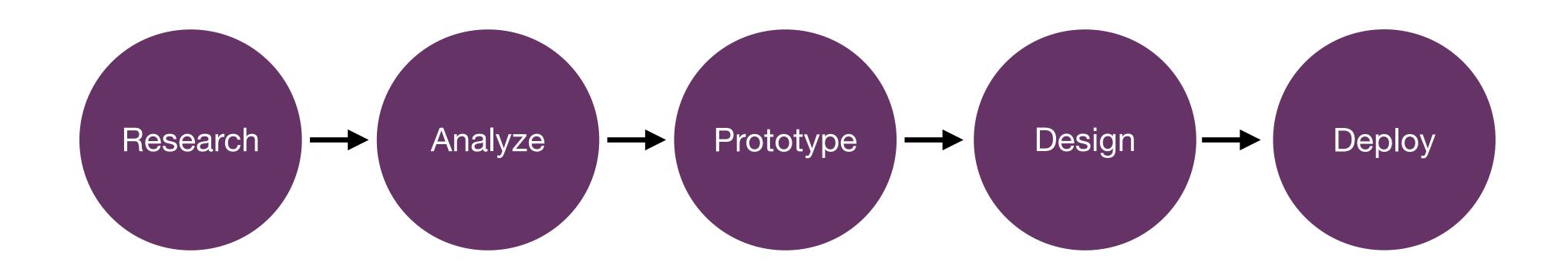
UX Design Process

We embraced the expanded diamond process in order to take into account Vision at the outset of the project. This variation on the traditional model yielded valuable alignment across departments and ensured the product vision was unified and supported from the outset.



UX Design Process

We launched the process focusing on an empathic user-centered perspective. Throughout development, I continued to assess the holistic user experience, while progressing through appropriate research techniques. Resulting data was incorporated into the app design iterations and supported by user testing.



- User Interviews
- Stakeholder Workshops
- Expert Interviews
- Empathy Maps
- Contextual Inquiries
- Competitive Analysis
- Data Analysis

- User Personas
- User Journeys
- User Stories
- Task Flows
- Low-Fi Wireframes
- Screen Flows
- Information Architecture

- Ideation
- Concept Sketches
- Mid-Fidelity Mockups
- Interactive Prototypes
- User Testing
- Concept Validation

- High Fidelity Design
- Interactive Prototypes
- Style Guide
- Annotated Wireframes
- Developer Handoff
- Design Reviews
- User Testing
- Iterations
- Measure and Refine

Project Timeline

Month	n 1	Month 2	Month 3	Month 4	Month 5	Month 6
Research Observe, Stakehold	der Interviews					
	trategy allenges and Goa	als				
		User Experience Interviews, Competitive	Ce e Analysis, Personas, Wireframes			
			User Interface Mood Boards, Inspiration		User Interface Visual Design, Prototyping	
						User Testing Testing, Implementation

Design Strategy

Guided by target audience metrics, design process was executed. Ongoing interaction with end users informed workflows, visual identity, and features offered.

Business Strategy Alignment

Ensured strategic outcomes were clear and unified in order to inform the UX process.

Validated User Research

Detailed user research and testing employed to guide UX decisions at every phase to uphold usability.

Cross-Device Integration

Native OS development with web-based responsiveness necessary to deliver unified, quality experience to all users on all devices.

Value Innovation

Rationale for app development based on providing users and the marketplace with a compelling product alternative.

Empathic UX

User-centered design methodologies inform the entire process where functionality recedes and experience shines.

Intuitive UI

User flow and presentation of information achieved in a fluid, reductive manner to encourage interaction with app and reduce decision fatigue.

15-20

User Research

Designed detailed study of target users and requirements by framing engagement with realistic contexts and insights to design processes. Multiple methods were employed to identify problems and seek associated design opportunities.

Exercise Frequency (Per Week) Average User Age (Years) 4% 3% 11% 15% 11% 10% 16% 23% 21% 28% 2 Days 3 Days **20-30 30-40** 40-50 **50-60 60-70** 1 Day 4 Days 5 Days 6 Days 7 Days

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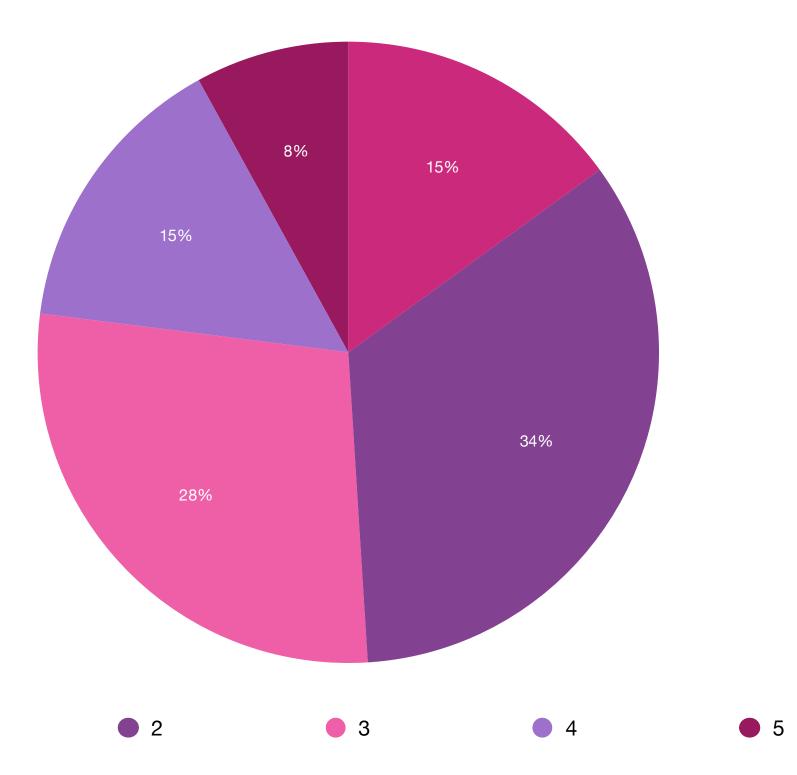
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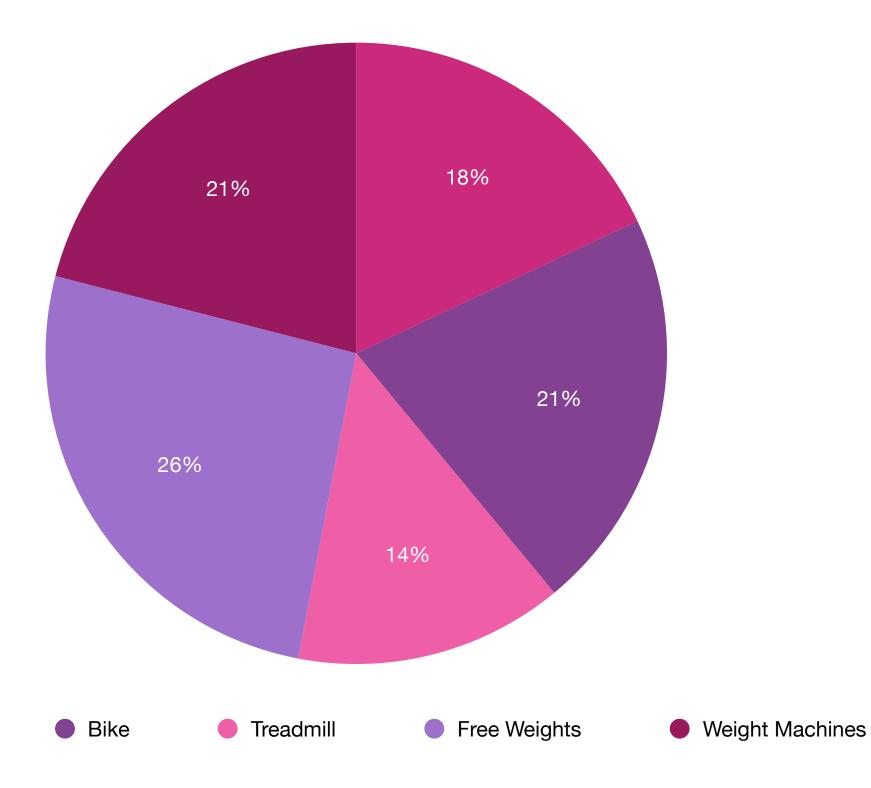
Isometric

Exercise Intensity (Per Workout)

Scale of 1 to 5



Preferred Exercise Equipment



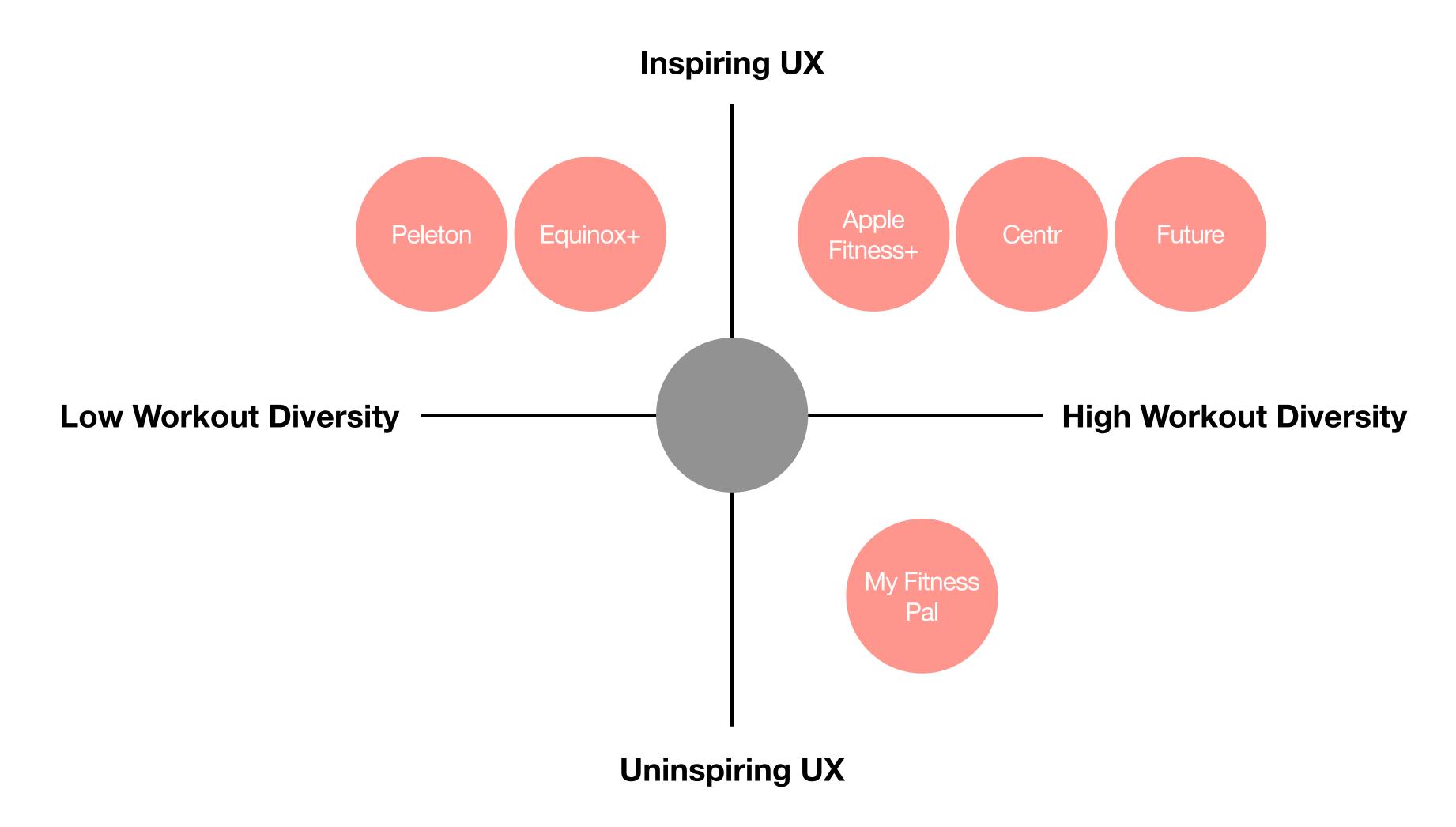
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Catalysts to Exercising Impediments to Exercising 15% 16% 27% 28% 19% 24% 14% 31% Expert Guidance MD Insistence Lack of Knowledge Lack of Equipment Physical Condition Mental State Knowledge External Motivation Mental State Lack of Time

Competitive Analysis

Reviewed free and premium options of top-rated fitness apps from the perspective of varied user personas. Sought to identify impact of UX Design and Workout Diversity alongside standard navigation, sign up, billing components.



Competitive Analysis

	Apple Fitness+	Centr	Equinox+	Future	My Fitness Pal	Nike Training Club	Peleton
iOS + Android Native							
Free + Premium	×	×	8	×			×
Recorded Videos							
Live Group Session					8		
Personal Trainer		×	×		8		×
Progress Tracking							
Nutrition Tracking							
Mind/Body Tools							
eCommerce				×	×		
Wearable Integration							

Competitive Analysis

Market Insights

Rapidly Growing Market

Subscription Model Viable, but Challenging

Wide Range of Design Language

Strong Product Innovation

Fragmented User-Centered Methodologies

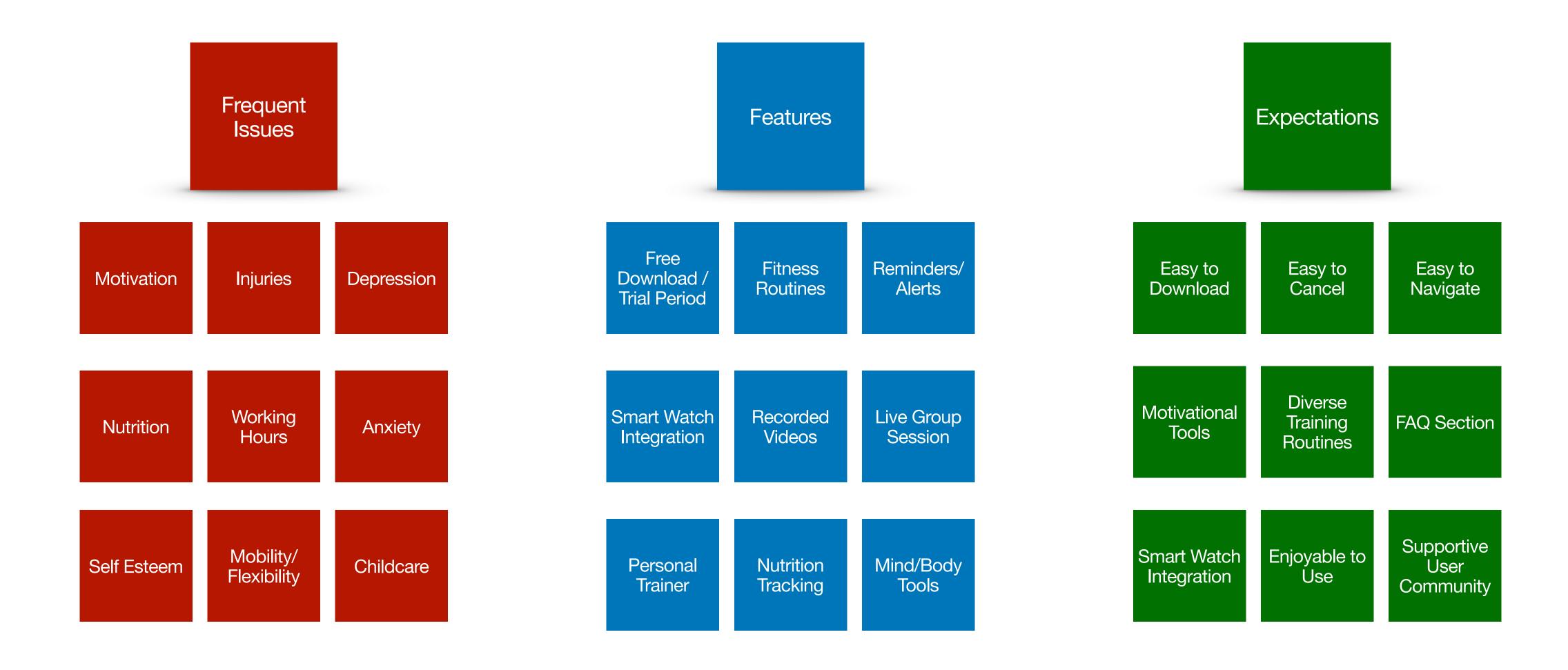
Simplicity of User Journey vs. Decision Fatigue

High Attrition Rate Post-Download

High Profile Industry Entrants Yet to Dominate

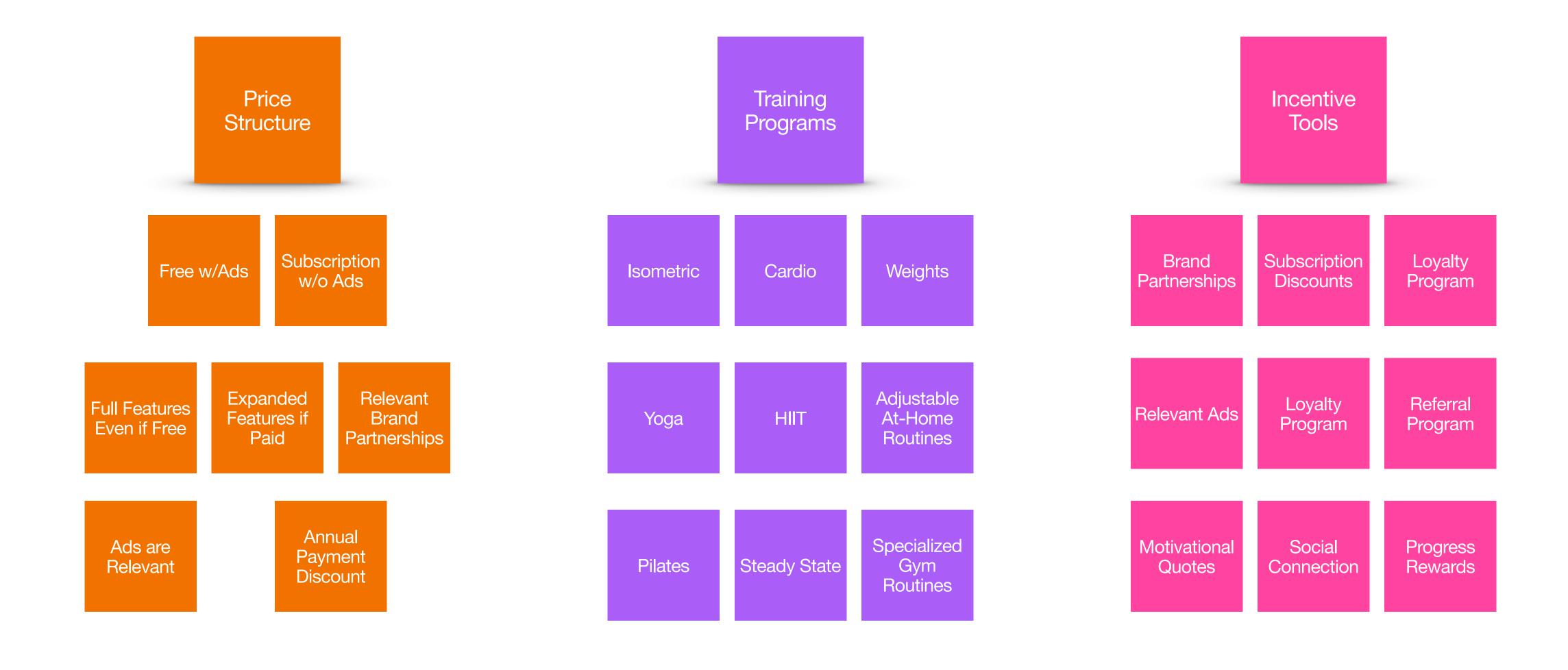
Affinity Mapping

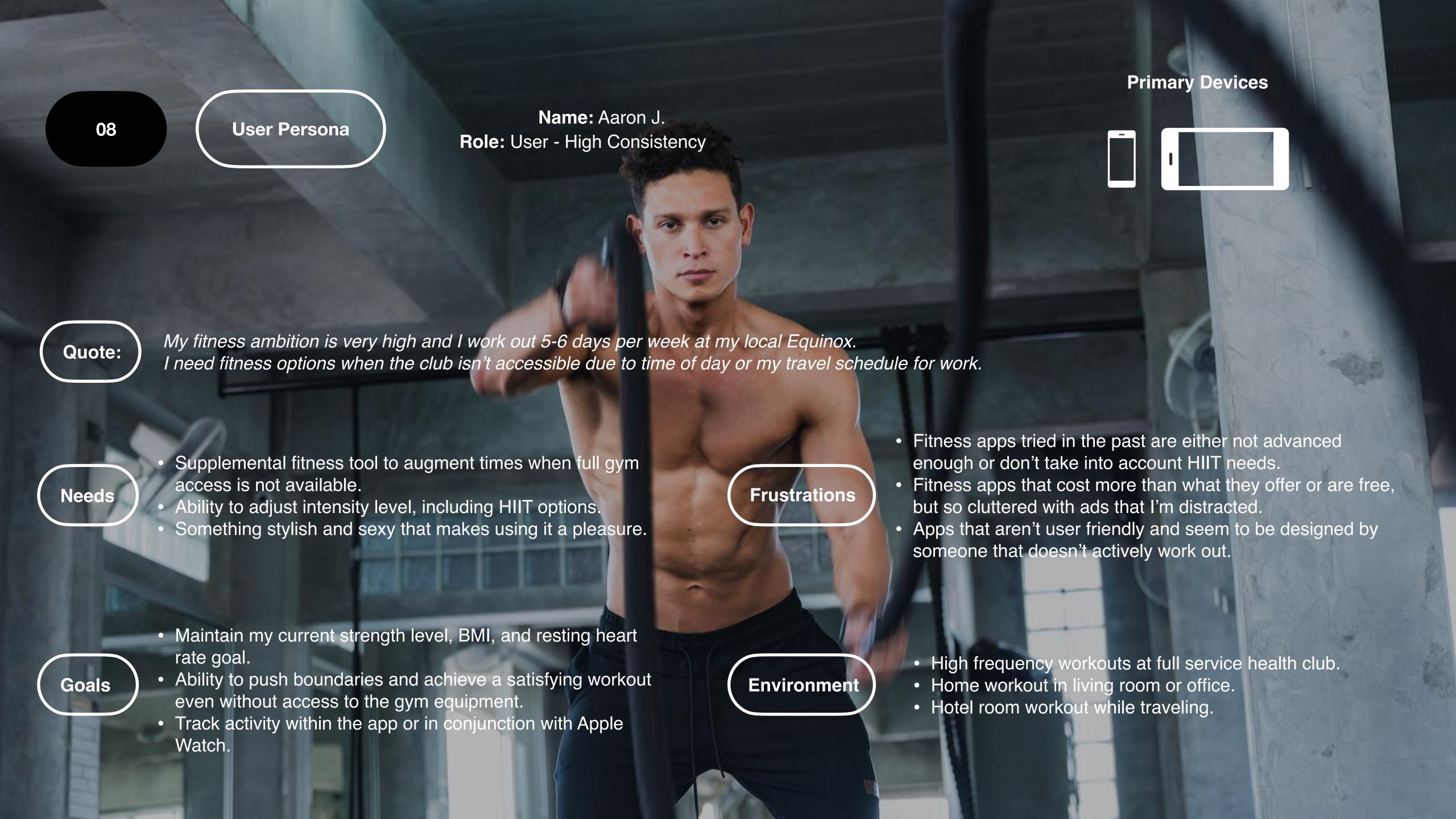
Utilized Affinity Diagram to stratify user preferences, opinions, and pain points. Established groupings based upon relationships supporting logical connection.

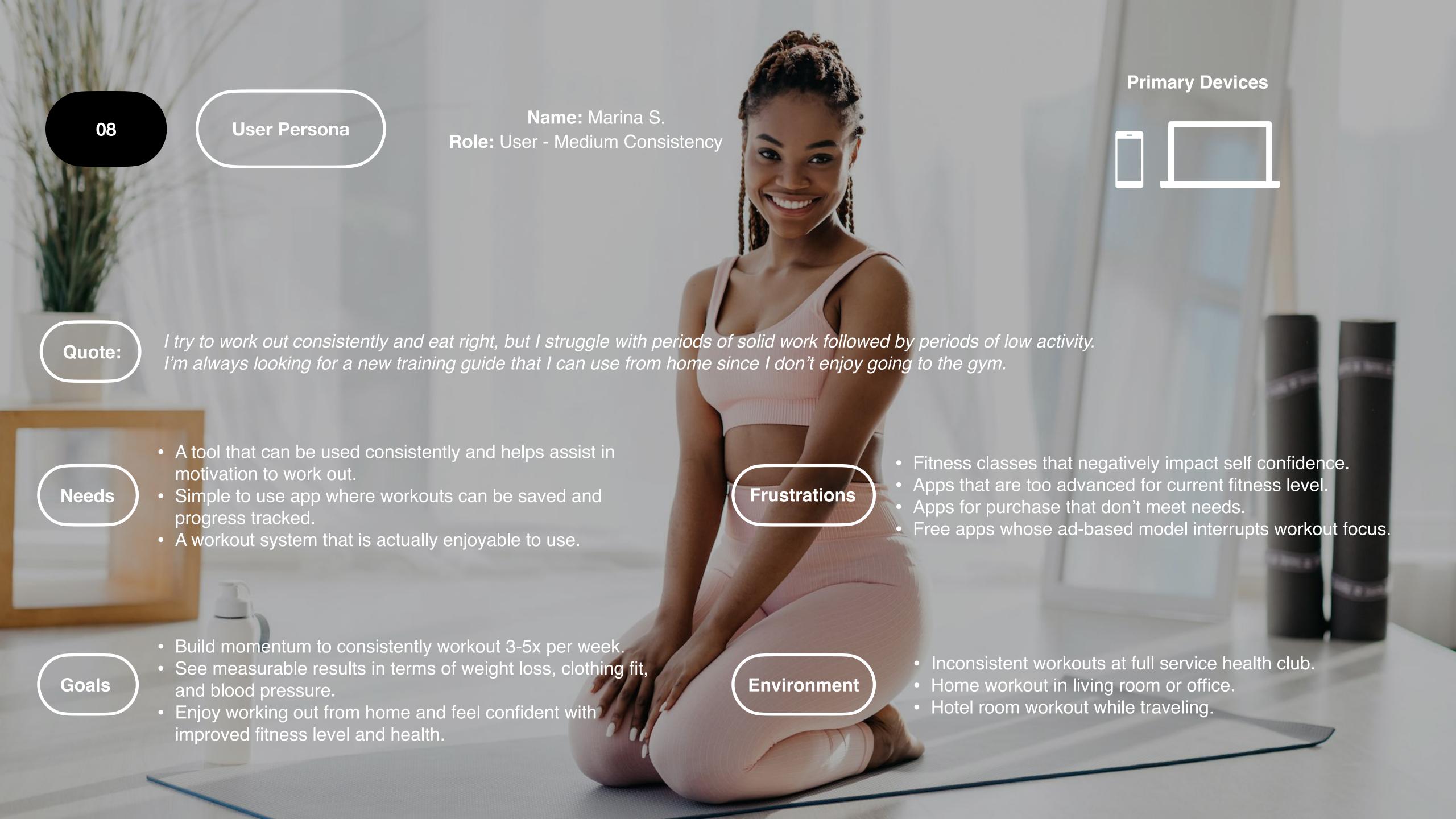


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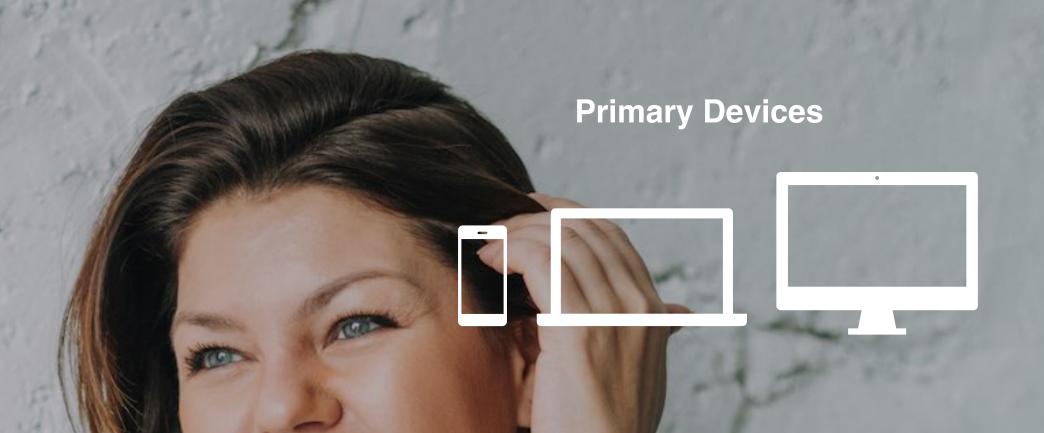








Name: Jessica B.
Role: User - Low Consistency



Quote:

Since college, my fitness level has been steadily declining. It negatively impacts my self confidence and I need a motivational tool to start slowly and privately. Also, since I don't really know what to do, some guidance is essential.



- A fitness tool that will help motivate to consistent activity.
- Multiple skill levels that are not overly challenging.
- Ability to track progress and identify areas of improvement, which supports motivation and thus consistency.



- Fitness classes that are too intimidating to attend.
- Apps that are too complex for current fitness level.
- Apps for purchase that don't meet current needs.
- Free apps whose ad-based model interrupts workout focus.

Goals

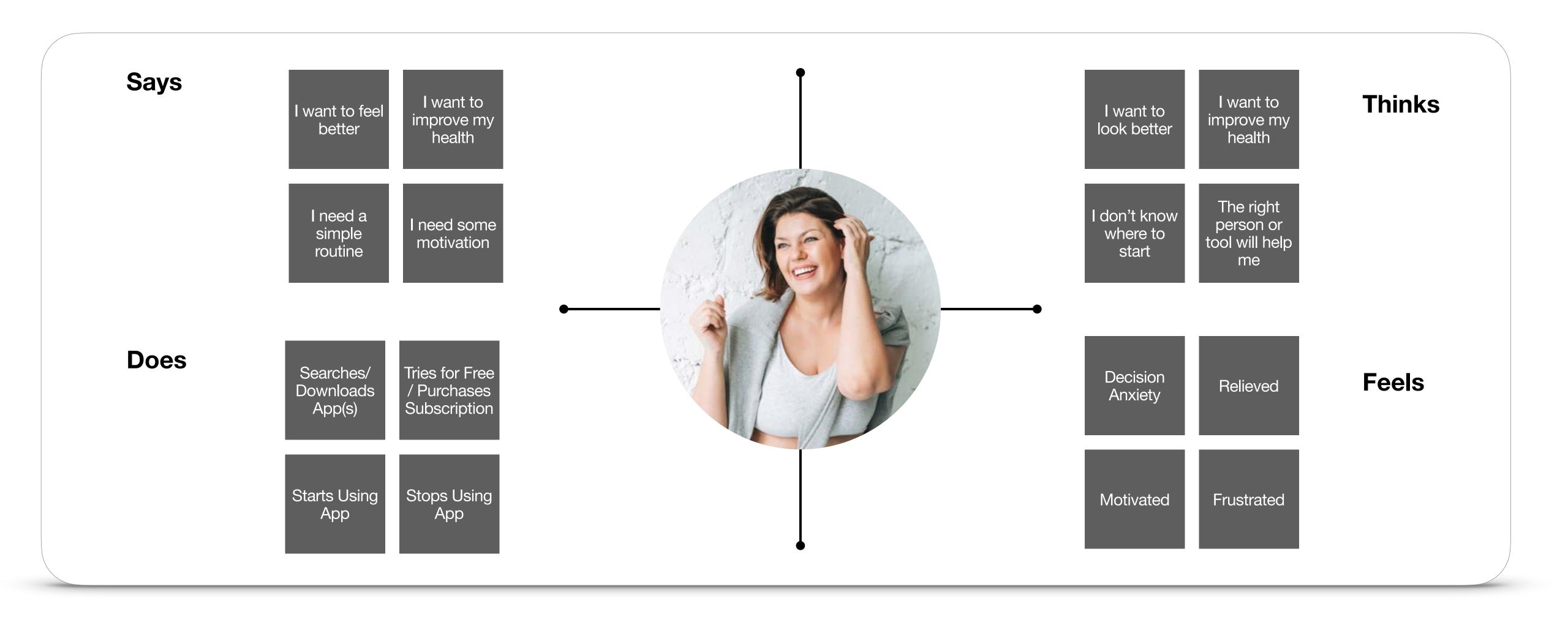
- Lose weight.
- Look better in clothing.
- Improve health (blood pressure, blood sugar concerns)
- Improve self confidence.

Environment

- Not comfortable at gym or in group fitness classes.
- At home in living room or WFH office.
- Hotel room when traveling for work or leisure.

Empathy Mapping

Utilized Empathy Mapping tools to understand users' needs and prioritize accordingly. These insights are invaluable and necessary early in the process to avoid false starts with product development.



Customer Journey Mapping



Persona: 20-40 years old. Fitness enthusiast with strong ambition and consistent fitness regimen.

Objective: Find new fitness tool to supplement traditional health club environment when needed.

Stage	Awareness	Consideration	Decision	Service	Loyalty
Customer Action	Receive marketing email, view ad on social media, watch review YouTube.	Review similar products, compare relative benefits and costs	Download app	Completes profile, uses guided sessions	Recommends app to friends, family, colleagues
Touchpoints	Marketing email, social media (post, ad, influencer)	Marketing email, social media (post, ad, influencer), web search	Website, phone, tablet	Website, phone, tablet	Word of mouth, online reviews
Customer Experience	Interested, frustrated	Curious, optimistic	Optimistic	Satisfied, motivated	Enthusiastic
KPIs	Number of downloads, in-app purchases, daily active users	Trial versions download, test product	Conversion rates, total installs	Customer feedback, reviews, referrals	Retention rate, return users, testimonials, referrals
Business Goals	Increase awareness, acquire users	Increase user base, daily active users	Increase active users	Establish customer trust, organic and inorganic referrals	Increase recurring revenue, increase active users
Team(s) Involved	Marketing, sales	Marketing, sales	Sales, technical support	Sales, technical support	Marketing, technical support

Customer Journey Mapping



Persona: 25-50 years old. Moderately active and in good health

Objective: Find convenient technology tool to improve fitness level and increase self confidence

Stage	Awareness	Consideration	Decision	Service	Loyalty
Customer Action	Receive marketing email, view ad on social media, watch review YouTube.	Review similar products, compare relative benefits and costs	Download app	Completes profile, uses guided sessions	Recommends app to friends, family, colleagues
Touchpoints	Marketing email, social media (post, ad, influencer)	Marketing email, social media (post, ad, influencer), web search	Website, phone, tablet	Website, phone, tablet	Word of mouth, online reviews
Customer Experience	Interested, frustrated	Curious, optimistic	Optimistic	Satisfied, motivated	Satisfied
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Customer Journey Mapping



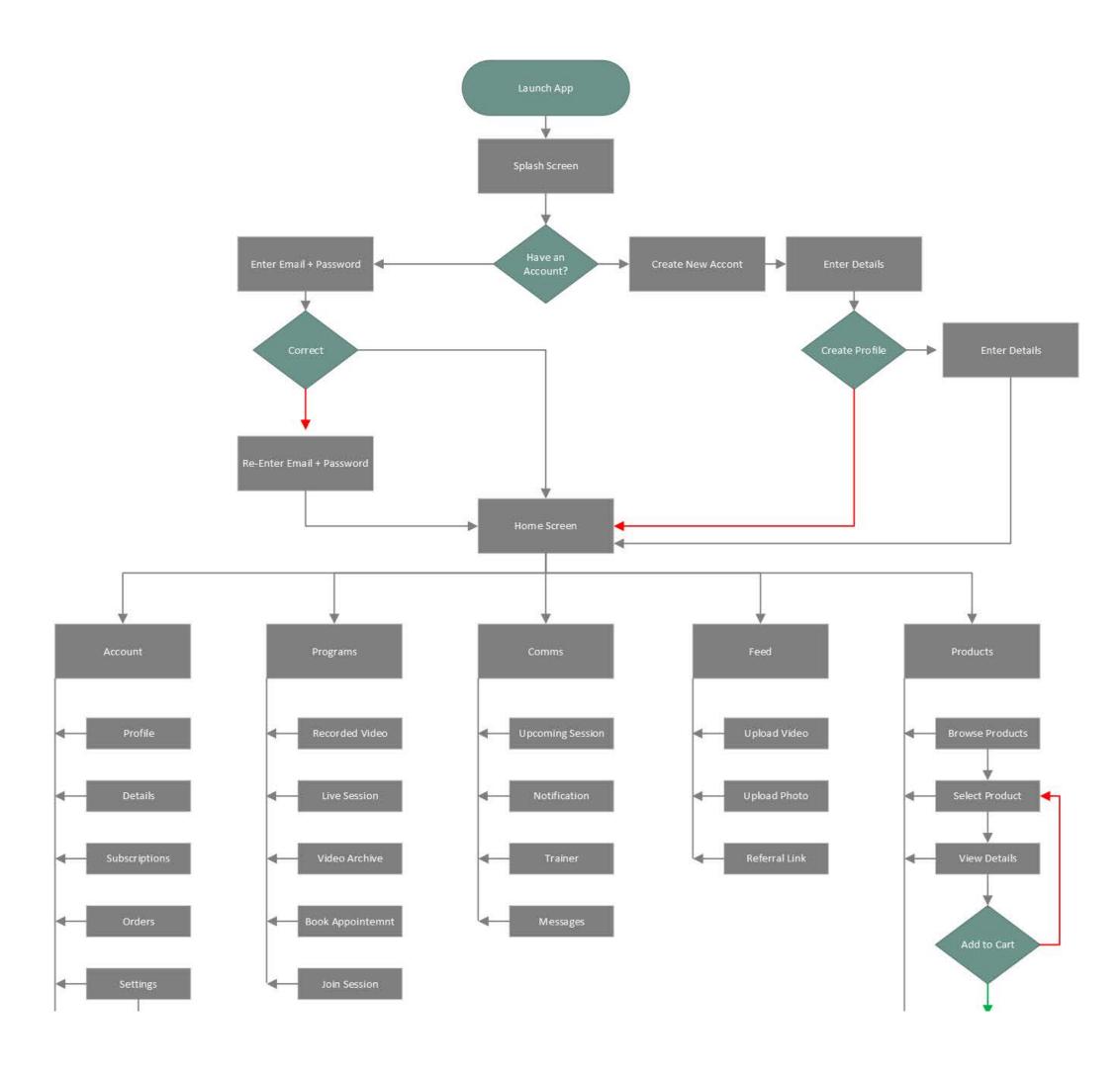
Persona: 30-50 years old. Low activity to non-active. Various health issues that could be alleviated with improved fitness and nutrition.

Objective: Find motivational tool to improve health and self-confidence within a private setting.

Stage	Awareness	Consideration	Decision	Service	Loyalty
Customer Action	Receive marketing email, view ad on social media, watch review YouTube.	Review similar products, compare relative benefits and costs	Download app	Completes profile, uses guided sessions	Recommends app to friends, family, colleagues
Touchpoints	Marketing email, social media (post, ad, influencer)	Marketing email, social media (post, ad, influencer), web search	Website, phone, tablet	Website, phone, tablet	Word of mouth, online reviews
Customer Experience	Interested, depressed	Curious, pessimistic	Mildly Optimistic	Relieved, optimistic	Enthusiastic
KPIs	Number of downloads, in-app purchases, daily active users	Trial versions download, test product	Conversion rates, total installs	Customer feedback, reviews, referrals	Retention rate, return users, testimonials, referrals
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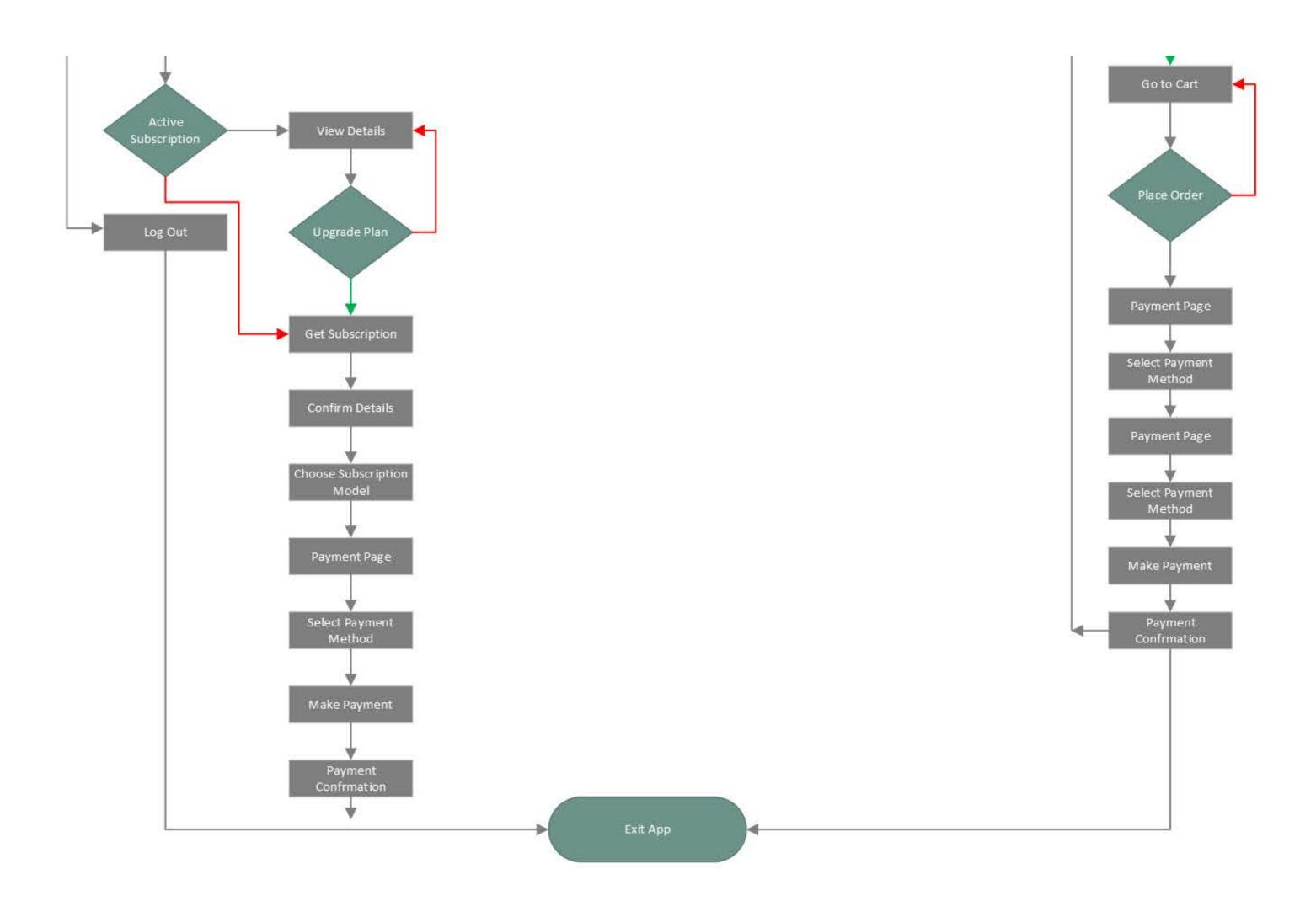
Task Flow & User Flow

Established broad variables to guide users through app in the most seamless manner possible. Based on feedback to testing, flows were adjusted and presented for further review, and iteration prior to high fidelity prototyping.



Task Flow & User Flow

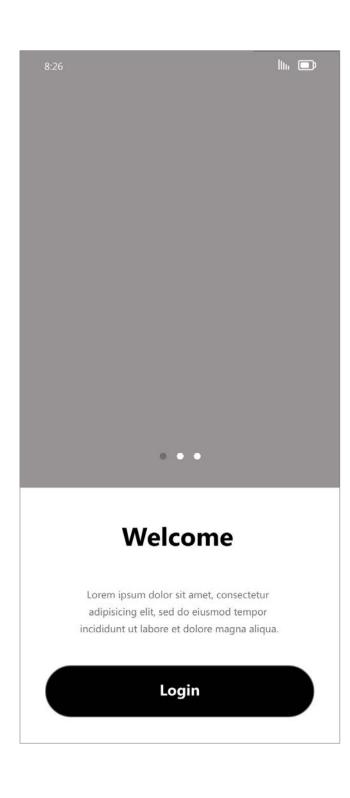
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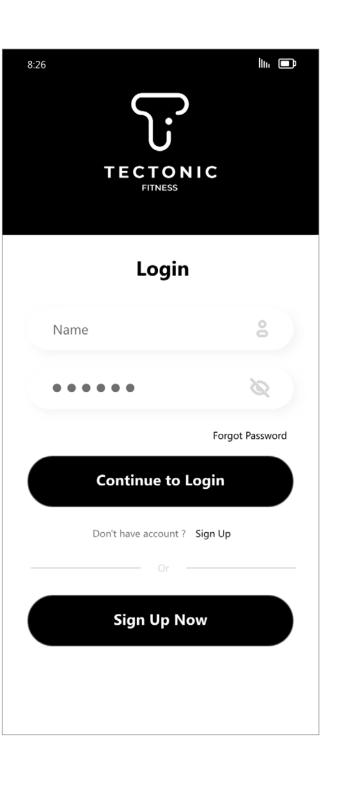


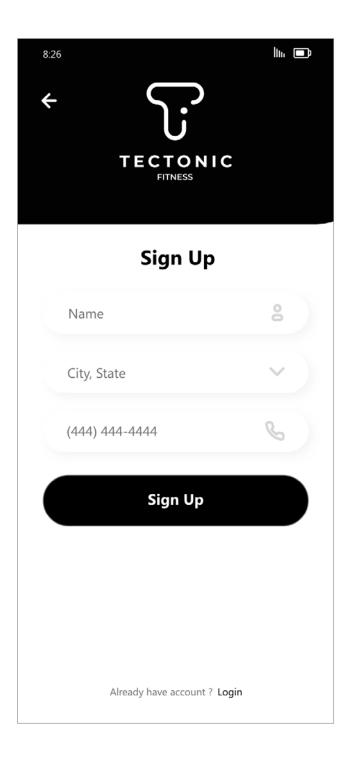
Wireframes

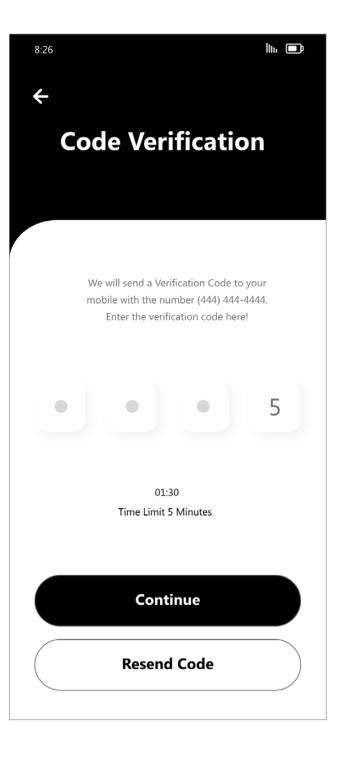
To validate design strategy and reinforce workflow patterns, wireframe prototypes serve as a valuable visual communication tool between UX and development teams throughout the design process.





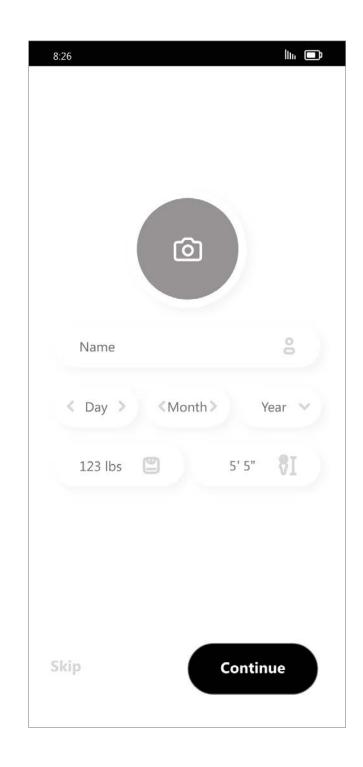


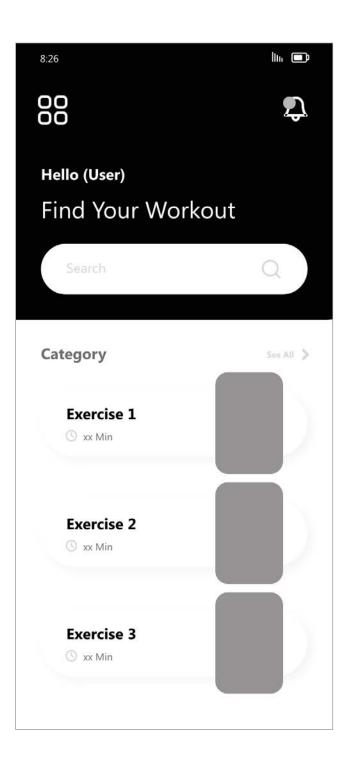


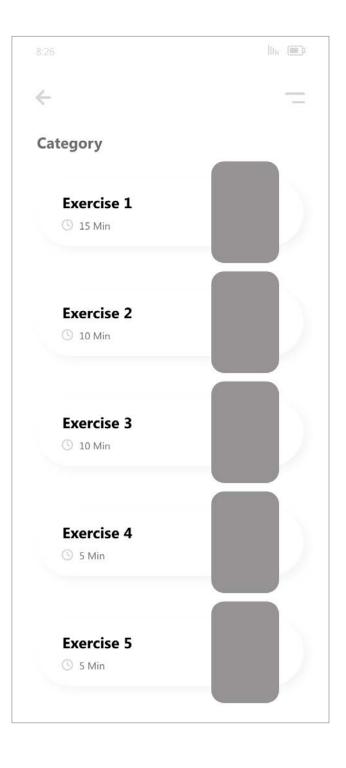


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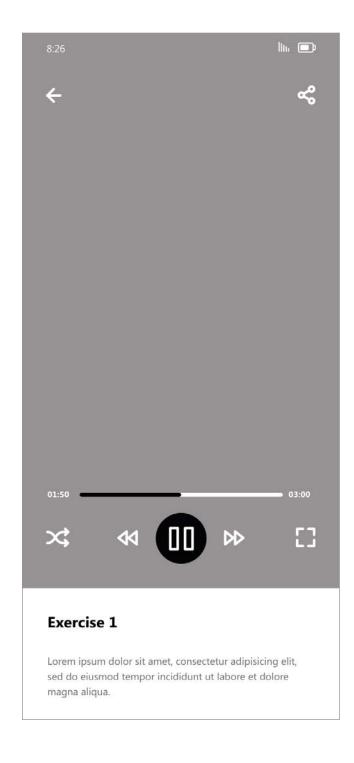
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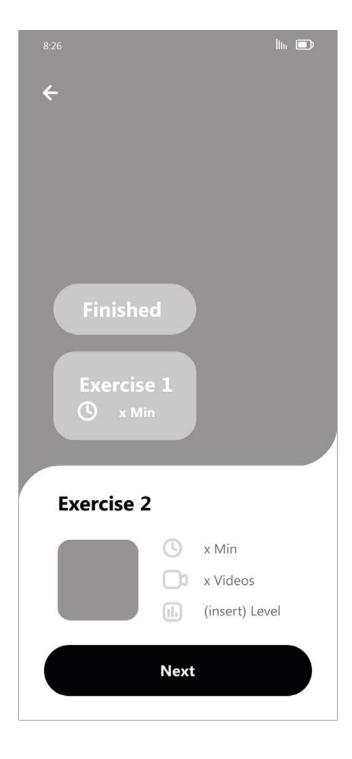


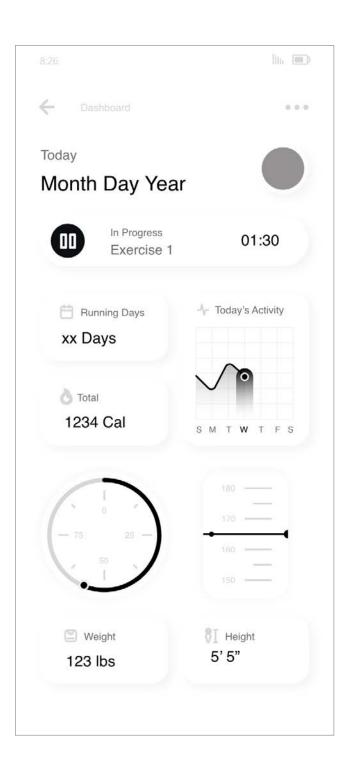


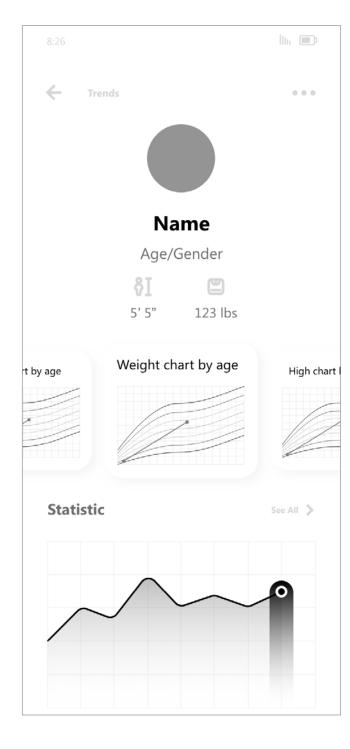
Wireframes

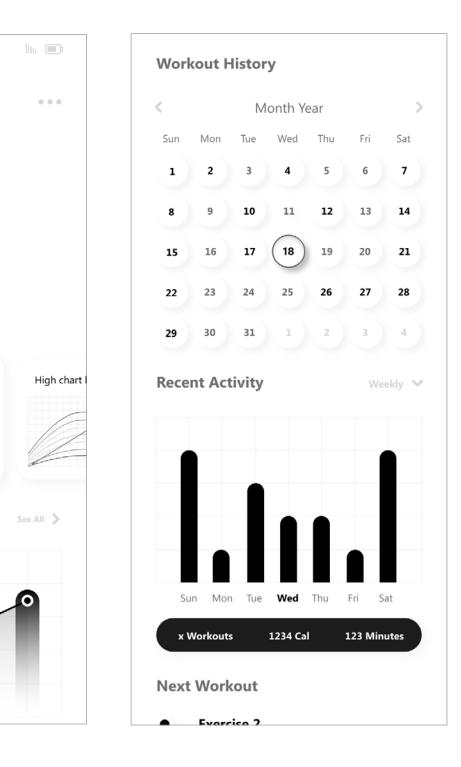
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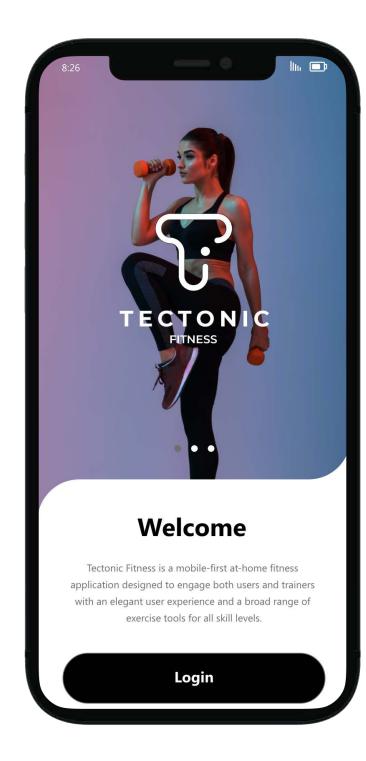


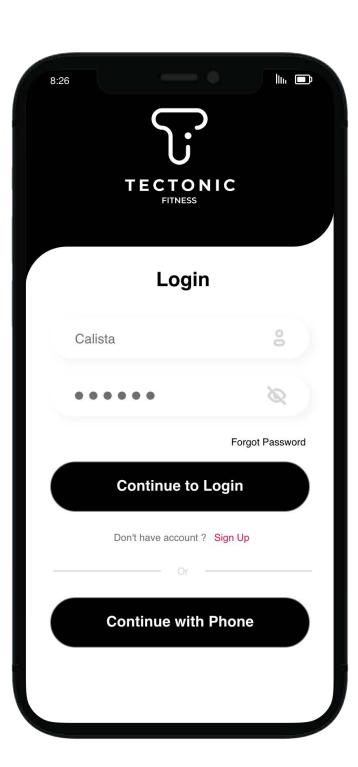


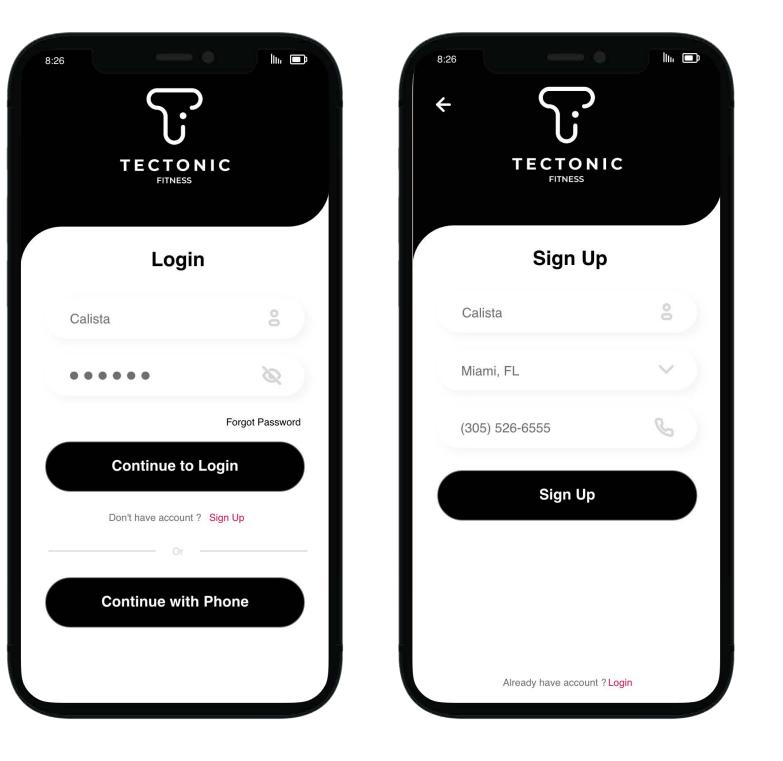


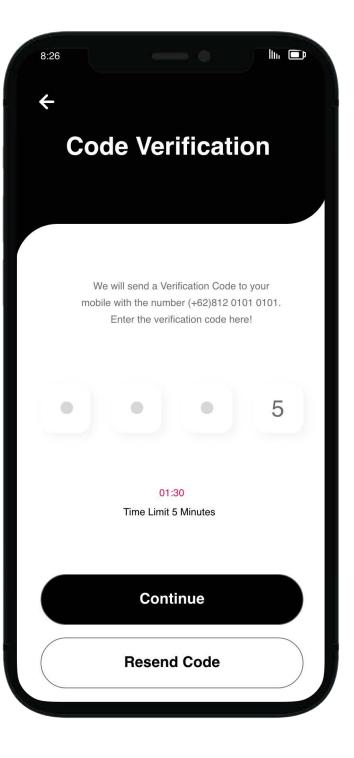


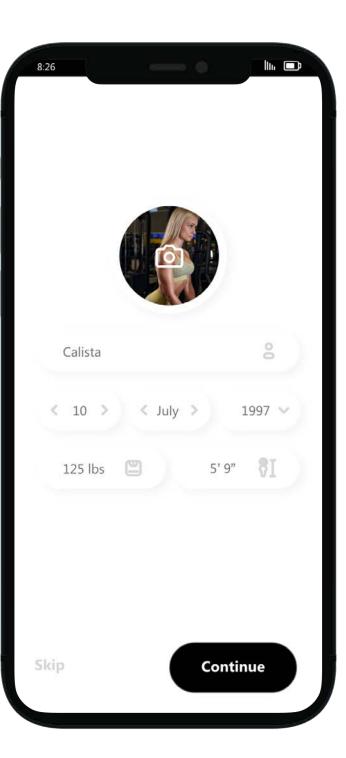
Engaging UI design is supported by intuitive UX methodology, resulting in a user experience that is engaging and motivational. By removing as many technological and psychology impediments to consistent fitness routines, the resulting design achieves its primary objective.



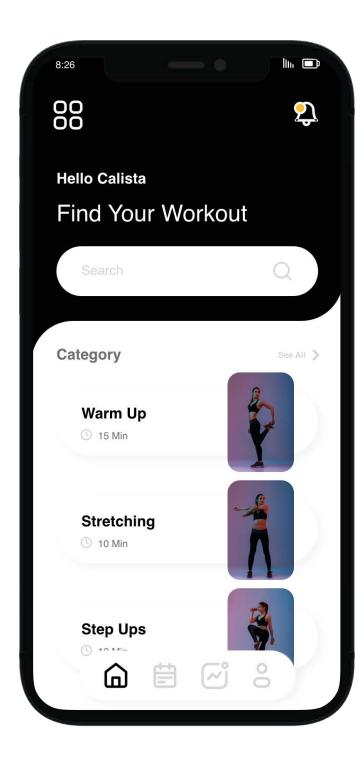


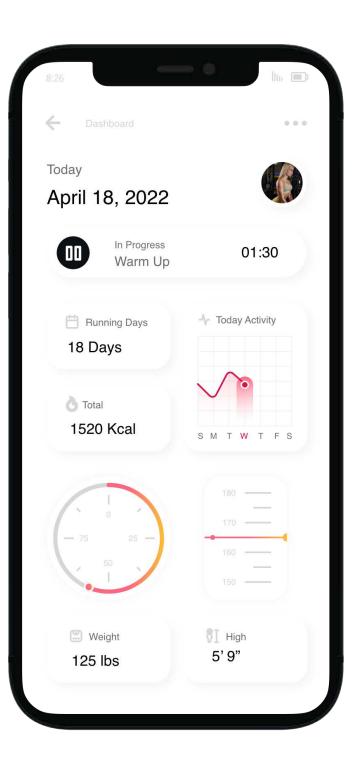


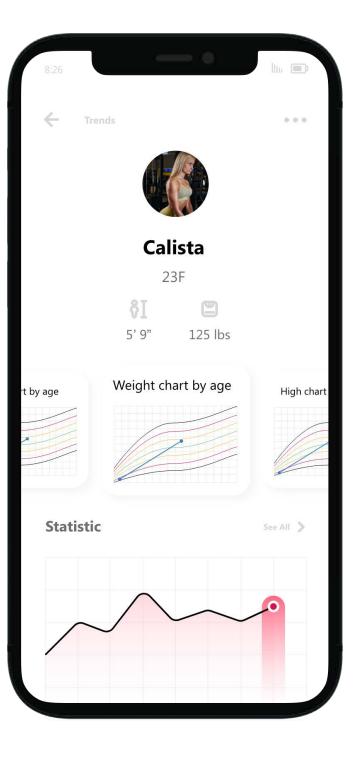




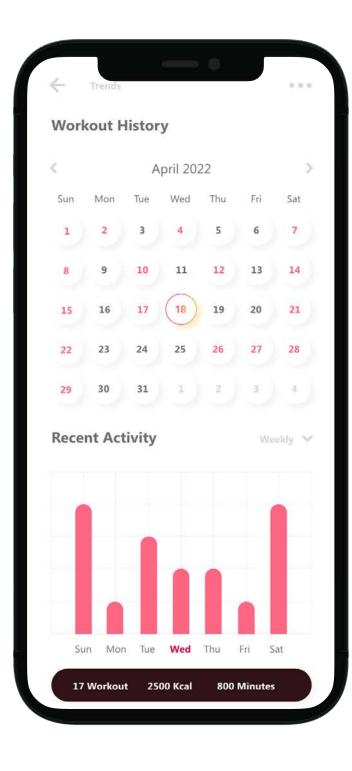
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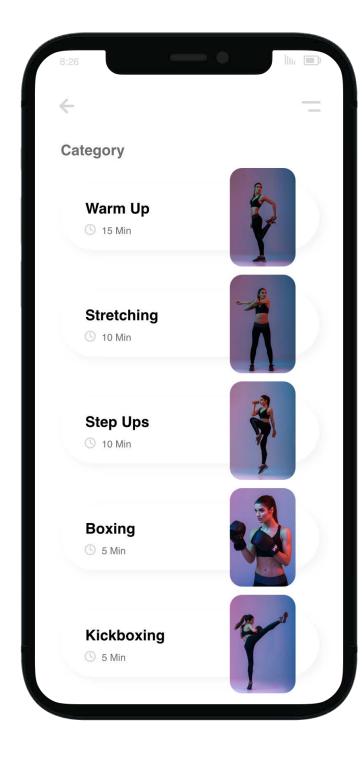


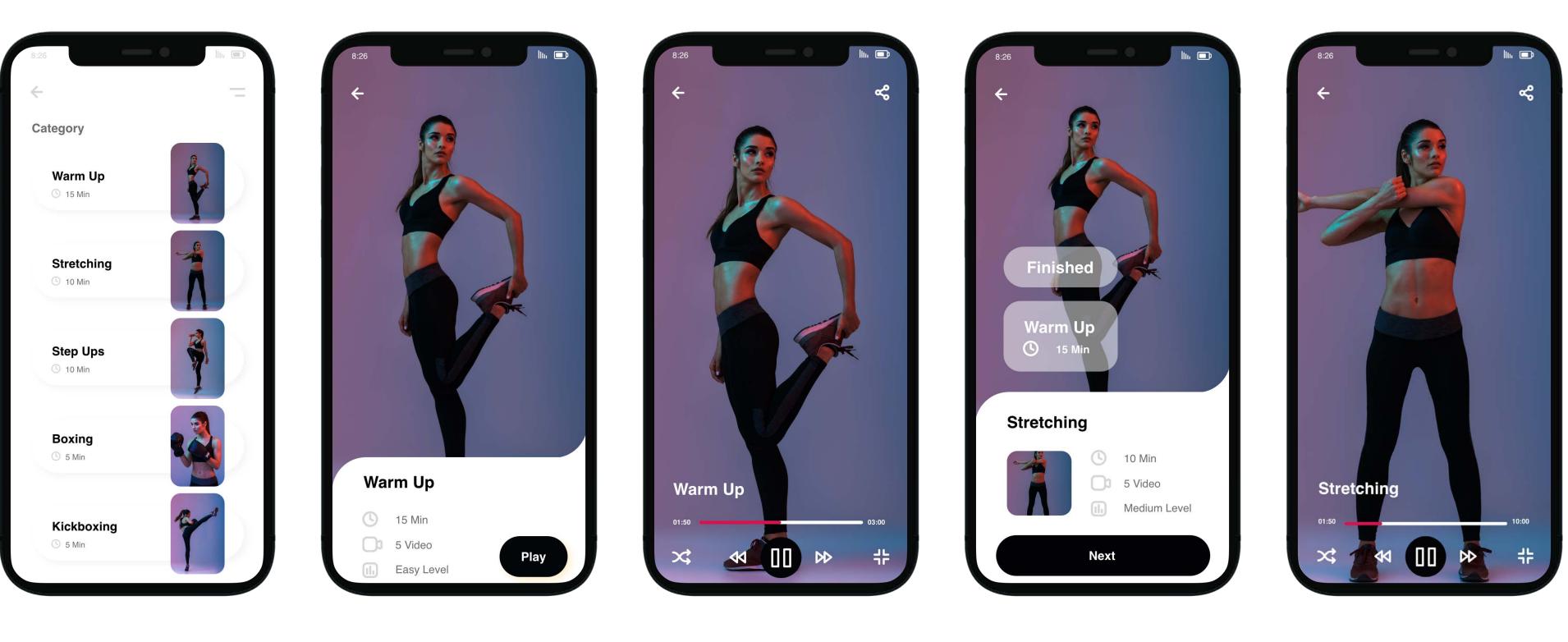




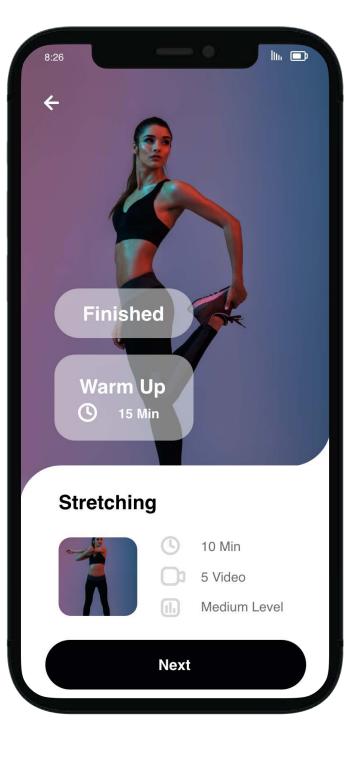


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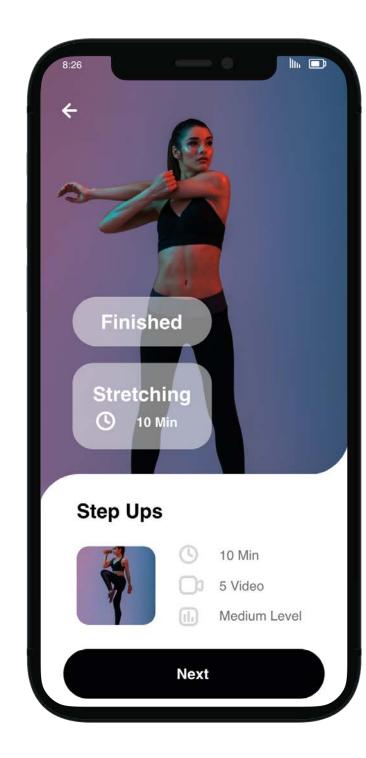




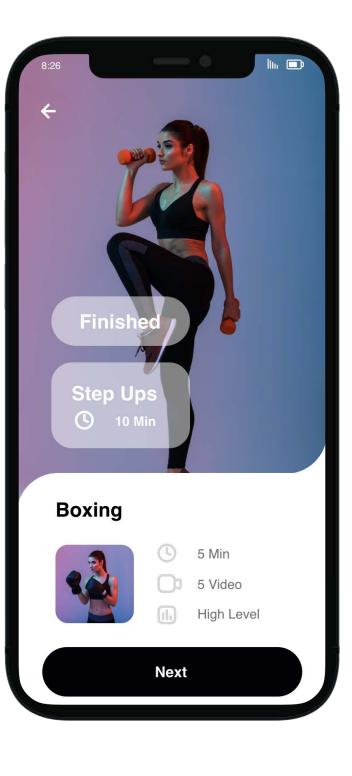


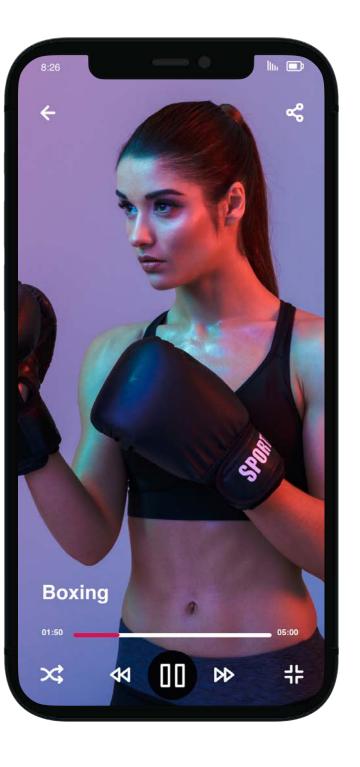


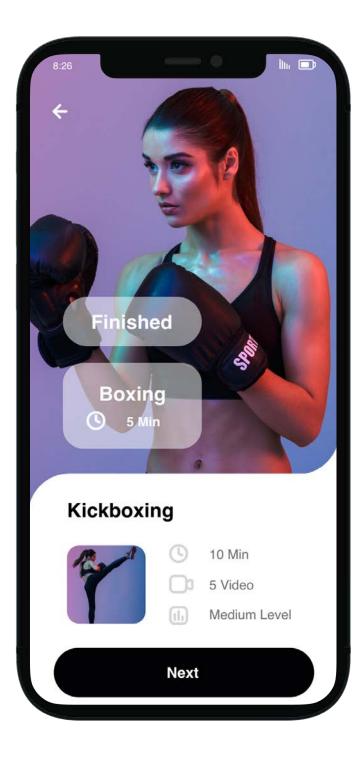
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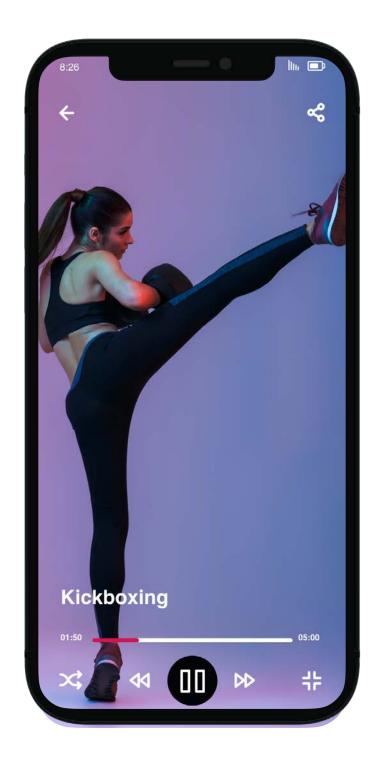


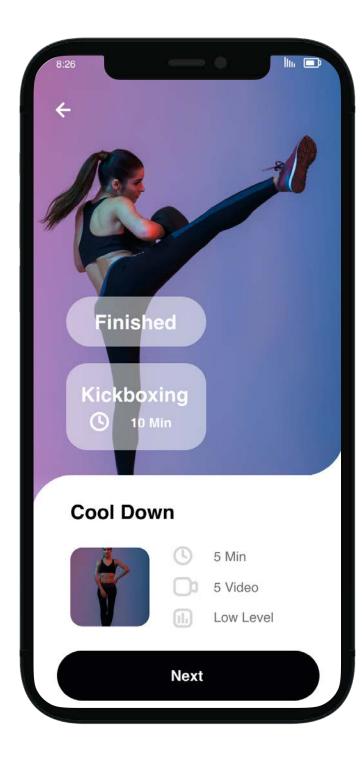


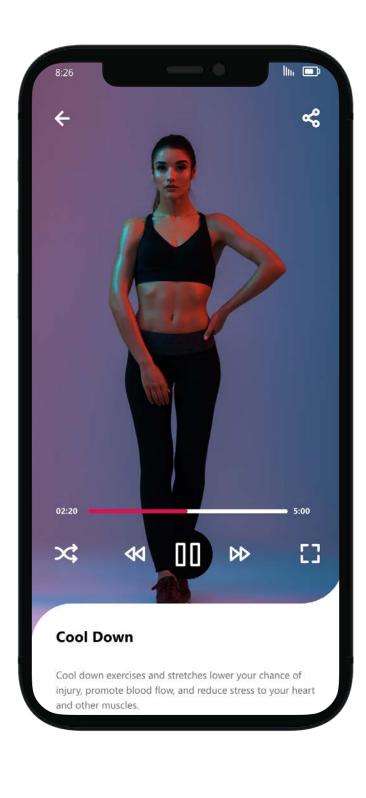


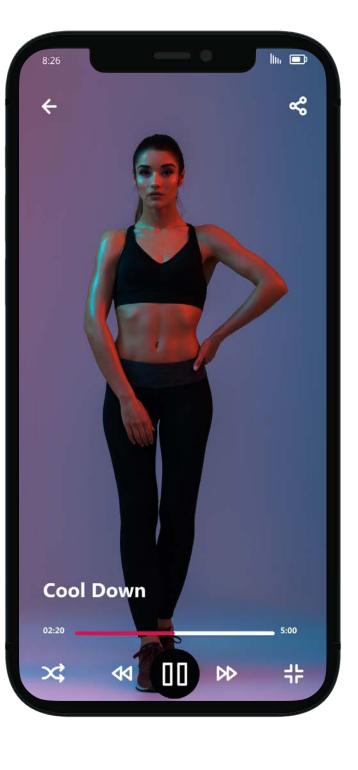


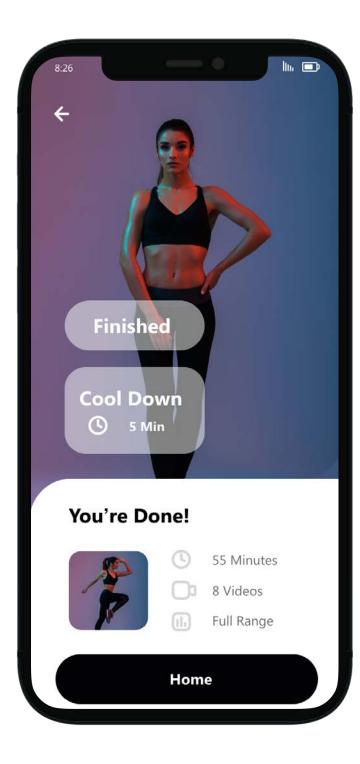
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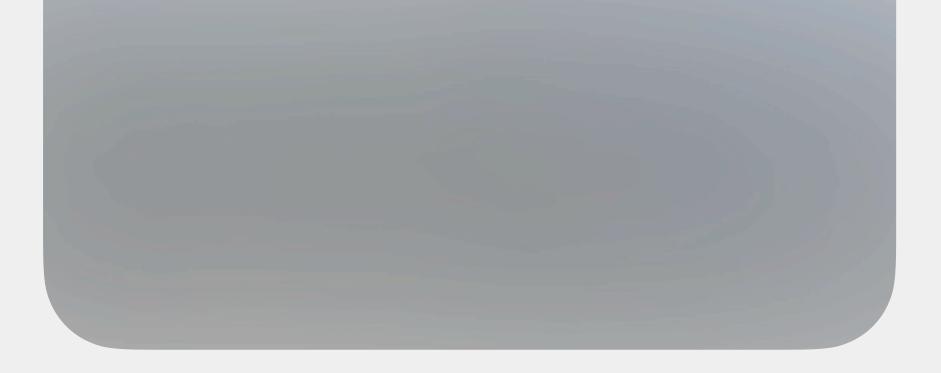






Launch XD Demo



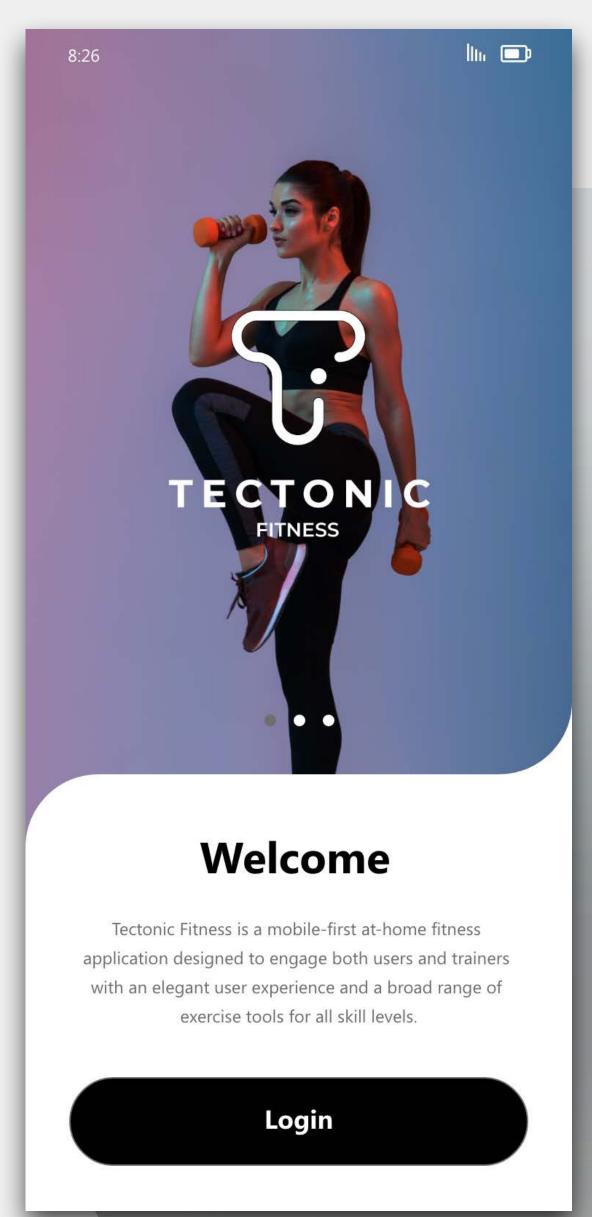


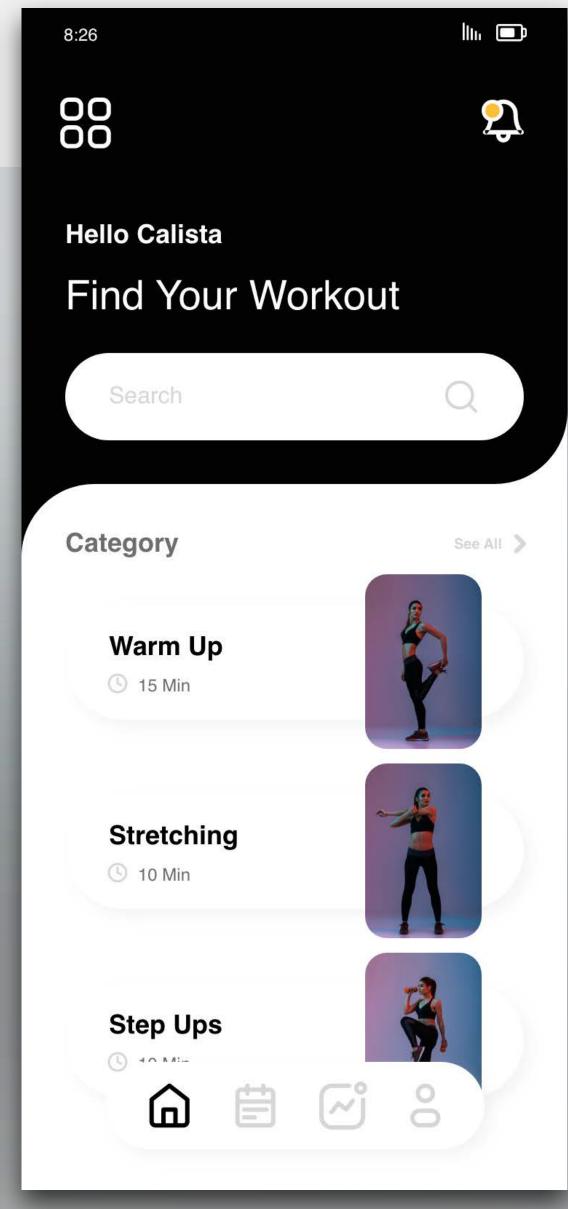


Tectonic Fitness

Tectonic Fitness

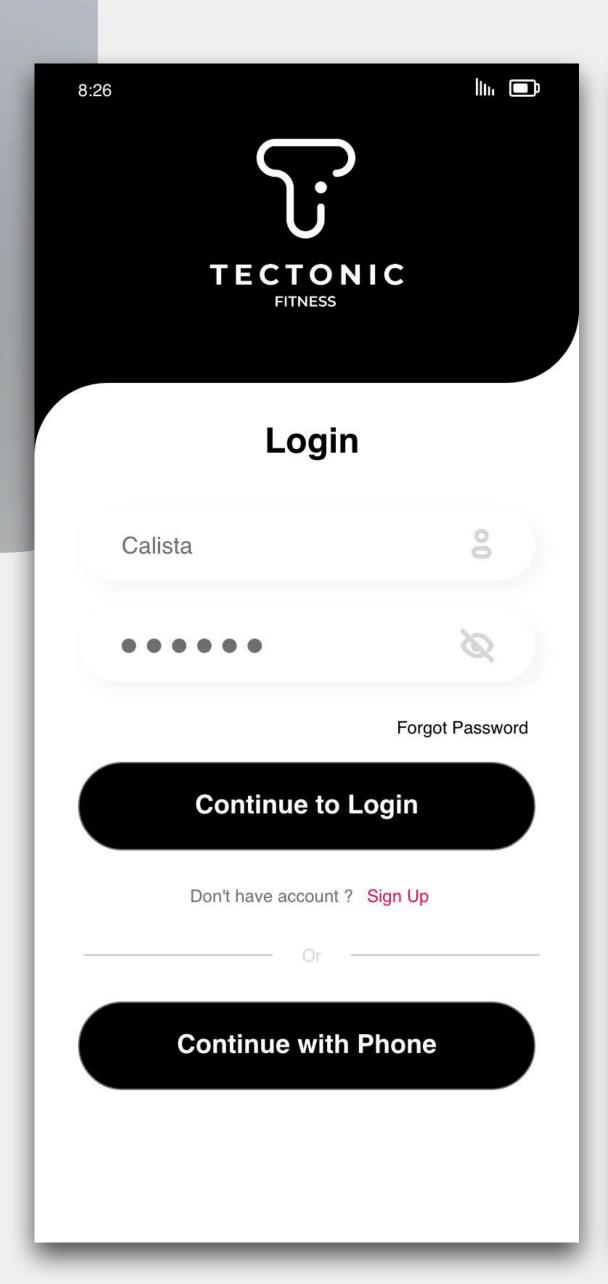
Tectonic Fitness Is a Mobile-First at-Home Fitness Application Start Up Designed To Engage Both Users and Trainers With an Elegant User Experience and a Broad Range of Exercise Tools for all Skill Levels.

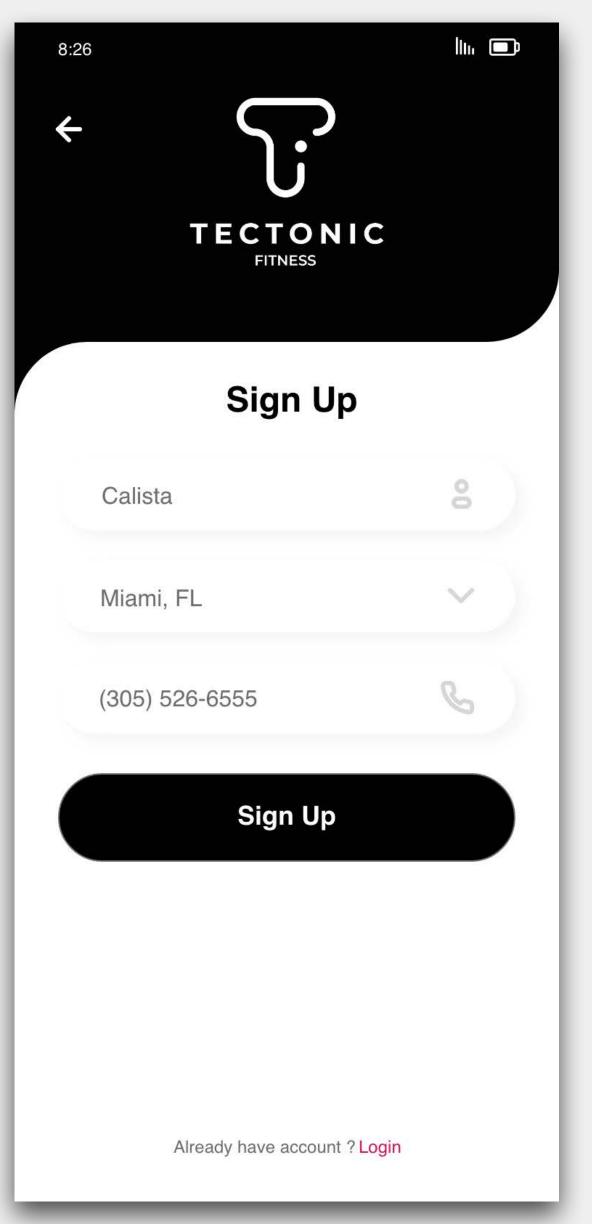




Onboarding

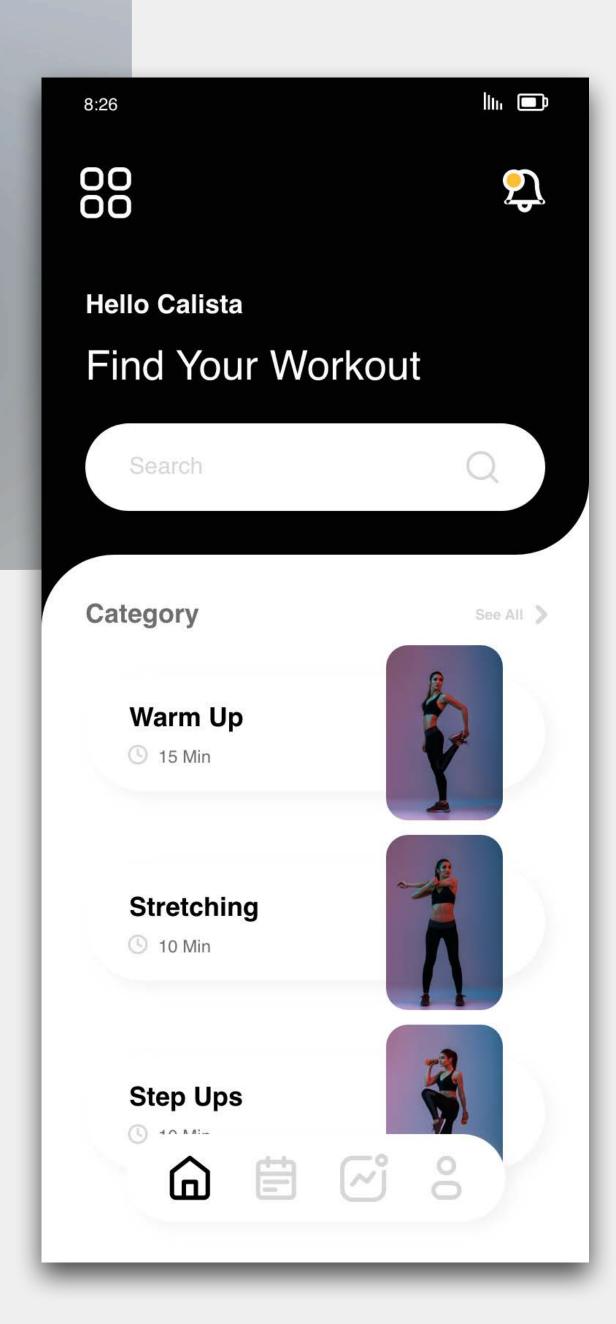
Tectonic users enjoy a streamlined onboarding process on first use and daily interaction. As with most fitness goals, ease of access is a crucial step to consistency.

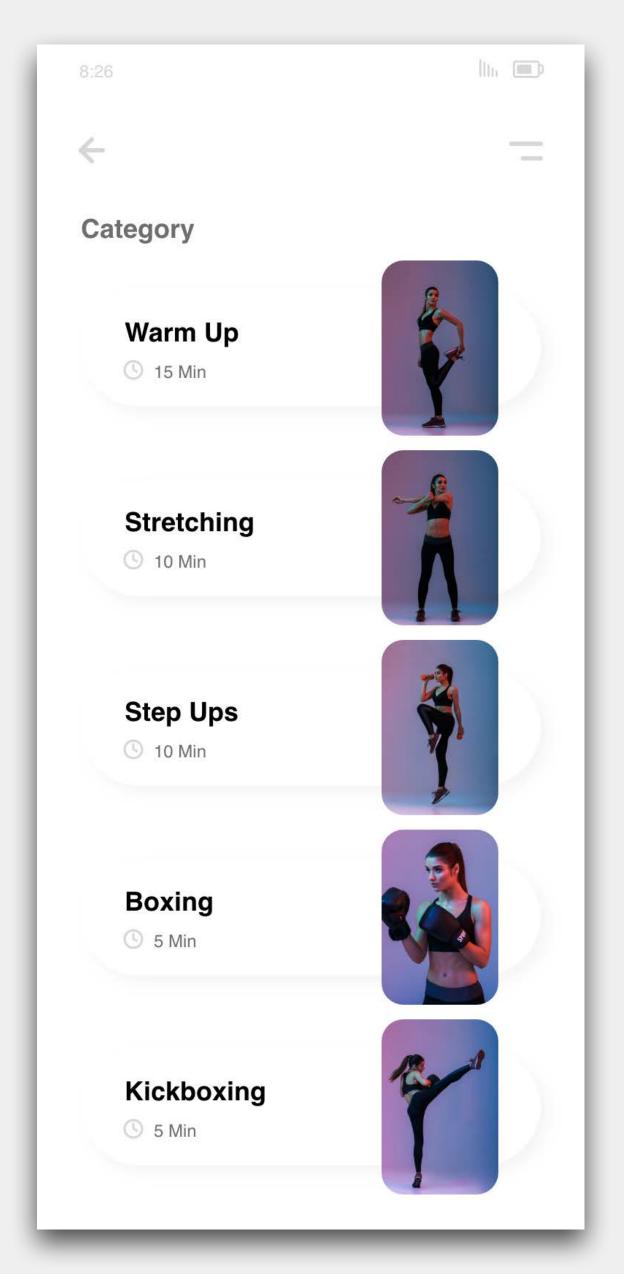




Personalized Choices

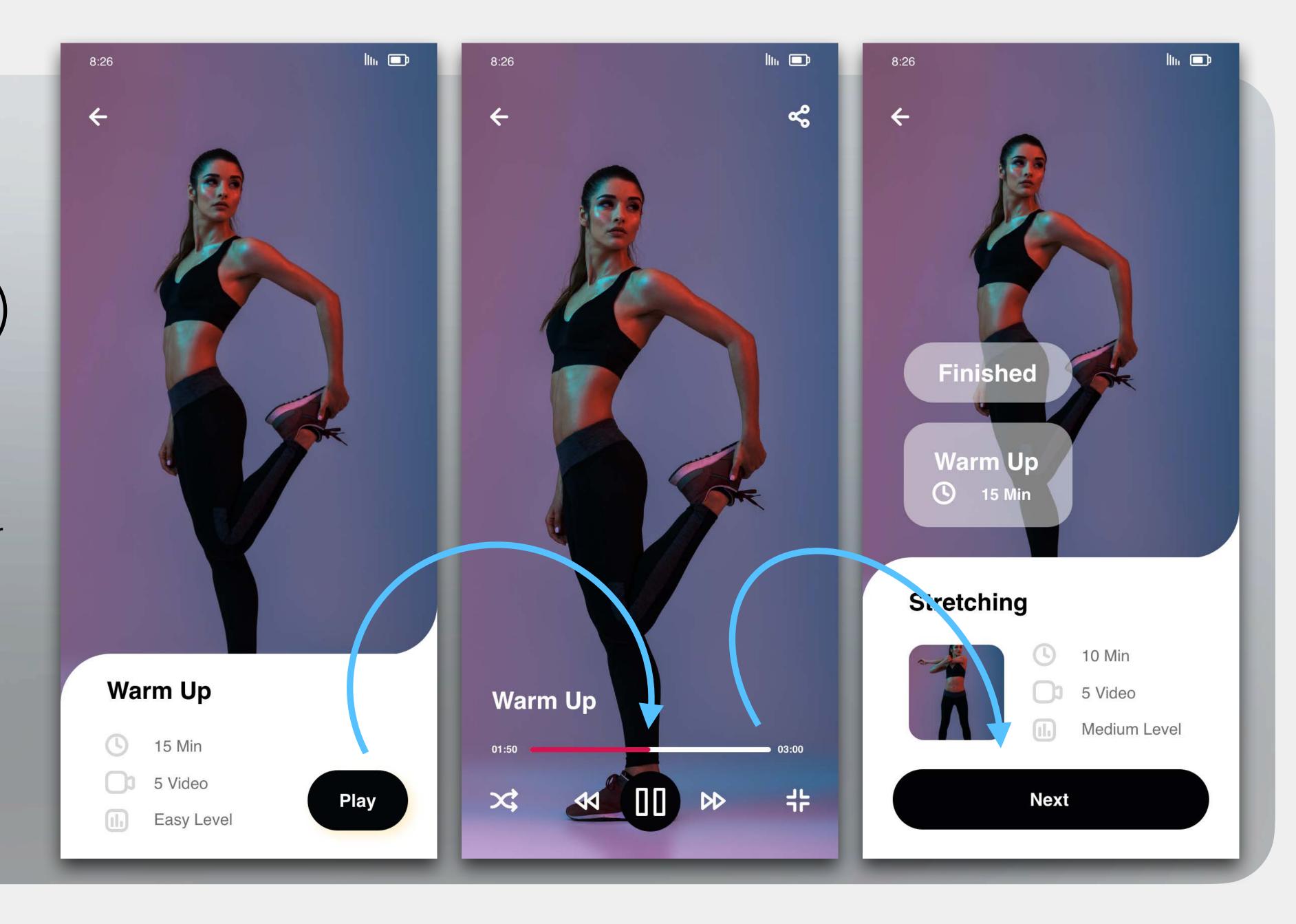
Tectonic users can choose from a constantly evolving range of fitness routines based on their desired level of intensity, range of movement, and team available in their daily schedule.





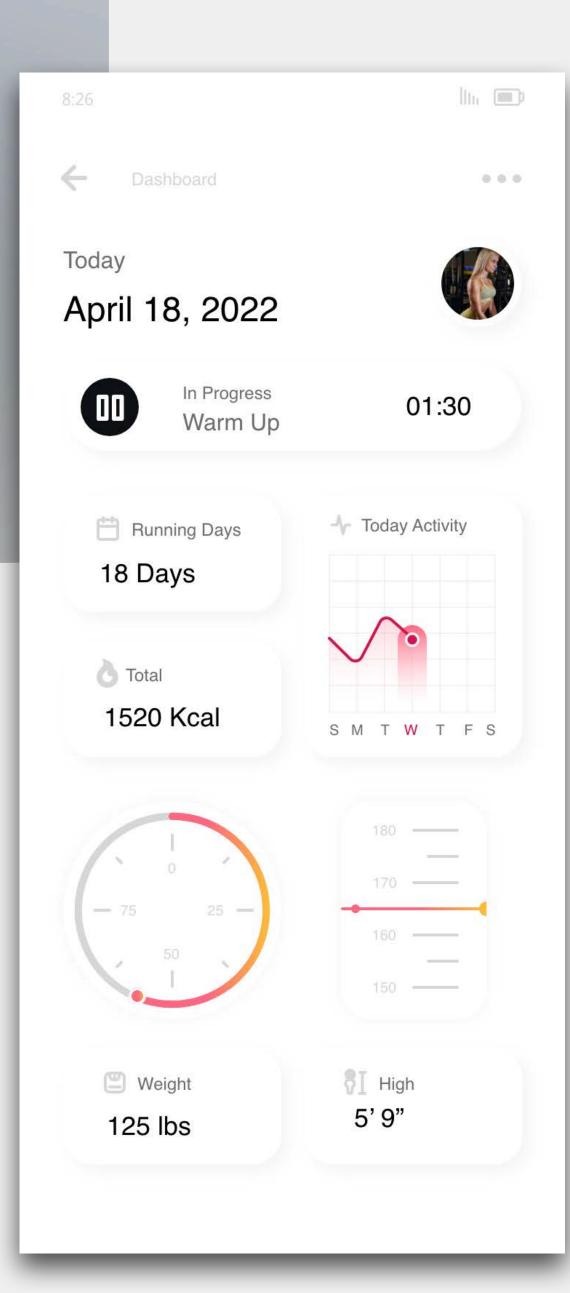
Intuitive User Journey

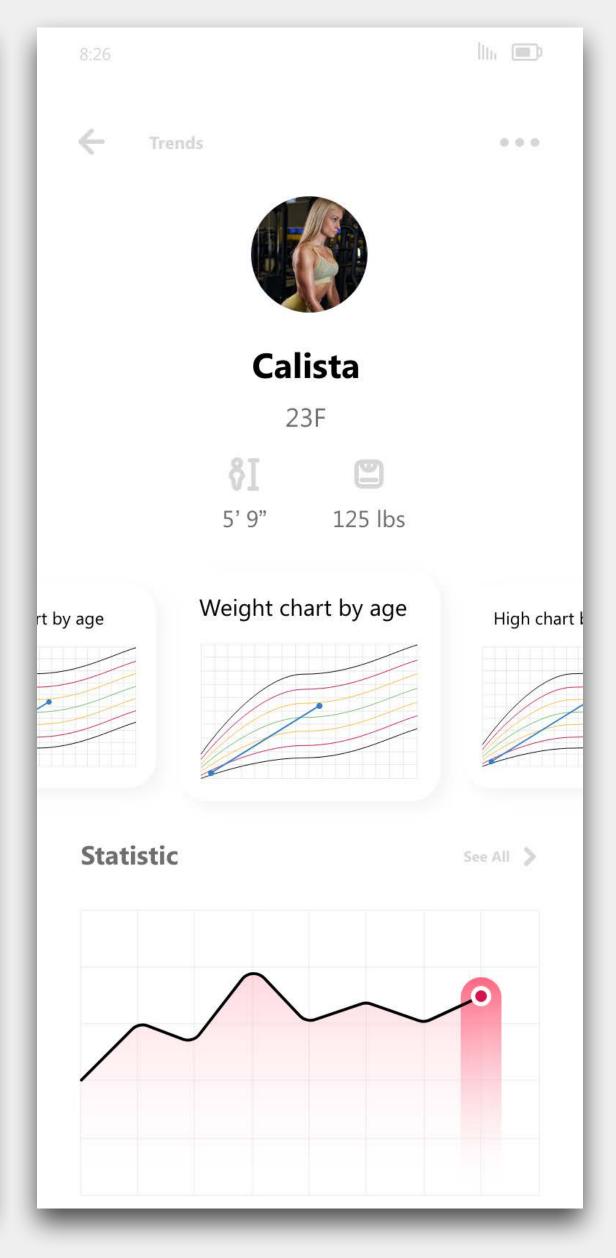
Users progress through timed exercises with logical evolutions of intensity. Clear navigation and elegant full screen video creates an engaging focus for users throughout their exercise session.



Analytics

Tectonic users can track multiple data points to see progress in real-time. By seeing Running Days, users gain confidence and momentum. By tracking calories, weight, and daily activity, users can ensure they hit their caloric deficit/surplus goals and monitor macros the support appropriate nutrition.





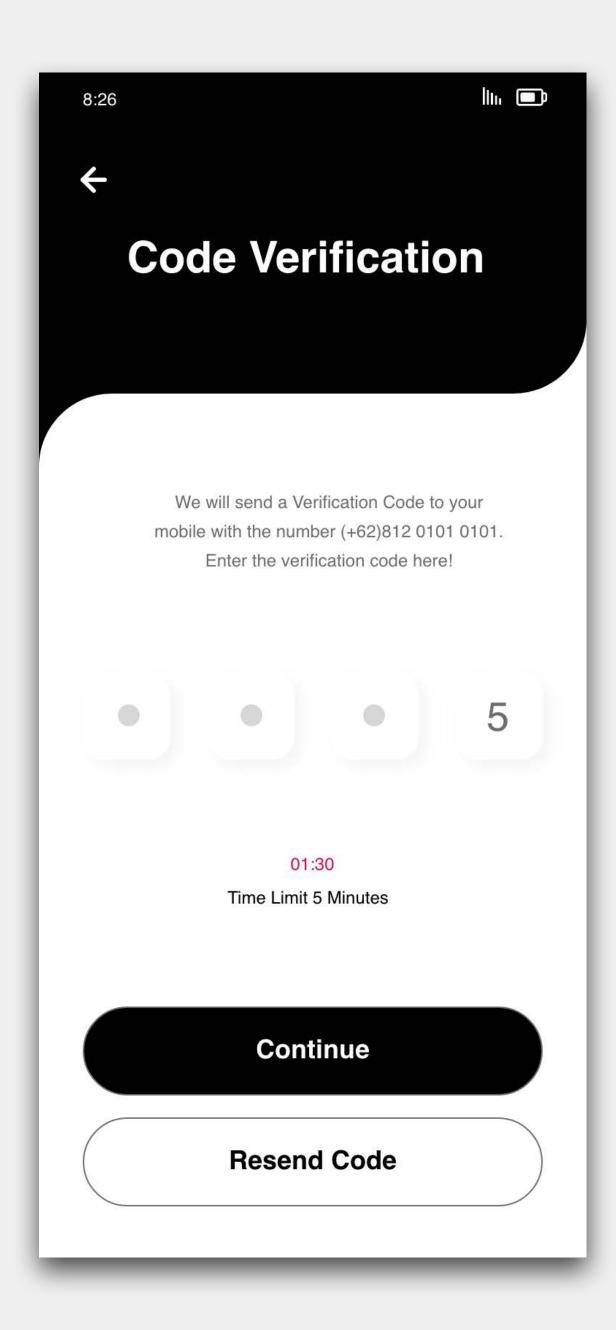
Connected Fitness

Tectonic integrates its functionality for parallel use with Phone and Smart Watch to create a seamless interaction of connected fitness.



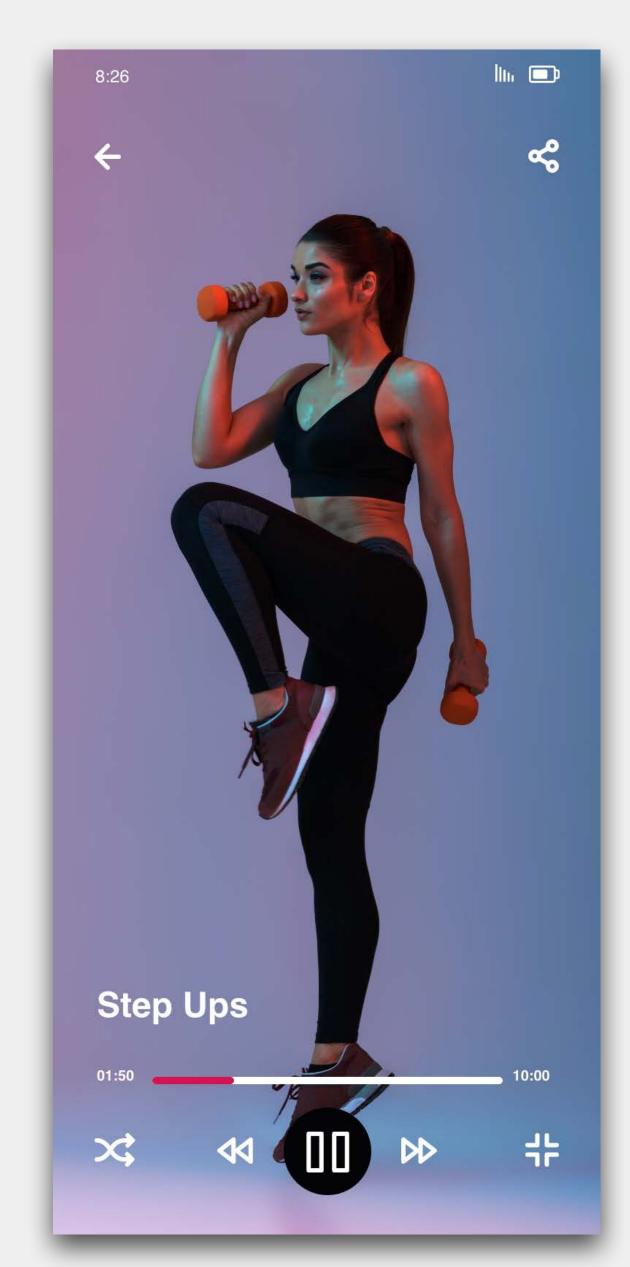
Security + Privacy

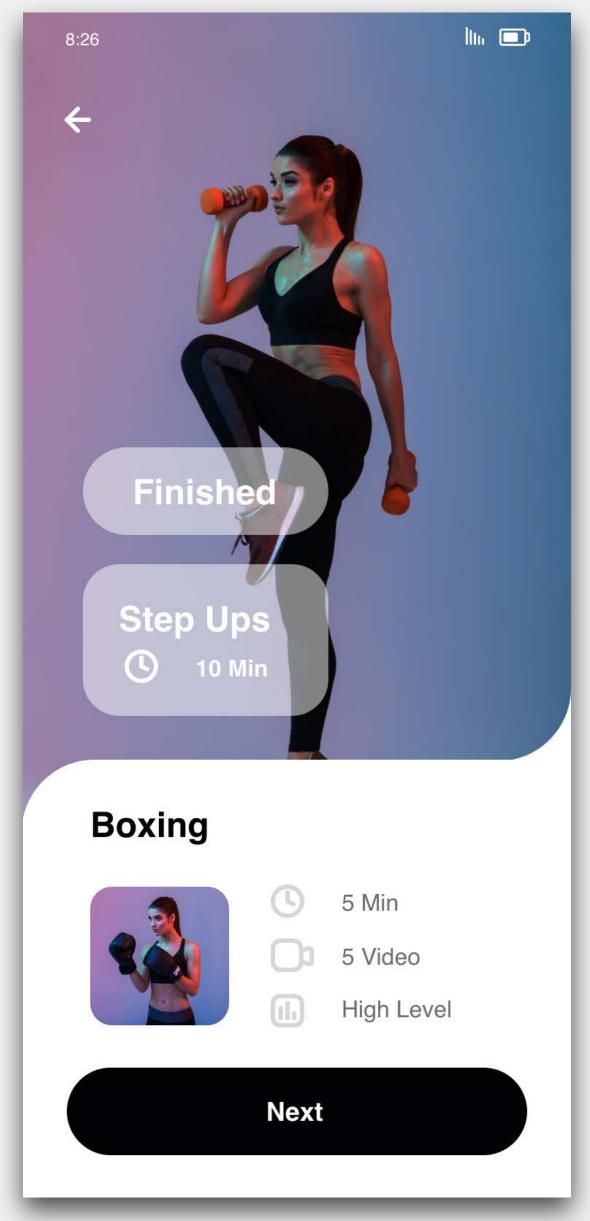
Tectonic employee secure 2FA tools to ensure user data remains secure and discrete communication occurs with personal trainers and product support teams.



Tech Stack

Tectonic leverages the integration options and communication platforms available to iOS and Android users. Prototyping is executed in Adobe XD with direct collaboration with development teams for final design and deployment.





Brand Guidelines

Brand Guidelines

Visceral Identity of the Brand	Editorial Voice
Differentiation from Competitors	Consistent Across Channels
Color Profile	Evolve in Sync with UX Updates
Typography	Respond to User Interaction

Brand Personality

Active Aspirational

Elegant Attractive

Inclusive Supportive

Tectonic Fitness is a mobile-first at-home guided fitness application start-up designed to engage both users and trainers with an elegant user experience and a broad range of exercise tools for all skill levels.

Logo

The logo concept is derived from the visceral meaning of the brand name as being foundational, structural, and natural. The logotype shape is intended to show strength and balance with a subtle human element.





Color Guide

The color identity is designed to focus on the subdued purple, deep blue, and varying depths of grey. While many fitness firms opt for proven color palettes, Tectonic was open to a more fashion-forward approach.



Typography

Montserrat serves as an elegant primary heading typeface, often used in all caps. The flexibility of Segoe UI serves as an ideal supporting typeface to communicate the majority of information.



Montserrat

Variable

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z a b c d e f g h i j k l m n o p q r s t u v

w x y z 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9



Segoe UI

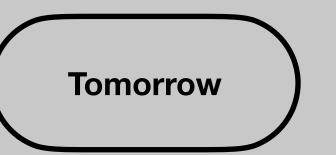
Variable

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W

X Y Z a b c d e f g h i j k l m n o p q r s t u v w x y z 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

Today

Tectonic aims to become an industry leader in high-growth personal fitness tech industry.



Tectonic plans to scale the initial product offering into new fitness verticals based upon market success.



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