

<https://claude.ai/public/artifacts/33ef0363-80c6-4a5b-a93f-8f375bd7adc1>

<https://claude.ai/share/d436adea-fd7d-4dca-b448-33b93c8c9670>

<https://claude.ai/design/p/7ac0b92e-6420-49de-b606-ff0999be3224?file=MyOwnPace.dc.html&via=share>

After much consideration and thought for creating an app that interested me, I chose to create an app that personalized financial milestones and guided users of all age groups facing overwhelming financial goals. As I reflect on my own financial history and decisions, I constantly wonder if I would have had a bit more guidance and advice, would I have done things differently? The answer is yes! I never had much guidance from my parents; I lost my dad at a relatively young age, and my mom was absent most of the time; that left me figuring out major milestones in my developmental years, on my own. I bought my first car when I was sixteen, first house at twenty-one, and boy, credit cards, student loans, and poor financial decisions all in between along the way. Not only that, but I had to learn what most people say, the hard way. There are times that I would not want to do it differently because it taught me so much about myself and what I wanted for my future and my family. However, I always remember thinking and wanting there just to be someone or something that broke all these scary financial things down into small digestible pieces for someone who is young and learning all on their own with little guidance or support. That was the motivation behind my decision to create an app that guided anyone, not just young, early career professionals, on major financial milestones, goals, and decisions. MyOwnPace is a financial milestone, goal-orientated, and gamified app that guides users motivationally and empathetically that are facing financial challenges and intimidations.

In the development of my app, my goal was to build an experience for users that was positively reinforcing that made managing finances engaging, less intimidating, and obtainable. I started with a simple word document: an outline, and dumping direct, imperative statements that were descriptive, analogical, and collaborative into the document. I quickly learned with Claude.ai that specificity delivered the best results for usefulness and innovativeness; ambiguity often led to generic outputs. I had to make sure my prompts were not too broad and more specific. For example, I started by stating, “I want to create a beginner's app for all ages, but specifically young adults and early professionals that helps break down intimidating financial goals like down payments for major purchases like a house or vehicle, first-time investments, or debt pay-off through small, actionable, step-by-step processes and advice”; it wasn't until I was halfway into my webapp project that I realized I needed to lessen the words, ask questions, and give small, clear, uncompromising commands to create a foundationally solid structure for the app.

I wanted to ensure that my vision was conveyed in a positive, reassuring, and emotionally responsive way for users. To make sure that Claude.ai understood my emotional landscaping goal, I directed it to make the app user-friendly, empathetic, minimal, and gamified with an adopted outlook of a beginner user struggling around setting and obtaining actionable financial goals. For example, I directed Claude.ai by using analogies that compared financial tracking to playing a game; this idea helped grasp the emotional energy that I wanted the user to feel when operating the webapp. I needed to make sure that the app was logical, so if a user missed a goal or milestone, I directed Claude.ai to reassess their financial circumstance and offer alternative solutions to get them back on track without the feeling of being penalized.

My communication with Claude.ai was shaped by my understanding of its capabilities. I understood that Claude.ai excelled at integrating massive amounts of data and generating alternative texts, but it was still lacking true social empathy and real-time visual insight. I wanted to make sure that I was dictating my visual design and not relying on Claude.ai to create suggestions; I solidified the uncertainty by specifically directing it to create tabs and an overall design that used soft earth and neutral tone palettes to reduce an overwhelming feeling and look to users. To design a successful personalized, gamified financial app that focuses on transforming fiscal discipline into a fun engagement, I had to ensure that the core mechanics and milestones were small, sequential, and manageable; and the personalization of the app was progressive. For example, a sequence of small, manageable tasks like establishing a savings account earned the user points so that progression was visual and consistency would allow users to create daily, healthy spending habits; this would make it easier for the app to create a realistic financial projection over time to motivate users toward long-term goals.

Surprisingly enough, once I was able to familiarize and navigate through Claude.ai I found it quite easy to collaborate and converse back and forth. Once I established my layout design and what I wanted the app to portray, adding ideas and critiquing the focus felt effortless using Claude.ai; it fundamentally shaped and accelerated my creative processes by acting as a mirror to them. I found that personalizing the app gave me a sense of confidence and shifted my motivation to become more active in my own financial planning. By adjusting responses, integrating missing context, narrowing constraints, and assigning specific perspectives, I was able to collaborate with Claude.ai and evolve broad prompts and ideas into a highly structured direction through leveraging strengths and accommodating limitations.

Collaborating with Claude.ai essentially shifts an individual's creative processing from solitary production to instantaneous iteration. For example, giving myself the opportunity to lead during the foundational stages of developing the webapp: defining the brand, setting the intent, and establishing the ethics, allowed me to follow Claude.ai during the exploratory stage of my project. By establishing an understanding that I operate as a human in terms of emotion, empathy, and background and Claude.ai operates with codes and algorithms, I can bridge the gap for audience clarity and interaction; establishing common ground helps align the message with diverse cognitive styles.

Claude.ai has fundamentally shaped and accelerated my creative process; it allowed me to articulate my design choices and clarify my underlying goals of the webapp. After completing my webapp design using Claude.ai, it has changed my understanding and perspective of AI; I have learned that ambiguity is a great starting point for creativity, but without structure and specificity, ideas can remain shapeless. Navigating through my collaboration with Claude.ai has challenged me to balance logic, emotion, and imperative direction to shape, personalize, and bring to life my vision of a financial, gamified webapp.

AI is a pivotal moment for humanity and can be a wonderful research, infrastructure, and strategizing tool; it is rapidly reshaping the workforce. However, all users and developers must remain cognizant to the commitment of global safety, ethics, and transparency. By navigating through this evolving AI path proactively, establishing governance, and instilling transparency from the technology segment of the economy, society can steer this astounding technology away from imagined despair and toward a fundamentally equal future.