Sarah Presland

UX/ Product Designer

About Me

I bring a unique perspective and eclectic variety of transferable skills to UX that enable me to find and solve problems creatively. I am enthusiastic, creative, curious and honest with a background in interior design, visual merchandise, hospitality and customer service.

It is hard to quantify transferrable skills, but as I learnt the UX methodologies I felt like a duck taking to water as I discovered how relevant mine are. Solving real problems for real people comes naturally to me and I am ready, willing, and able to do so as part of your team.

I am keen to learn more about what you do and look forward to meeting you soon.

Contact

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Education

User Experience Design (6 month flex)

General Assembly: Aug 2021 - Feb 2022

The Ultimate Figma Masterclass

Designership: July 2022

Website Design: Small Business TAFE NSW Online: Jun 2020 - Aug 2020

Interior Desires Adversed Distance

Interior Design Advanced Diploma Design Centre Enmore: Feb 2001 - Dec 2003

Design Fundamentals and HSC

Design Centre Enmore: Feb 1998 - Dec 2000

Design Skills

- User Interviews
- Research
- Analysis and Synthesis
- Ideation and Iteration
- User Flows
- Journey Mapping
- Information Architecture
- Prototyping
- Usability Testing
- Creative Problem Solving
- Exploring
- Interpersonal skills
- Communication
- · Thinking Differently
- Figma
- Miro
- Photoshop
- Dovetail
- Notion
- AutoCAD

UX Experience

Gol eLearning: Client Project: 2 months

- Discovered and solved a brand new user problem for the clients UX mobile team. Multiple departments adopted the key solution as it would be "of use to all users across all platforms".
- Our research invalidated clients initial assumptions that were created for two key stakeholders needs, but not the end-users.
- While the solution was very end-user-centred it covered the needs of all stakeholders and met the overall business goals.
- I managed the final stage of the project. Introducing a secondary end-user target market to re-test initial client assumptions. I liaised with clients through two rounds of usability testing, after analysis of first-round test results our key modifications led to significantly improved results.

Friendly Grocer Website: 1 month

- Gathered and evaluated user requirements to create an MVP website for local grocery stores during Covid lockdowns.
- Providing a Click & Collect service was a low-risk way to meet shoppers and businesses' needs. Discounted home delivery as a solution due to cost, high staff and space requirements.
- Solutions included points of difference from larger competitors and reflected customers existing shopping behaviours.
- Project managed the Discover phase of the project while contributing to all tasks including card sorting, information architecture and moderated usability testing.

Street Library Mobile App: 1 month

- Created a digital format of a service that needed to respect and maintain the character of the real-life experience to ensure engagement by users.
- Changed project direction when needed. Discovered people were not necessarily keen on just "getting more books" for themselves. Instead, the solution was created to help build a community around the library in keeping with users wants.

Other Experience

Architects Without Frontiers Volunteer

AWF work within local communities to assist with physical and social infrastructure projects. The client's cultural norms and practices had a strong influence on each project. This experience showed me that to be successful a solution needs to be viable, practical, and of real benefit to users. I teamed up with architects to work as a researcher, designer and model maker.

- Kompiam District Hospital: Papua New Guinea
 - Created a scale model that was used to raise government funding and as a guide for builders during construction.
- Vocational Training Centre: Malawi
 - The design had to be functional, sustainable to operate, and fit the local vernacular by not being flashy and standing out.
- Mobile Bus Libraries: Sri Lanka
 - I initially presented a complicated design with fancy features. What was needed and implemented was a functional no-frills solution that was deployed quickly and cheaply.

Hospitality

- Food Production Supervisor: 2019-2021 (Serendipity Ice Cream)
 - Fast-paced environment, multi-department interaction, managing staff, adapting to change, meeting deadlines, attention to detail, ordering stock, department manager.
- Chef: 2010 -2019 (three cafes)
 - Teamwork, time-management, multi-tasking, face-to-face customer service, flexibility, delegating tasks, communication, prioritising tasks, ordering stock, high pressure environment.