

Requirements Document for Purrsona

1.1 Introduction

Cat pictures, cat videos, cat gifs...the internet can't seem to get enough of all the quirky and adorable things cats do. Ask any cat owner about her or his cat, and you'll likely be listening for quite some time to a long list of unique characteristics, cute idiosyncrasies, and irritating (but "adorable") behaviors. Cat owners really seem to know their cats well. However, it can be difficult for some cat owners, especially those with multiple cats, to keep track of important information, such as veterinary records, in one quickly accessible place. And when cat owners go away on vacation, it's important to give the cat sitter as much information about their cats as possible. Although there are a few applications out there that allow users to store and keep track of medications, dietary needs, weight loss goals, and other important data, none of these provide a complete portrait of an individual cat's persona. Here's where Purrsona stands out. Purrsona allows users to create completely customizable dossiers for their cats and access them at any time on a mobile device. Additionally, Purrsona allows cat owners to design detailed care guides, daily task lists, and maintain direct communication with cat sitters while they are away from home. Fully understanding an individual cat's personality allows both cat owners and cat sitters to provide even better care for their cats, since they will have deeper knowledge of each cat's "normal" behavior. Users can add as much or as little information to each cat's profile as needed, and return to edit or add more later on. Crucial data such as microchip numbers, vet contact information, and even daily feeding schedules can all be stored in the Purrsona app. Purrsona helps keep all your important information about your cats in one convenient place. It's the ultimate cat herding app!

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1.2 Executive Summary

Purrsona will be a stylish and fast mobile application that allows users to store information and create unique personality profiles about their cats. It should be fun, easy to use, and engaging. The main features of the app should be as follows:

- Cat profile creation – as detailed as the user wants, and totally customizable

- Store and retrieve important information about the user's cat(s) quickly
- Ability to design a care guide for a cat sitter based on the profile of each cat that includes an optional daily task list and more
- Add events, alerts, and reminders to a customized calendar that syncs to the user's mobile device

In the development of Purrrsona, the following factors should be considered:

- Usability: The application should be easy to use and navigate, simplicity should be the goal and care should be taken to ensure the UI is graphically interesting and doesn't require much explanation beyond the initial tutorial screens.
- Room for future features: The app could be expanded to include a user-curated newsfeed with articles on cat care, health advice, behavior guides. There is also the possibility to create a social component to the app which connects cat owners to cat sitters.
- Connection with other Purrrsona app users: via social media and email at first, but eventually connecting users together over the app itself – sharing cat profiles/images/video/care guides/etc.
- The requested features and goals are purposefully broad, as the planning and development phase should drive the shape and functionality of the application. Focus should remain on the goals stated above with wide latitude to innovate based on development and user feedback.

1.3 Target audience

Purrrsona seeks appeal to cat owners, especially those with more than one cat. Users might not be very organized, or see organization as tiresome. Purrrsona hopes to make the experience of storing information about users' cats fun and engaging.

1.4 Functional Requirements

USER ACCOUNT FUNCTIONALITY

User Login

1.4.1. All registered users will need to have a unique username and password ID. Our database will store and verify user login. User profiles will be encrypted and stored on our application servers. No data mining of user data will be permitted.

Creating New Users

1.4.2. To register, new users will download the app and create a new user profile.

1.4.3. Required information will be email and password.

Onboarding

1.4.4. Users will be prompted to view a few quick slides that demonstrate how to use the app; this step may be skipped at any time. The rationale for onboarding with Purrrsona is

that the initial user account screen (the “Cat Fort”) will be “empty” until users add profiles for their cats. There may be some gesture functionalities that need explaining such as swiping/dragging. This has yet to be decided, but in that case, more detailed, albeit brief, onboarding documentation will be provided.

ADD CAT PROFILE FUNCTIONALITY

Adding a New Cat Profile

1.4.5. New users will need to add a new cat profile to their “Cat Fort” – the “Cat Fort” is another term for the main account page/dashboard for the app and can be designed/upgraded according to the user’s desires. Graphically, it represents a home for the user’s cat(s), and information will be stored in “rooms” within the “Cat Fort.” (Note: the “Cat Fort” itself can be designed at any stage, but there will be a default design in place until the user edits it.)

1.4.6. New users will be guided through the process of adding information step by step using modules – this ensures that the process is not too time consuming and can be quit at any time and resumed later.

1.4.7. After each module is completed, the user is awarded some sort of visual reward in the form of a sticker or badge – possible “leveling up” system to be included later, which will unlock new outfits for cats, and/or backgrounds, themes, etc., for the “Cat Fort.”

CARE GUIDE FUNCTIONALITY

Creating a Care Guide

1.4.8. Users will have the option to create a detailed care guide for cat sitters that imports information from each of the modules within each cat’s portfolio. This saves the user time – the information doesn’t have to be reentered, and can be edited and customized specifically for the care guide without changing the original cat portfolio.

1.4.9. Additionally, users can create a daily task list that the cat sitter will complete and send via email (and later through the Purrsona app itself) with any additional comments or notes.

1.5.0. There will also be the option for the cat sitter to send photos and videos to the cat owner.

CALENDAR FUNCTIONALITY

Setting Up Alerts and Reminders

1.5.1. Users will be able to create alerts on their phone for vet appointments, dispensing medication, feeding times, and more.

1.5.2. Users will also be able to schedule events using the Purrsona calendar, and receive reminders of upcoming events directly through their mobile device.

MISCELLANEOUS FUNCTIONALITY

Custom Content

1.5.3. As mentioned previously, there will be a series of stickers, badges, outfits, themes, that that can be used to further customize the user's cat profile, "Cat Fort," and Purrrsona interface. There should be enough diversity in content so that the user wants to return to add new items and redesign their "Cat Fort" and customize other components within the app.

1.5 Platform Requirements

Since Purrrsona will initially be a mobile-based application, it should be designed to work on Android and IOS platforms.

1.6 Application Qualities

- *User-friendliness* - Since the success of Purrrsona depends on it being intuitive, fun, and easy to use, a creative, user-friendly UI that reflects the personality of the app is necessary.
- *Reusability* - It's important to the success of Purrrsona that members return to use the app on a regular basis to update information and add reminders and events. The interface and application should be easy to use, and encourage frequent use.
- *Extensibility* - Over time the application will be enhanced with new features; therefore, the application should be customizable and able to be extended, updated, and added to in later development stages.
- *Understandability* - Purrrsona should be coded and documented in a way that makes it easy for developers, even those that did not work on the application initially, should be able to maintain and extend the application.

1.7 Potential Risks

- *Too Time Consuming* - Users might not want to spend time recording information about their cats into the app.
- *Too Niche* - This app appeals to cat owners, and more specifically to cat owners who aren't very organized. The audience might be quite small.

1.8 Future Changes

- *Vendor Integration* - In future versions, Purrrsona could offer the opportunity to connect with pet supply vendors and allow users to set up a scheduled delivery service of their preferred food and supplies.
- *Social* – In future versions, Purrrsona could become more of a social application where cat owners can connect with each other and with cat sitters – users can "visit" each other's "Cat Forts" and leave messages or digital "gifts."

- Cat Sitting Network – In future versions, Purrsona could provide ways for cat owners to pay cat sitters directly through the app – either with money or another agreed upon trade – as well as create a social network of trusted cat sitters based on reviews from other Purrsona users.