

Problem and motivation

Perhaps, it's been a long day at school or work or perhaps you don't feel up to it, but whatever the case may be it doesn't change the fact that your dirty dishes aren't going to do themselves. Having an unclean home can actually be a major cause of stress. In fact, "55 percent of Americans called it out as a source of stress"¹. But having a clean home not only offers psychological benefits, it offers several health benefits A clean home can help prevent infection, control mold and reduce allergens present². Thus, most people aspire to live in a clean home but often fail to make time or gather enough energy to get past the idea of doing a chore. In addition, it's easy to forget when you last cleaned an area making it hard to keep track of the overall cleanliness of your residence. However, with the benefits so readily apparent it is important to find a solution that helps individuals with busy lifestyles maintain a healthy and clean home.

Analysis of current state

Although not as prevalent as money trackers or fitness trackers there are currently some programs that offer great ways for users track and tidy up their homes³. Tody® (right) helps plan and optimize tasks and after users finish a job, it tells them when they need to do it again. Another app, Unfilth your Habitat® organizes cleaning into quick challenges. However, there is room for improvement in this market. These features of existing programs could be combined into one program that effectively utilizes the "internet of things" to track the cleanliness of your home in one cohesive program.

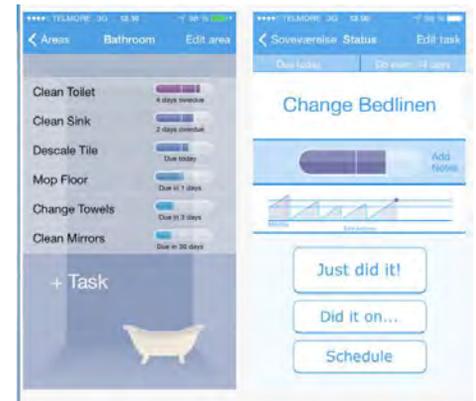


Figure 1: TODY app features. Organizes tasks and "visualizes" progress on tasks

<https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/tody/id595339588>

Solution

What if there were a program that could help you keep track of the cleanliness of your home in real time? Using the "internet of things" several things could be integrated into a single program. For example, a laundry hamper that would be able to track how full it was and give a projected laundry date or a sensor that would be able to track the amount of dirty dishes in the sink. The options for connected devices is really endless. In addition to



Figure 2: The importance of maintaining a clean house.

Source: SCS Cleaning Services

keeping track of cleanliness in real time the program could give estimates of when a room would need to be re-cleaned and could organize/prioritize tasks into quick events so that users could fit cleaning into their busy schedules. In addition, the program could set goals and give awards when the user met these goals. The satisfaction that comes from a clean environment is real⁴. Let's help everyone chase this feeling while having loads of fun!

¹ http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2013/05/22/home-organization-stress-survey_n_3308575.html

² http://www.huffingtonpost.com/saudia-davis/regular-cleaning-is-good-_b_4283365.html

³ <http://www.techhive.com/article/2151520/six-helpful-apps-for-keeping-house.html>

⁴ <http://www.techhive.com/article/2151520/six-helpful-apps-for-keeping-house.html>