

PROJECT 4:

DAILY ICON SET

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Graphic Design I - 2423

CONTENTS

3 Reflection

4 Discover

5 Define

15 Develop

19 Deliver

21 Final Thoughts

REFLECTION

In this project I learned a lot about style and how to use it to create a unifying set. Even though I had done this in the past it was much more significant now that there were twenty icons that all had to appear to belong to the same family. I achieved this by repeating a lot of similar elements such as the rounded square and the line thickness, etc.

Along with learning about consistent style I also got a lot more practice with illustrator. With that I learned more about shortcuts and tricks to making the designs better than ever.

With these added skills it made it a lot easier to complete reading assignments as well as the actual icons. Every project continues to build my skills and confidence with graphic designing overall and that is something I look forward to in all my future graphic design classes.

DISCOVER

We started this project by assembling a list of what we do in a typical day. We needed about 20 or more ideas to get a good starting point. With all of

that in mind I tried to think of as many ideas as possible so that I could have a lot of ideas to fall back on.

My Typical Daily Routine:

1. cat bites my feet
2. Alexa's alarm goes off to wake me up
3. I take my meds (vitamin D, Iron, AntiAnxiety)
4. check my phone - clear all notifications
5. go pee
6. brush my teeth
7. make a cup of coffee (kcup, sugar, honey, almond milk)
8. pick out what I'm gonna wear
9. get dressed
10. look in the mirror to double check that I look fine
11. I kiss Amelia (kitty) goodbye (I always say "goodbye baby girl")
12. I go to work at OnCue Annex
13. I design a few things, make more coffee, talk to co-workers
14. I go back to my dorm room
15. change into comfortable clothes
16. I then eat lunch
17. Watch an episode of criminal minds (Netflix or Hulu)
18. Drive to class in my Honda CRV white
19. I walk into the Bartlett
20. I then leave class & the Bartlett
21. I visit my cat and grab some things
22. I go over to my boyfriends apartment (Evan)
23. We watch TV
24. We get Dinner
25. He plays video games while I do homework
26. I drive back to my dorm room
27. I pet Amelia
28. I brush my teeth
29. I triple check that I didn't forget about any homework
30. I lay down & watch 1 more episode to decompress
31. I then go to sleep
32. Sometimes I am woken up in the middle of the night when Amelia knocks something down and there is a loud crash.

Some special day events:

1. I go on rounds of W Commons
2. I go to the gym
3. I make dinner
4. I trim Amelias nails
5. I go grocery shopping
6. I hang out with friends

DEFINE

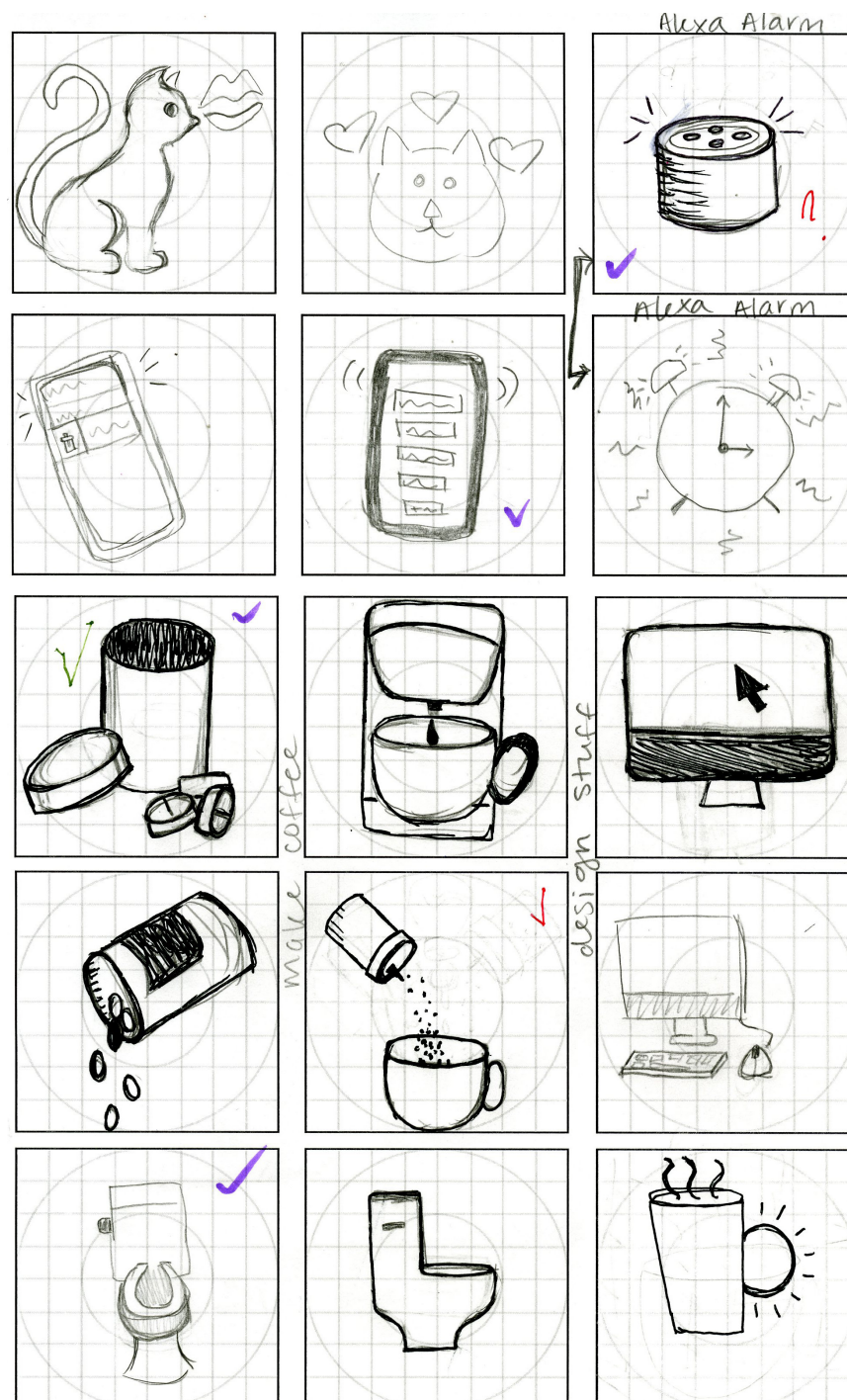
Reading Assignment 7

For assignment number 7 the task was to recreate or imitate an album cover while only using exactly 33 layers, no more no less. With this in mind I worked really hard to find

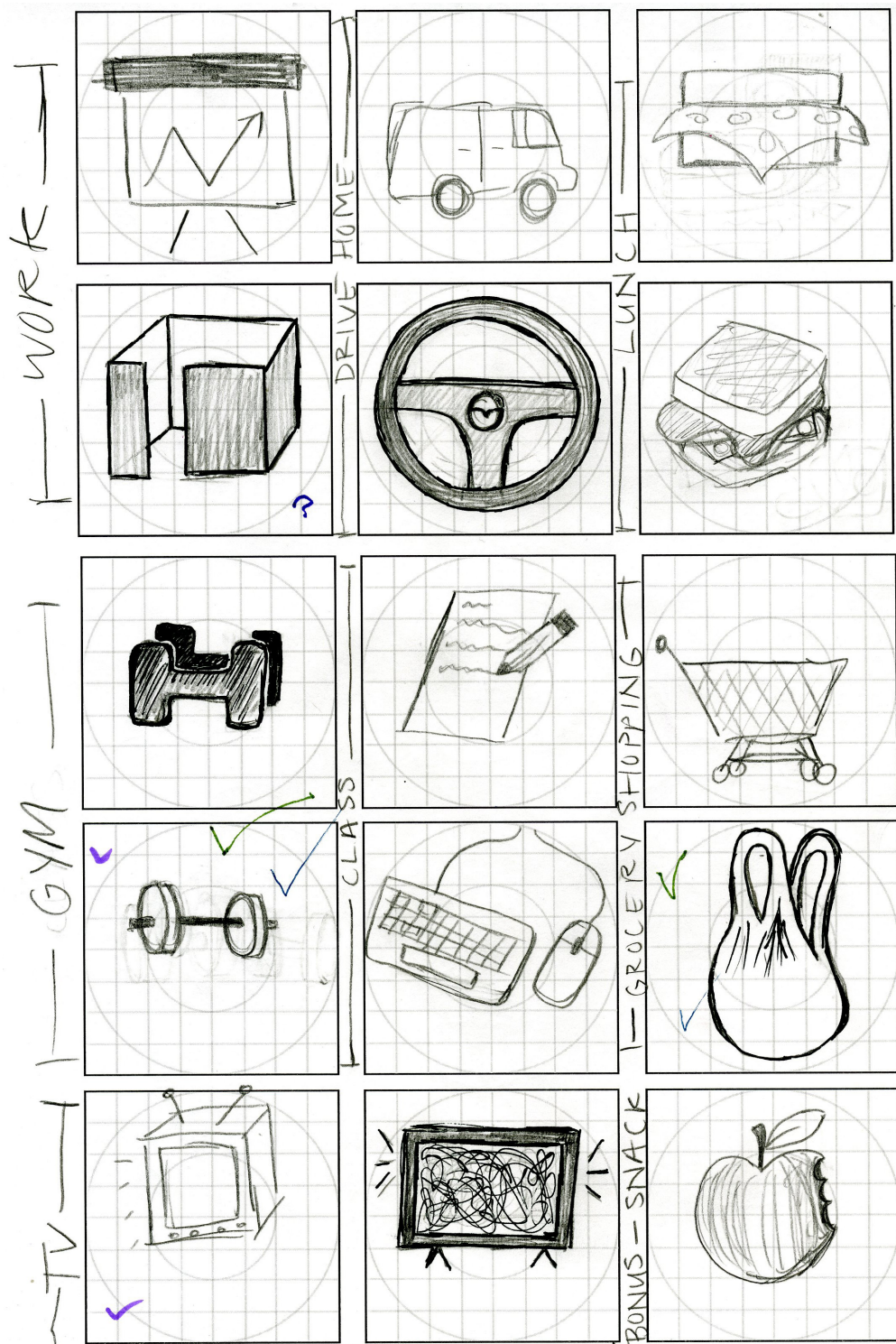
an album cover that was artistically interesting while still being simple enough to be contained within 33 layers.



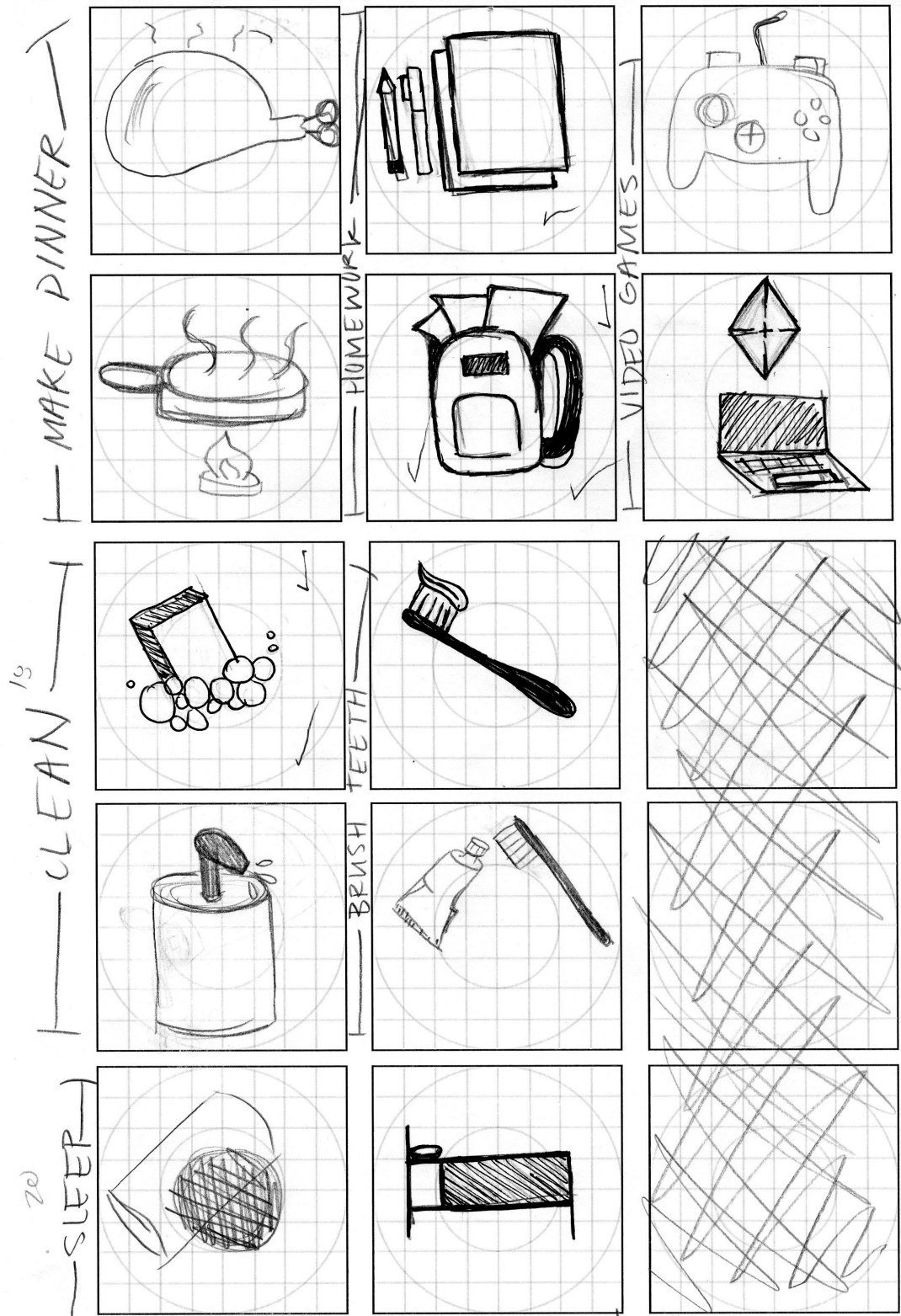
Activities Featured: Alexa Alarm, Check Phone, Kiss Cat Goodbye, Take Medication, Make Coffee, Design Stuff/Work, Pee.



Activities Featured: Work, Drive Home, Lunch, Gym, Class, Grocery Shopping, TV, Snack!



Activities Featured: Dinner, Homework, Video Games, Clean, Sleep!



CRITIQUE

General comments made to class:

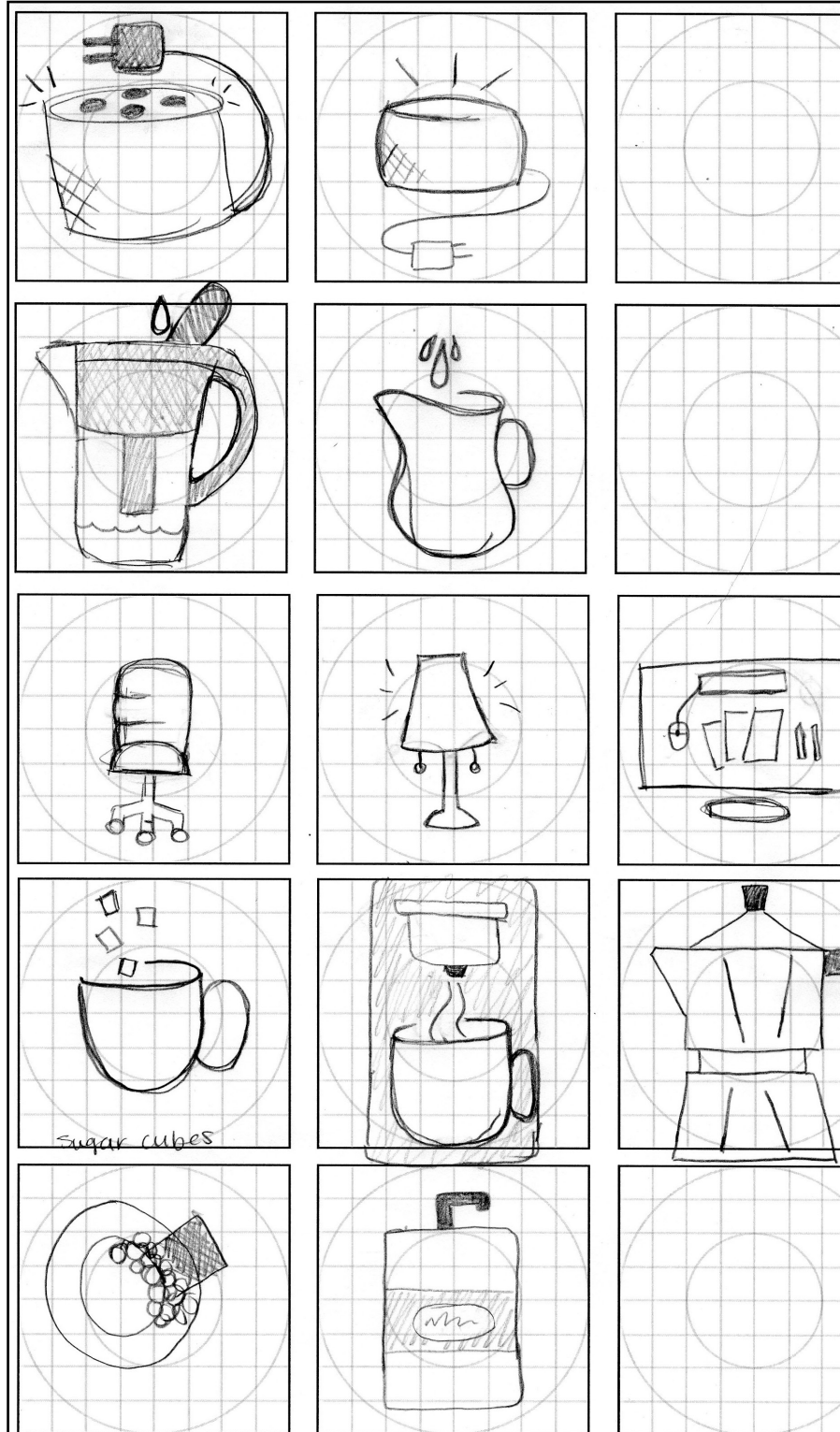
- Try to have no cellphone icons since it is a very repetitive icon within our class. If you do decide to use a cellphone, try to make it as unique as possible.
- Ask for ideas from your classmates and call out confusing concepts in your classmates designs during this critique.

Comments made about my designs:

- Cats - Try changing from an actual cat to a symbol of a cat, such as a fish, or a collar with a fish on it. Try alternatives to the physical reality that you are trying to represent. Try to think of different symbols that could represent the activity without being so literal.
- So many beds between all of our classmates. It is okay to keep a bed as a sleeping concept, but try to be original.
- It is really hard to do three dimensional icons, so consider maybe doing two dimensional icons to keep them simpler.
- For the grocery shopping icon, try a paper bag instead of a plastic bag.
- Suggestions for alternative work icons were a name tag, a work chair, an obviously work desk, a lamp, Work Phone, or Stapler possibly.
- Do not do the marketing arrow chart, a lot of people have used the exact same chart.
- Turn the sugar pouring out into sugar cubes instead.
- For the Alexa alarm clock have the power cable coming out and wrapping to the front so that it is more obvious what it is.

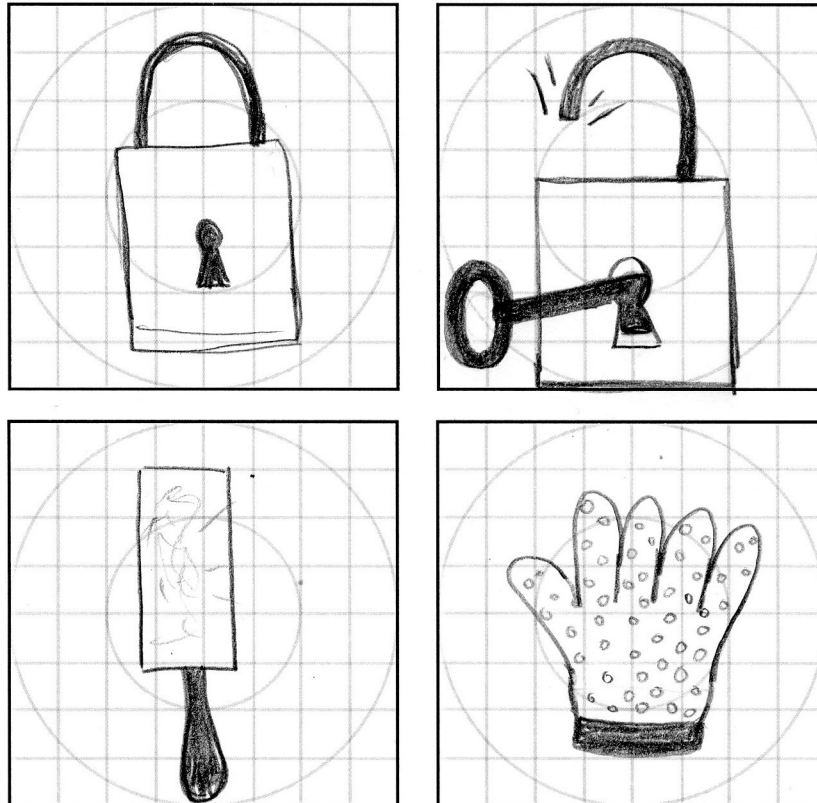
Featured New Icons:

Alexa Alarm, Refill Brita, Work Chair, Work Lamp, Coffee, Clean

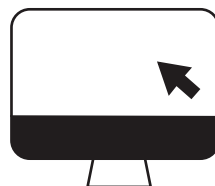
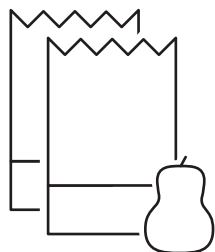
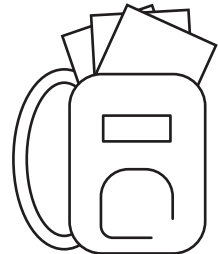
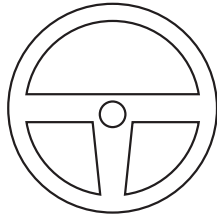
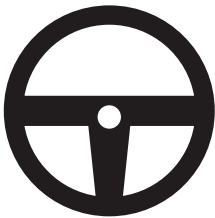
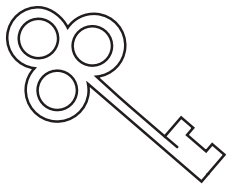
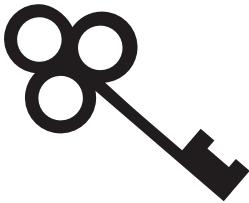
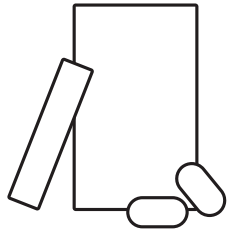
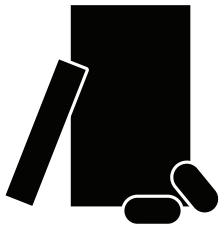
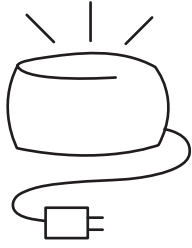
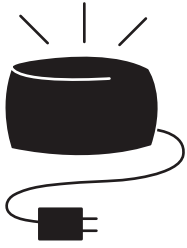


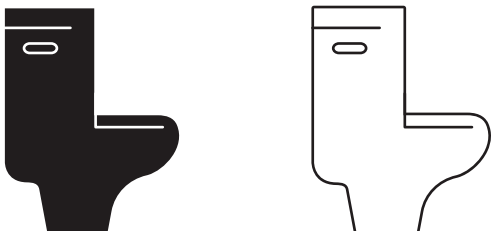
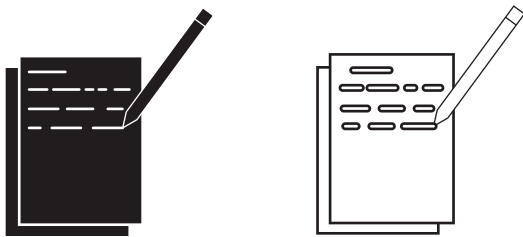
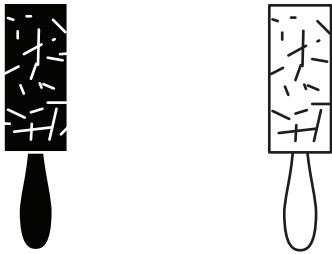
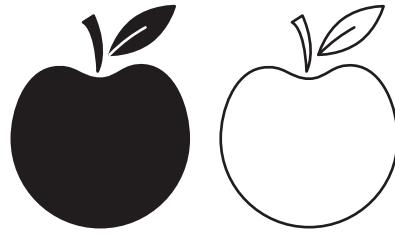
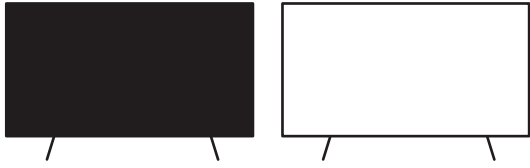
Featured New Icons:

Locking the Door, Lent Roller (for cat hair)



I worked very hard to try to think of more ways to communicate the same ideas through different visual representations. With these new ideas I was finally prepared to start making my icons digitally.





CRITIQUE

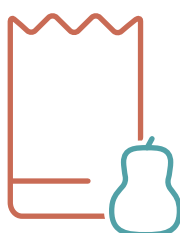
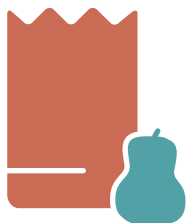
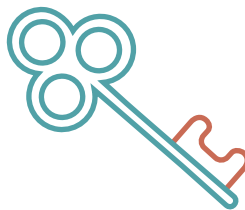
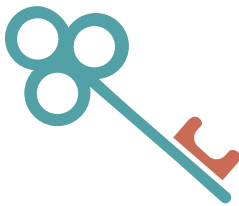
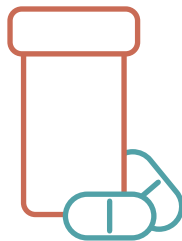
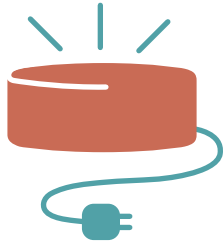
Color Scheme Ideas:

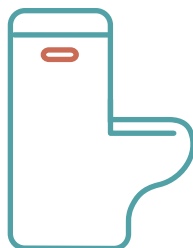
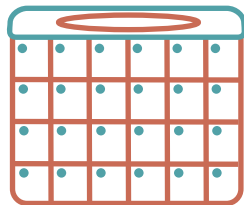
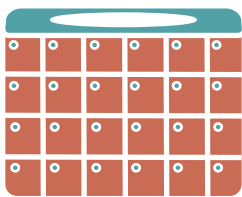
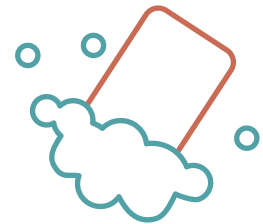
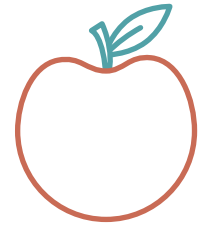
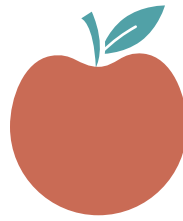


I printed out my black and white icons and the professor came around to critique each of our icon sets individually. Her comments on my designs from top of the morning to night are as follows:

- Alexa - smooth the lines out.
- Make the corners consistent.
- The coffee/espresso maker has sharp corners while the cellphone has very rounded corners.
- Add the lid on top of the pill bottle. Change the location of where the lid is currently.
- The key has some elements that are not repeated anywhere else, specifically the broken line midway on the key shaft.
- The driving wheel is way too boring.
- The office chair is looking good at the moment
- Lunch - try removing the background bag to simplify the icon even further.
- TV - this is a very boring design, and the corners are way too sharp.
- Filling the Brita - Get rid of the droplet, that is not necessary to understand the action.
- The apple's leaf is too sharp and the stem and leaf are floating too far apart.
- The lent roller is confusing since the lines look like confetti and not hair, suggested trying squiggly lines that are all the same size.
- Backpack - representing doing homework has some small details in the paper overlapping that will disappear as the icon shrinks.
- The mac has corners that are too curved and the base is super pointy.
- The dumbbells are fun but they will probably become too simple once I take away the background dumbbell. So I may have to try to reinvision the icon itself.
- Fix the word lines and the corners on the pages of the homework sheets.
- The eagle eye view point of the desk is interesting, but the details are significantly too small and does not fit the set's style.
- Rework the sink/clean icon since the style does not fit at the moment.
- Toilet is looking good, but watch out for the broken lines.
- Toothbrush looks good.
- Try upping the stroke weight.
- Add TeaBox instead of the TV.

DEVELOP





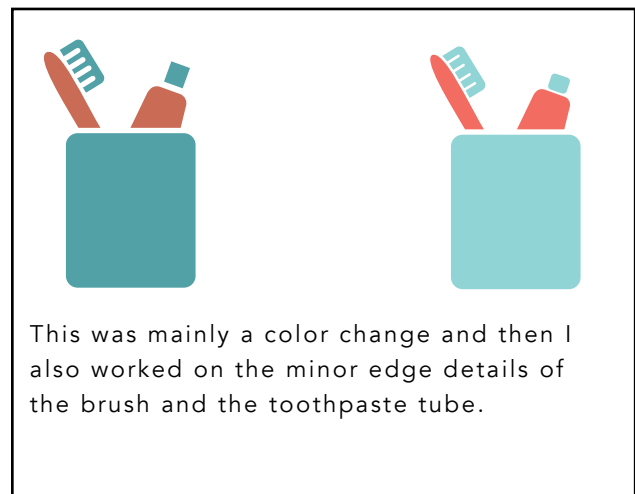
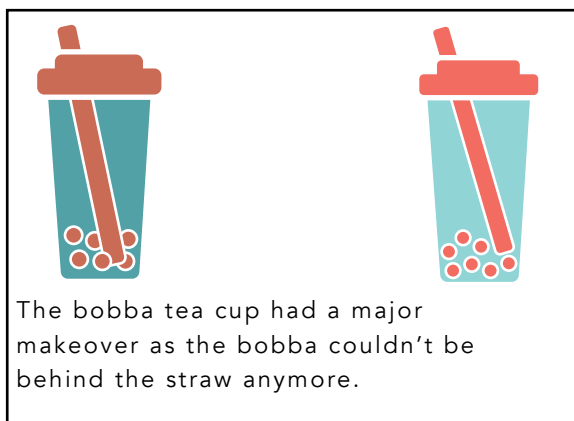
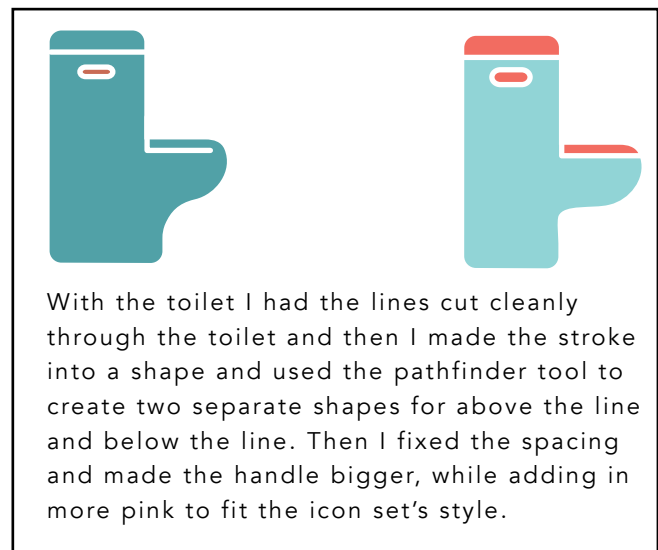
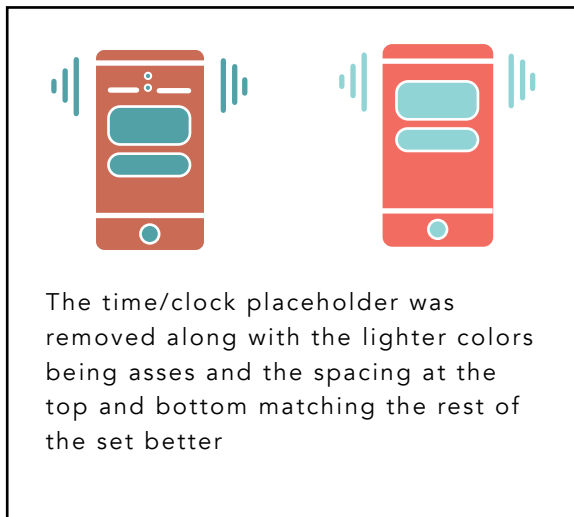
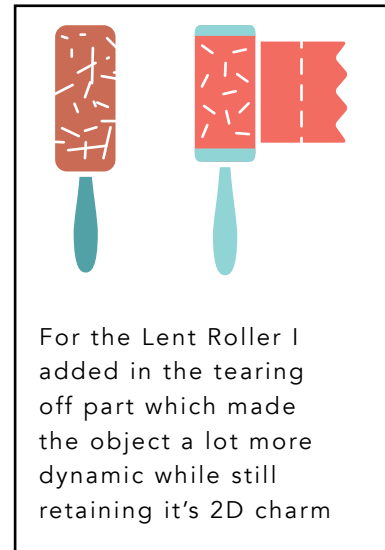
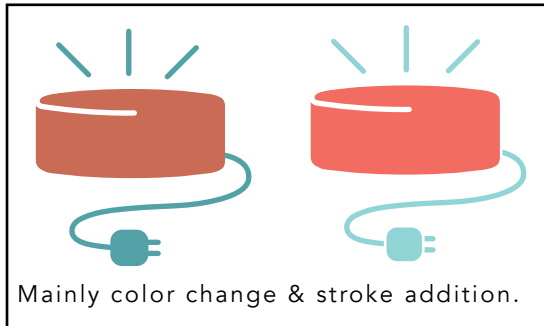
CRITIQUE

This time we printed out all of our icons and then all of our classmates went around leaving comments on our works. These Comments were left for me:

- Calendar- consider removing the oval from the top part.
- The apple, steering wheel, and dumbbells have no stroke
- The work chair has uneven stroke weights in different sections of the design.
- "could try to incorporate this broken line element into all of the icons."
- Add a label to the pill bottle possibly
- The toilet top and bottom bases don't align
- get rid of or change the arms on the work chair, and another comment was to push this design further.
- The phone icon is really busy, there was an arrow pointing at the phone and also a question mark placed next to it.
- Spacing -- fix the spacing so that it is even everywhere, right now the cellphone spacing at the top is really small, while the space on the espresso top is large.
- Try getting rid of the lines on the paper/pencil icon instead.
- The Bobba in the bobba tea cup are three dimensional, don't let the bobba and straw overlap.
- Lint Roller - It was suggested to have the lint paper being pulled off of the roll so that it is more identifiable.
- In deciding whether to keep the colors on the outlines or the solids it was pretty universal that the solids were a crowd favorite.
- "The steering wheel inside could be refined and rounded out more, I would also make the salmon color darker/brighter I don't think it works with the teal."
- "Love the color and consistent style."
- "Solid colors are really good."
- "Work on some slight refinement."
- "Very Interesting design, works well, would go with solid color."
- "Great start, some are too busy but I like the colors, references & style."
- "I really like these they are easy to read."
- I like the overall feel of your icons, they really catch the eye. I do think some small refinements to unify them will help them serve as a set."
- "Easy to read, I like the lines."
- "You could honestly do color outline or solid."

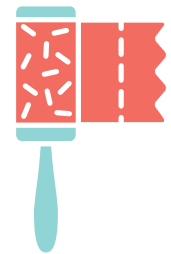
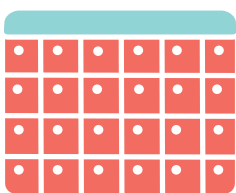
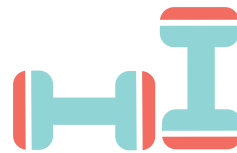
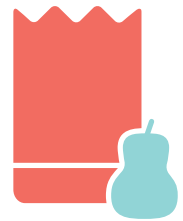
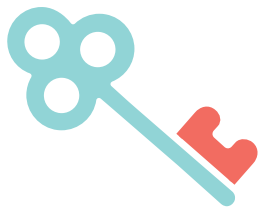
CRITIQUE

Step one for updating my icons was lightening the colors so that they looked the appropriate amount of cute and fun that I am. In addition to changing the color I wanted to show some of the major changes I made after the last critique.



DELIVER





FINAL THOUGHTS

I love how my icons turned out and I think that I will be able to use these icons in many different situations. I think that if I had more time to edit these designs I would pour more mental energy into perfecting a design for "driving", "gym", and "homework".

I love how the colors turned out and I love that I set up my designs well enough that I can easily change the colors in the future if I decide that I want them to be in a different color scheme. I think that it would be really fun to incorporate these icons into my resume or something more professional, but in a fun way.