

Rachel Kangas

UX/Product Designer

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I'm a Seattle-based UX designer with a technical background and a passion for interaction design. I aim to design responsible user experiences, and I would love to grow my UX skills with a team that values collaboration, empathy, and integrity.

EDUCATION

M.S., Human Centered Design & Engineering

University of Washington
2018 - 2020 | GPA: 3.9/4.0

B.S., Mechanical Engineering

Cal Poly San Luis Obispo
2012 - 2017

SKILLS

Design & Research

Interaction design
User scenarios & flows
Information architecture
Web accessibility
Visual communication
2D/3D prototyping & fabrication
Usability & concept testing
User interviews
Data analysis

Tools

Sketch / Figma / InVision
Illustrator / InDesign
JavaScript / HTML / CSS
Arduino / SolidWorks

LEADERSHIP

HCDE Graduate Ambassador

2019 - 2020

AWARDS & PUBLICATIONS

3rd place, Airbnb x UW HCDE Design Jam, 2018

"Urban Accessibility as a Socio-Political Problem: A Multi-Stakeholder Analysis"

Co-author, CSCW 2020

EXPERIENCE

Contract UX Designer / StatRookie

Nov 2020 - present | Seattle, WA

- Retained for future contract work after successful completed assignment.
- Led design vision, identified critical design requirements, and collaborated with a non-designer client to create a user flow and conceptual mockups in Figma for a tablet-based children's financial literacy game.

Graduate Product Designer / Telenav

Jan - Jun 2020 | Seattle, WA

- Conducted remote interviews, concept testing, and SME interviews to develop and iterate on design recommendations and example concepts.
- Collaborated to design Telenav's conceptual user experience for addressing both in-car safety and users' needs using our recommendations.

Content Writer Intern / Schema Design

Feb - Jul 2019 | Seattle, WA

- Created and audited content with designers and developers for company documentation, website, and client-facing design project presentations.
- Conducted web competitive analyses and analyzed interview transcripts.

Graduate UX Researcher, Zillow Rental Manager / Zillow

Jan - Mar 2019 | Seattle, WA

- Designed and conducted a usability study with 10 ZRM users to evaluate the usability and effectiveness of Zillow's rental manager feature.
- Collaborated with Zillow researchers and developers to define goals and user scenarios and develop testing prototypes to facilitate usability tasks.

HMI Test Engineer / Volkswagen Electronics Research Laboratory

Jun 2017 - Sep 2018 | Belmont, CA

- Founded the HMI/UX evaluation team for Audi infotainment features and attended function lead meetings as one of the youngest team members.
- Developed and managed the first in-vehicle software test specifications and issue-logging framework for driver distraction standards and UX topics.
- Facilitated test engineering team discussions to brainstorm and propose software HMI improvements to German managers.