

PERSON
DESIGN

data portraits
project

process book

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introduction

objective

This project's objective was to encourage connection and conversation through data collection and visualization, specifically by using data portraits. Data portraits are works of art with specific elements that display data about a person. These data portraits are conversation pieces to be shared and discussed with others.

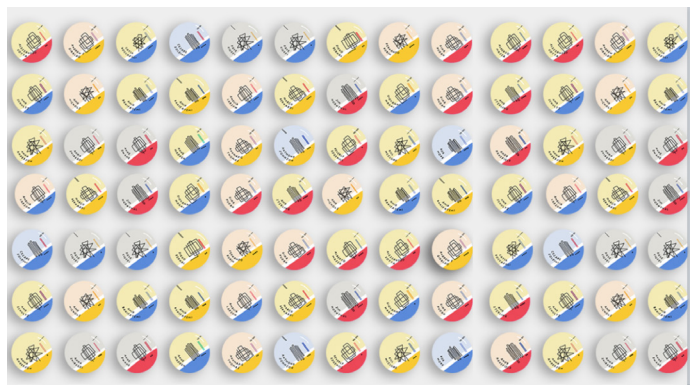
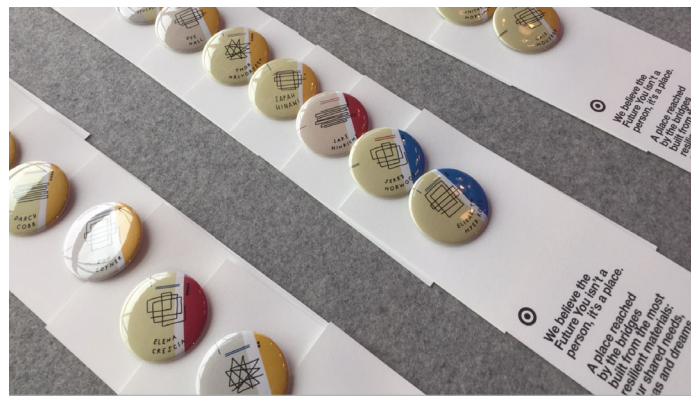
I collected data from a group of peers using a uniquely created survey and data visualization system. I developed five survey questions to explore their study habits. Each answer on the survey had a corresponding element. Using these specific elements, I used their survey answers to create data portraits based on each individual's responses.

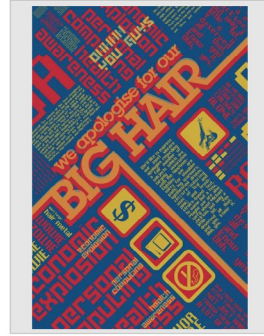
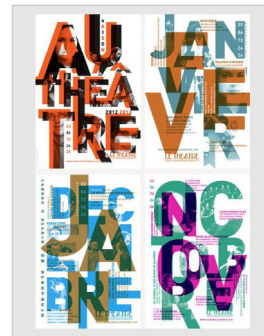
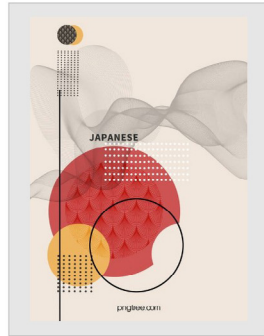
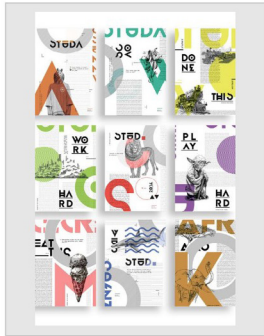
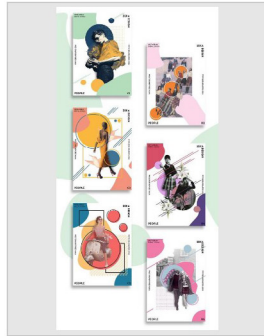
This book displays the creative process of this project and the final product. Each participating individual that took the survey received a pin of their data portrait. The final product is a poster displaying all of the data from the surveys taken.

research

inspiration

The work of Georgia Lupi inspires this project. She is best known for her work as an information designer, specifically her hand-drawn data visualizations, shown in her book *Dear Data*. She conducted a similar project at a TED conference where everyone in attendance received a personal data portrait. Images from this project can be seen to the right.





poster research

To display my final data, I researched what other designers have done for poster designs. The images to the left are some examples I found most appealing. I primarily used Pinterest and Behance to search for unique poster designs. I wanted a design that was simplistic yet engaging.

ideation

Study Habits

1. What time of day are you most productive?
 ● - morning
 ● - afternoon
 ● - night

2. How soon do you usually start a project before it's due?
 ● - Immediately after it's assigned
 ● - The week before it's due
 ● - The day before it's due

3. How often do you procrastinate?
 ALL CAPS - Never
 lowercase - Sometimes
 lowercase - Always

4. How focused are you when you're working on a project?
 ● - It's the only thing on my mind
 ● - I am easily distracted by my surroundings
 ● - I am focused on a million things at once

5. What atmosphere do you work in the best?
 / / / - Alone with complete silence
 / / / - Listening to music or watching TV
 / / / - It doesn't matter, any amount of noise is fine

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survey sketches

After developing my survey questions, I explored three different design systems. I quickly sketched these out in Illustrator. For each design system, I created an element to go along with every answer on the survey. In addition to this, I created example data portraits for each one. After discussing with my peers, we concluded that the last design system was my strongest.

poster sketches

Using my chosen design system, I also created sketches for my final poster design. I quickly sketched these out on my iPad. Similar to many of the poster examples I found during my research, I wanted to include large overlapping shapes. I also wanted to incorporate some of the design elements of my survey into the final poster design. As stated previously, I wanted something simplistic yet engaging for the viewers. After discussing with my peers, we concluded that the first composition was my strongest.



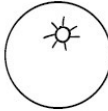



process

1. revised survey

After selecting my best visual system, I created my final survey design. I made minor adjustments to the elements of the survey.




Study Habits
Name: _____

What time of day are you most productive?




A. Morning
B. Afternoon
C. Night

How soon do you usually start a project before it's due?



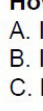
A. Immediately
B. The week before it's due
C. The day before it's due

How often do you procrastinate?

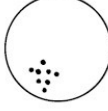

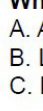
A. Never
B. Sometimes
C. Always

How focused are you when you're working on a project?


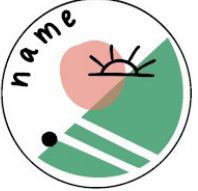

  

A. It's the only thing on my mind
B. I am easily distracted by my surroundings
C. I am focused on a million other things

What atmosphere do you work in the best?

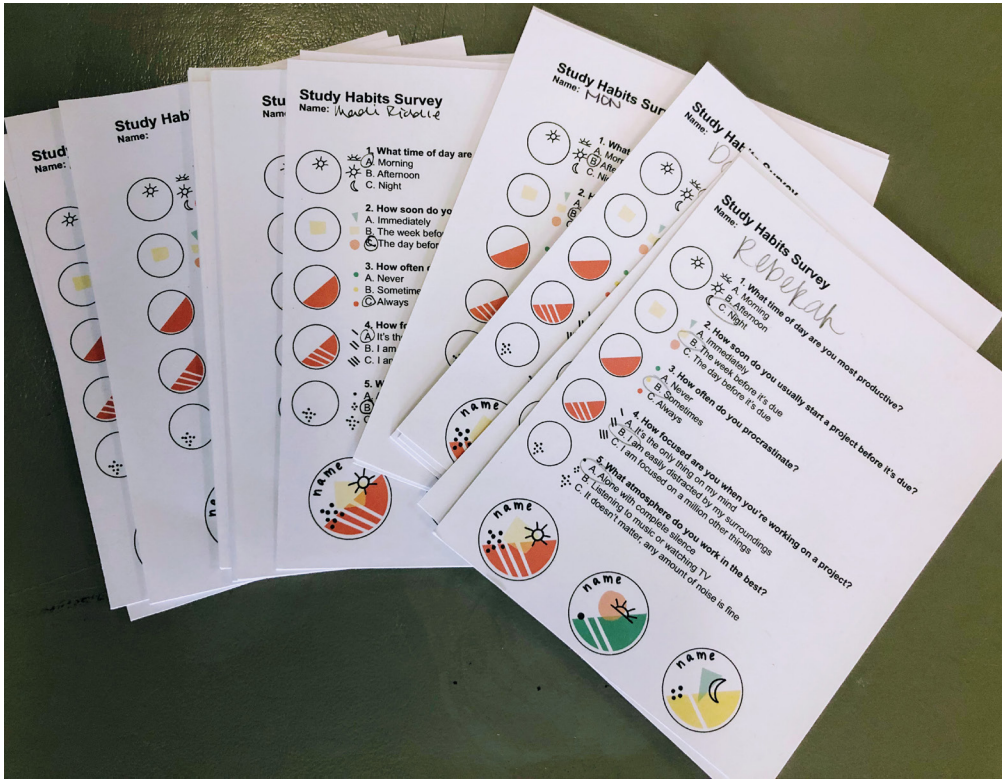
  

A. Alone with complete silence
B. Listening to music or watching TV
C. It doesn't matter, any amount of noise is fine

2. data collection

The next step of my process was data collection. I printed surveys and distributed them among a group of my peers. After collecting each survey, I created the data portraits using the design system I created. The final data portraits are below.



Completed surveys.



Final data portraits.

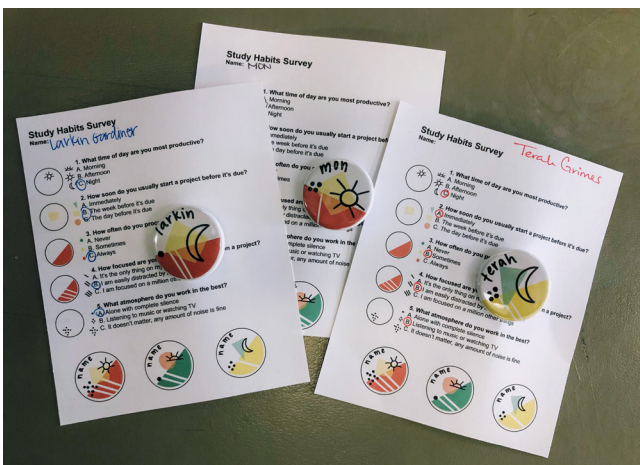
3. creation and distribution of pins



The first step of this process was printing and cutting out each data portrait at a size that would fit the pins.



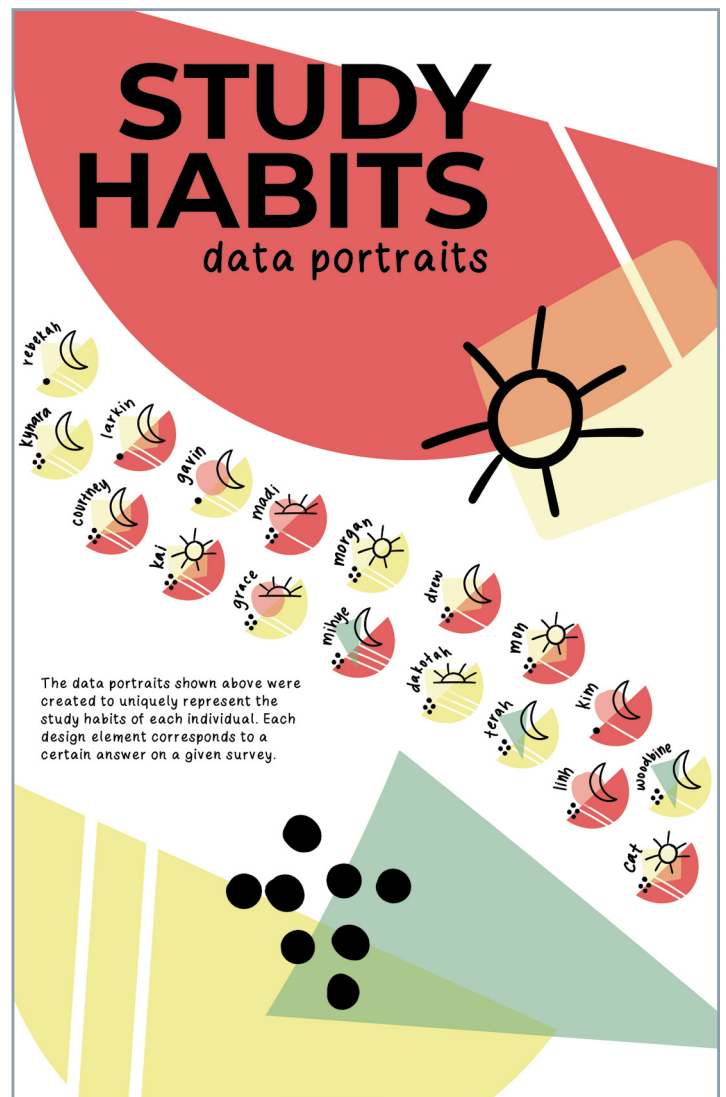
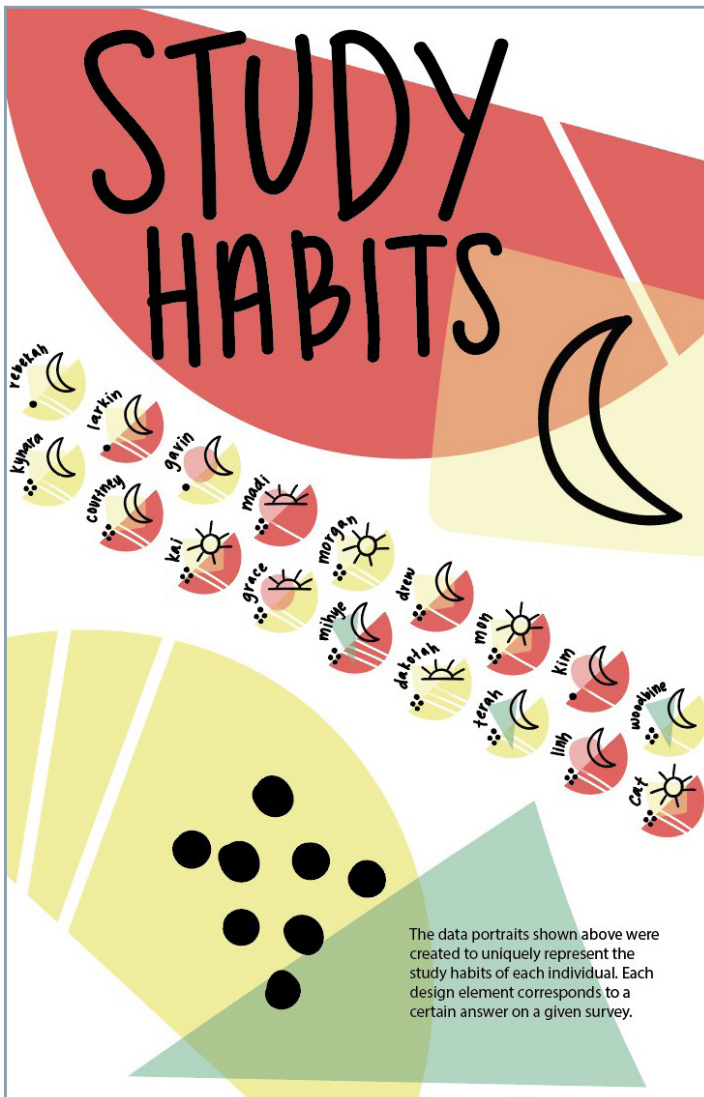
Next, I constructed each pin using a button maker.



To distribute the pins, I pinned them to the original surveys.

4. poster design

Below is my work-in-progress poster design, along with the final design. I moved around several elements to give the poster a cleaner look and eliminate trapped space. The biggest challenge I faced while designing this poster was the placement of the data portraits in the center. In the final poster design, the flow of the data portraits in a curved line works well with the flow of the other elements. I also changed the placement of the text to increase legibility.



final art



STUDY HABITS

data portraits

The data portraits shown above were created to uniquely represent the study habits of each individual. Each design element corresponds to a certain answer on a given survey.