

Ambient Dayplanner

The Ambient Dayplanner is a projected wall clock displaying both time-of-day data and information about upcoming and recent appointments. The clock's wall-projected display is designed for minimal interference in a personal office environment.

Traditional clocks bring either too much information into the environment, or too little. Round analog clocks show half a day even though most who check such a clock are interested in a window of time several minutes or hours into the future, and little more. Digital clocks err in the other extreme, with most only showing "now" with no contextual information, and no indication of what's coming next.

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The Ambient Dayplanner explores three axes of interface design for information retrieval:

·Public versus Private: The public component of the clock allows others to notice how busy a person is, while specific information about future events are presented only to the clock's owner.

·Ambient versus Direct: Ambient display and sound provide information about upcoming events that blends into the environment; when an alarm sounds, the clock shows information in a non-intrusive, but direct, manner by projecting light onto the owner's desk, as well as playing sounds that increase in intensity as an appointment approaches.

·Tangible versus Virtual: Information is kept in the virtual space, while manipulation of the clock and the location and projection of the alarm is physical.