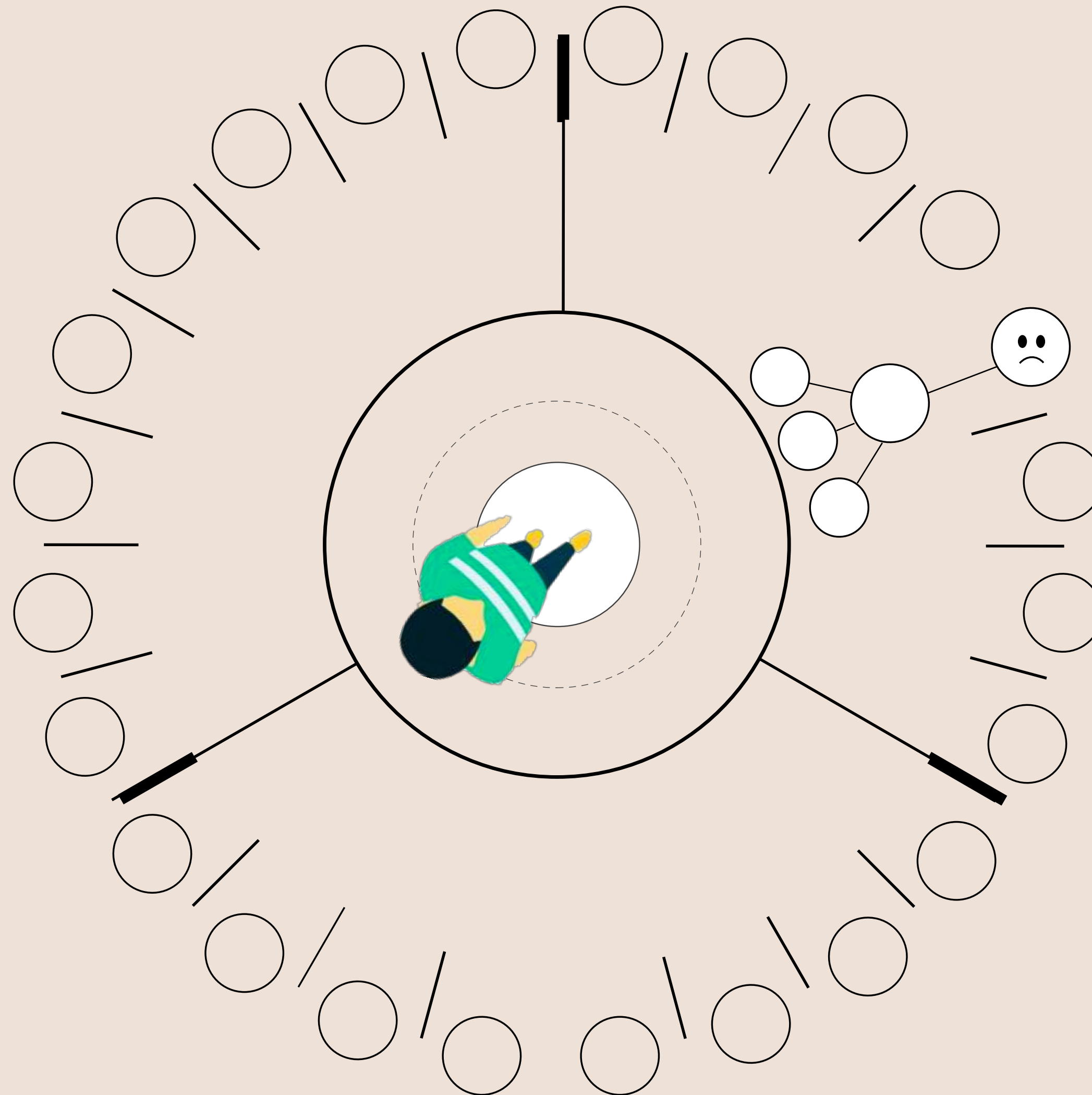# DAILY ROUTINES

Breaking down routines using first principles will give you

the building blocks to humanize your software design.

CHALLENGE

In this design challenge we work under the hypothesis that the way we build software is linked to how we organize ourselves in real life. Have a look at a corporate, the way the website and company are structured are often the same. Another example is education and real life: "We tend to assume that the user has enough knowledge and understanding to perform a certain task." Is this human centered? No it is not.

If we deep dive in real life, and visualize our daily routines and break routines down using first principles. We might find clues to humanize software, while finding building blocks for product-market-fit.

PROBLEM

The biggest problem in today's world is that we approach everything as a conveyor belt. Commodities are dug up, made into a product, pushed into a box, bough, used and dumped in a landfill. A very non-sustainable approach which is seemingly hard to unlearn. We apply the same principles in our digital design efforts. We tend to grasp attention, build up interest, create desire and persuade to complete a transaction. The product or service is consumed and ends up in the trashcan. This relation between the real world and software design is a big problem.

HELP

I truly believe that if we design our software circular using conversational interaction design, we are able to bring positive change to the real world. Software has already proven to be very addictive, perhaps we can use this addiction to design for good?

Everything in our lives runs in circles. Take your daily routines for example. During the week you probably have a rhythm. Your morning ritual, including, sport, taking a (cold) shower, meditation and perhaps some journaling? Than critical emails, meetings, writing, design and work sessions. You have lunch and diners. You look forward to evening events. All repetitive events (Circles) which span over days.

This phenomenon of circles in circles - or the multi-dimensional aspect of subject matters - makes it hard to design new types of software. But with the help of the Circular Routines worksheets we might open the door to new possibilities.

RESULT

The result is a circular representation of our (daily) routines. Which can broken down even further. Lets use a remote meeting as example. If we apply First Principles to a remote meeting what do we get? Date, Time, Duration, Invitation, Software, People, Agenda, Minutes? You get the idea. By breaking up our (daily) routines we could really start to humanize software.

LEARNINGS

Stellar UX is surfacing. I hope you join my mission in humanizing software design. By designing with routines using conversational interaction design we can really have an impact in the way we think. Hopefully this will reflect in our software but also has positive impact in the real world.
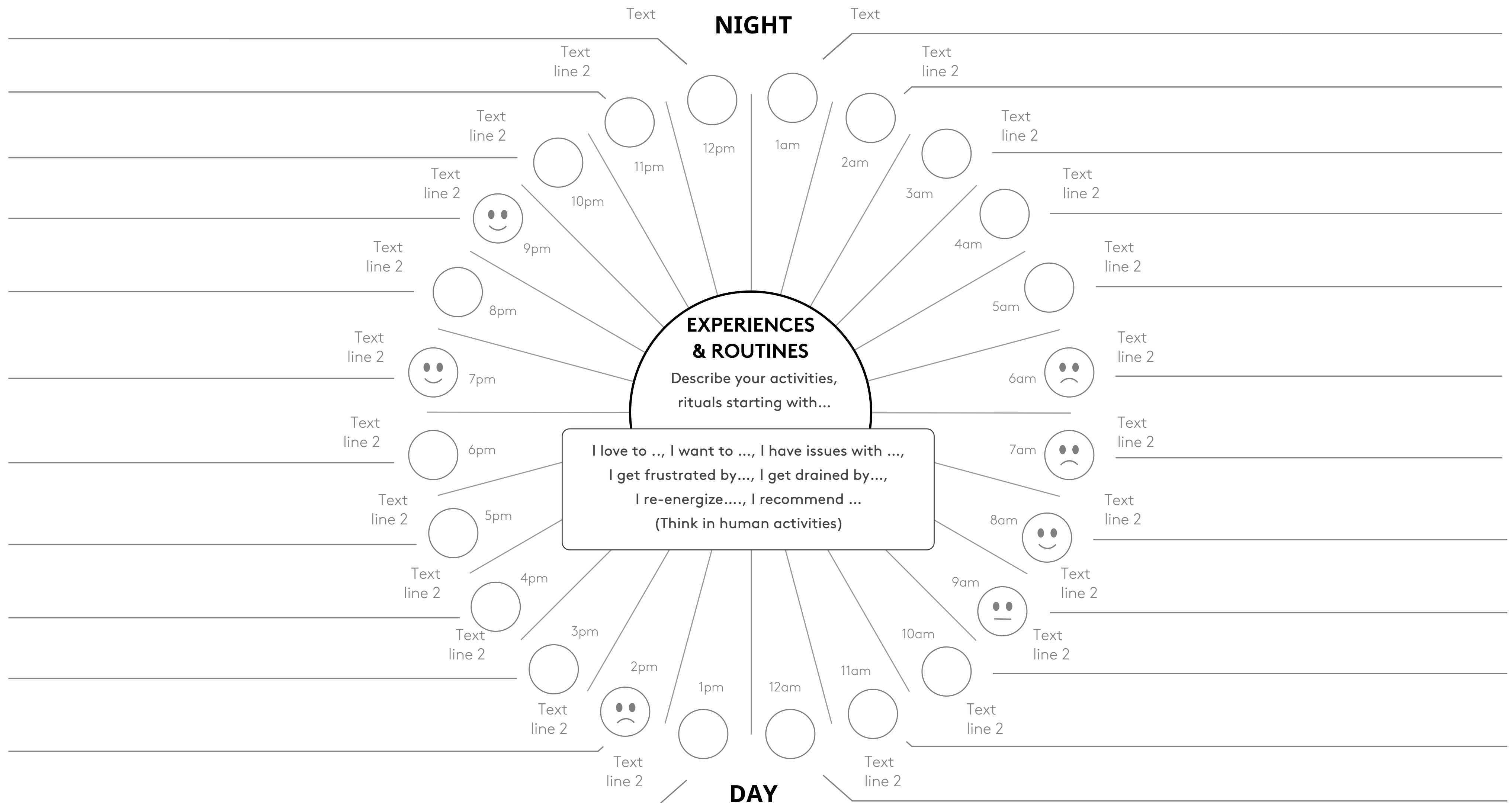
REMEMBER:

Forget features, focus on human routines. Breaking down routines using first principles and you will find the building blocks to humanize your software design.

PART OF THE
STELLAR UX
DESIGN SYSTEM

DAILY ROUTINES WORKSHEET

The experiences throughout your day.

NIGHT

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12pm · 1am · 2am · 3am · 4am · 5am · 6am · 7am · 8am · 9am · 10am · 11am · 12am · 1pm · 2pm · 3pm · 4pm · 5pm · 6pm · 7pm · 8pm · 9pm · 10pm · 11pm

EXPERIENCES & ROUTINES

Describe your activities, rituals starting with...

I love to .., I want to ..., I have issues with ...,
I get frustrated by..., I get drained by...,
I re-energize...., I recommend ...
(Think in human activities)

DAY

Exercise:

Draw a basic 🙂 😐 🙁 where applicable

BEFORE, DURING & AFTER THE ROUTINE

AFTER
eg. meeting

BEFORE
eg. meeting

ROUTINE NAME

Description

DURING
eg. meeting
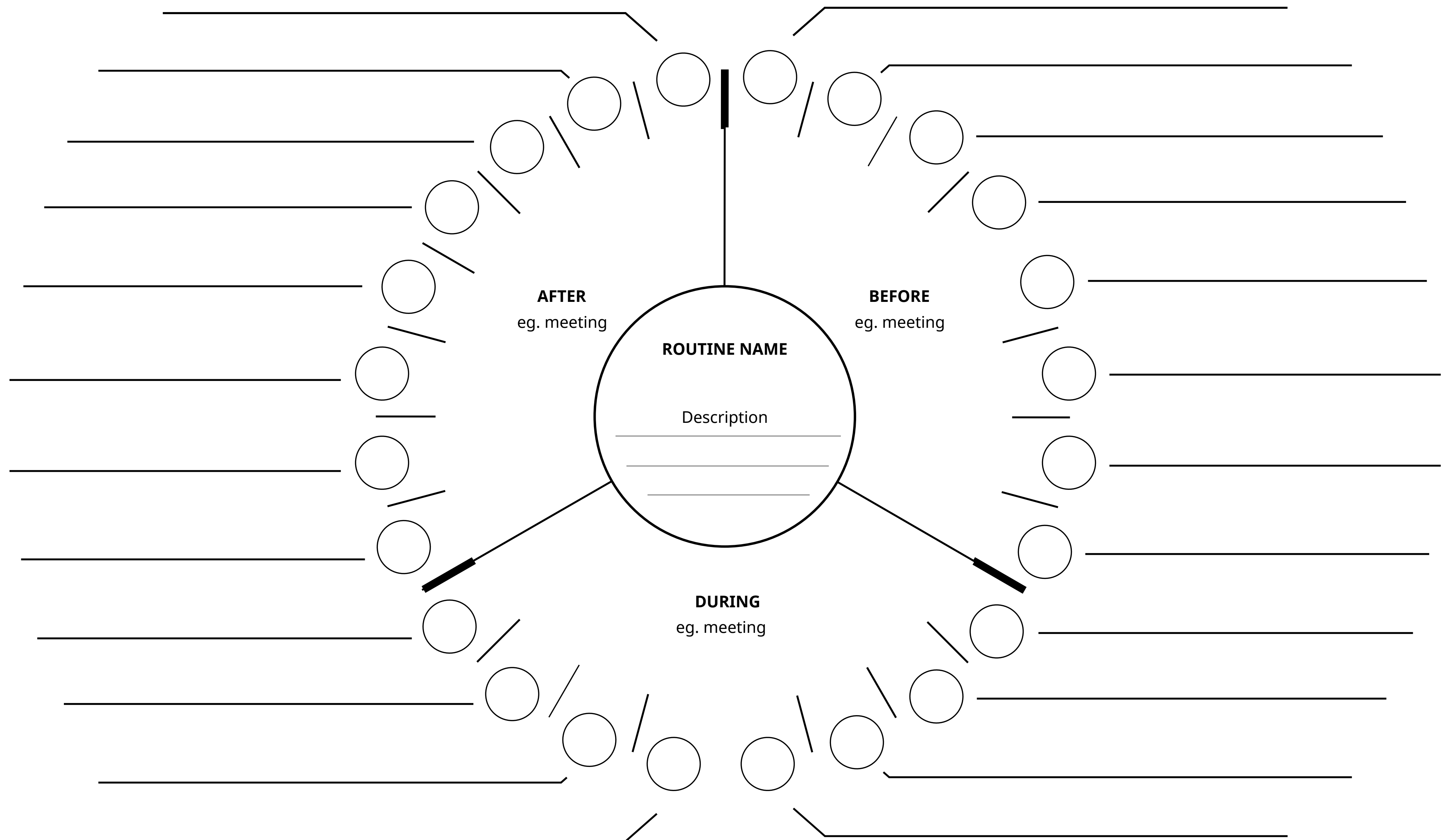
Assume the emotion of each step

DAILY ROUTINES & AUDIO USAGE

Audio consumption throughout your day.

EXAMPLE

NIGHT

I enjoy meditating laying on bed just before going to sleep

I sometimes listen to classic music on Migu using my headphone when I can't sleep, so I don't wake my partner

I use my music to relax using my Sony headphones

I really dislike the alarm sound of my mobile device

Commuting home I wonder what other people using headphones are listening too

Managing another piece of software for each audio device is a drag.

I enjoy my personal playlist during my morning routine

I appreciate my private bubble wearing my headphone during my morning commute, but also feel a bit disconnected from my environment.

AUDIO EXPERIENCES

Describe your activities + audio consumption.

I love to .., I want to ..., I have issues with ...,
I get frustrated by..., I get drained by...,
I re-energize...., I recommend ...
(Think in human activities)

I have a hard time controlling my music during my midday run

Clock labels: 12pm, 1am, 2am, 3am, 4am, 5am, 6am, 7am, 8am, 9am, 10am, 11am, 12am, 1pm, 2pm, 3pm, 4pm, 5pm, 6pm, 7pm, 8pm, 9pm, 10pm, 11pm

DAY

Exercise:

Draw a basic 😊 😐 ☹ and a simple headphone ⌢ where applicable
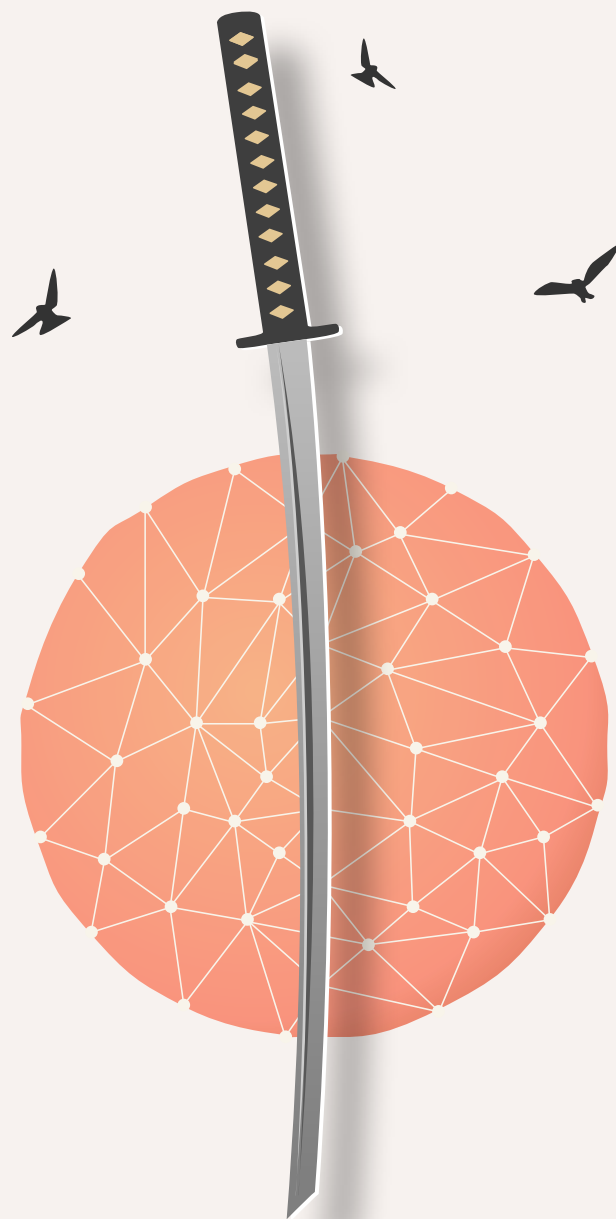
WORKSHOP

DESIGN PRINCIPLES FIRST

Because purpose is nothing without meaning

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