

Ubuntu Clock App

Tablet Design Concepts

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This document will be a reference to the various tablet design concepts for the Ubuntu Clock App put together by the community designers. Please refer to the document [here](#) for the official clock app designs. Eventually the final design in this document will be moved to the main design document.

Note 1: *The images have been scaled to fit the document. For a higher resolution, right click the image and press view image.*

Note 2: *The design concepts as the name suggest are merely concepts. Feel free to add comments to help iterate these design concept further and eventually one of them will be chosen as the final concept.*

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Design Concept #1- By Michael Spencer

This design concept displays a sidebar in the tablet/desktop mode to show the following additional information.

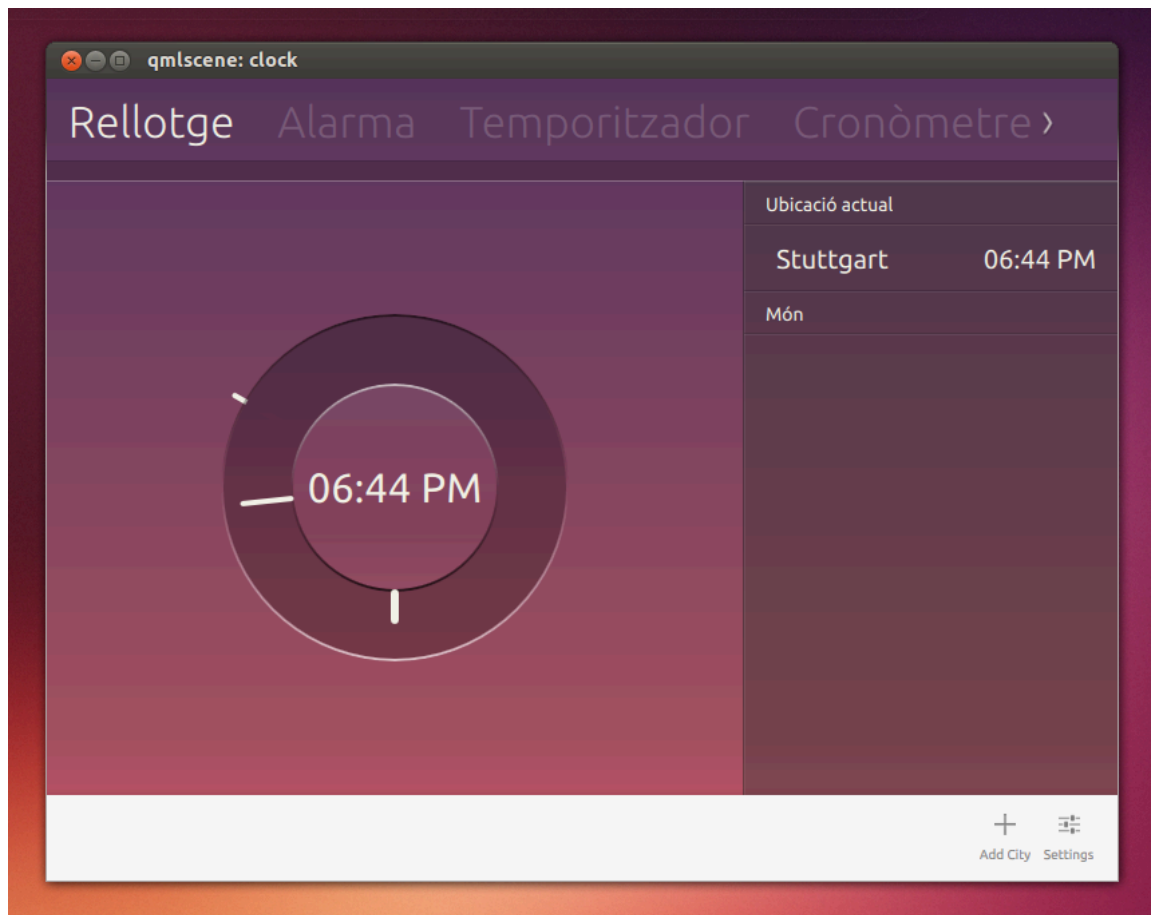
Clock Tab -> Current Location and World Location City lists

Alarm Tab -> List of saved alarms

Timer Tab -> List of saved timers

Stopwatch Tab -> Current lap and lap times

On the phone interface the additional information are listed below the analogue clock face. However in the tablet mode, it nicely uses the application width to its advantage by displaying them on the side. This way the user wouldn't need to scroll unnecessarily.

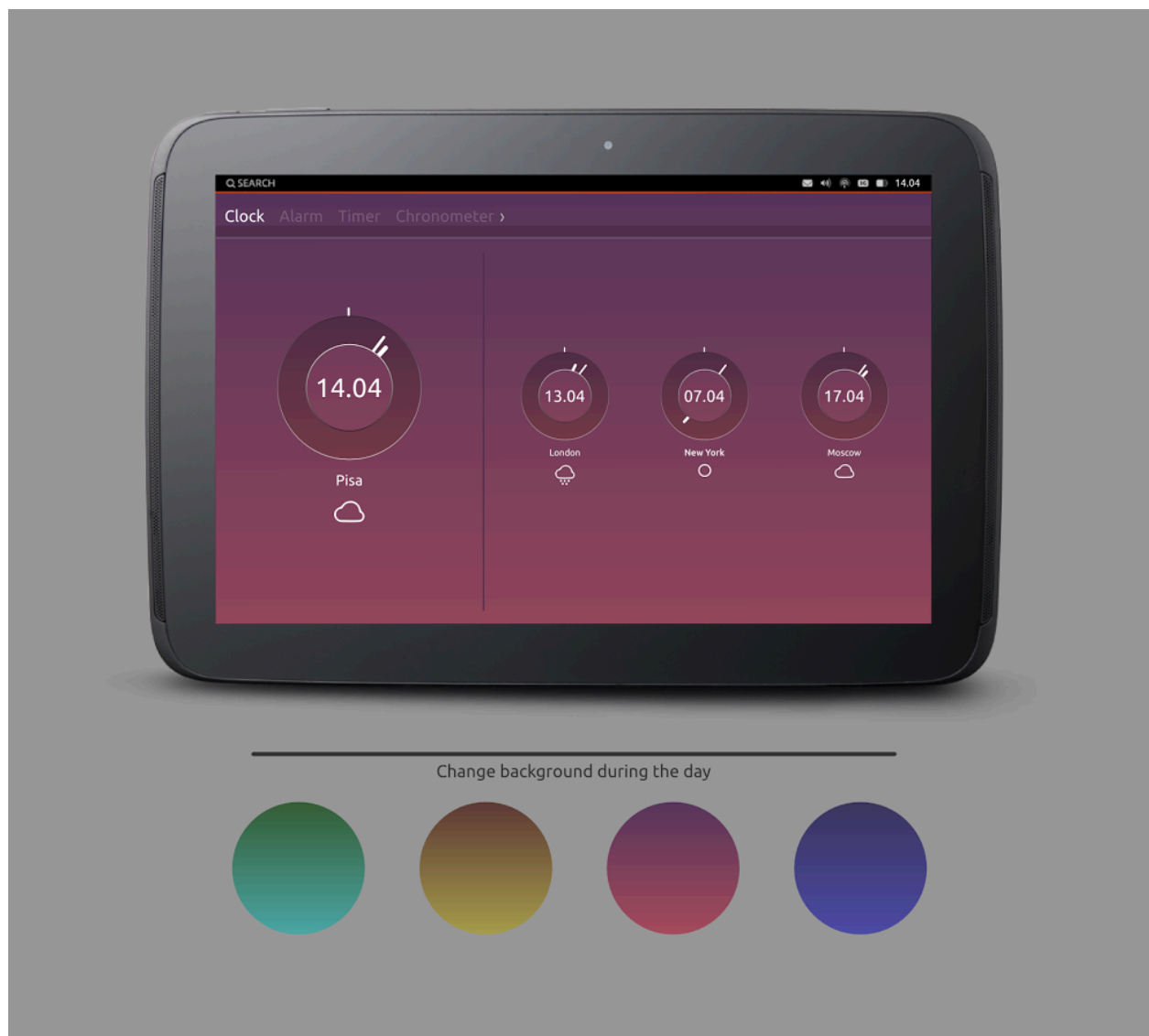


Design Concept #2 - By Andrea Del Sarto

Here is another design concept. In the tablet mode, the world clocks are shown similar to the main clock face. The background color changes with respect to the current time. There are 2 customisability options available in this design which,

- Gradient which changes every hour (in total 24 gradients)
- 4 Gradient Style (Changed every 6 hours)

The design also displays the weather conditions for the different locations saved by the user.



-Gradient Design

The concept uses ideas from the popular app **Rise Alarm Clock App**. You can find demo videos at <http://vimeo.com/55786338> and http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ckb_m9ATrNY.

The **24 gradient design** option changes the gradient every hour resulting in a dynamic, beautiful clock app design. The changing background color will provide a refreshing look to the clock app. The gradient combination used are shown below,



1 am 18222a 0e3550 054572	2 am 1a2031 1e3150 21426c	3 am 1e1e37 2e2f51 3e4069	4 am 251a44 4f2b53 773c61	5 am 2e105e 912257 ec3451	6 am 2e105f 763166 ba4f6d
7 am 2c105f 53447c 777396	8 am 23236d 196eac 10b1e5	9 am 0a66a3 299dca 46d0ee	10 am 12b1e5 62d0ed acecf4	11 am 10bce7 66d7e9 b5efeb	12 am 34d8ee 8eebda e3fdc8
1 pm 36d6ea 8fead7 e3fdc5	2 pm 39d4e8 92e9d5 e4fdc3	3 pm 41d1e1 97e7cf e5fdbf	4 pm 51cad4 a0e4c5 e8fdb7	5 pm 70bdb9 b1deb0 edfca8	6 pm aca083 d4d187 f8fe8a
7 pm f07e2f f7bf47 fefc5e	8 pm 0b3269 ad562b beab5f	9 pm 09316a 3e333c 703411	10 pm 04225a 074a7c 0a709c	11 pm 04225a 063c70 085484	12 pm 021332 042b4d 064166

Note: Each gradient consists of 3 colors for the headerColor, BackgroundColor and FooterColor as required by the Ubuntu SDK API.

-Gradient Design

The **4 gradient design** option is shown below



Design Concept Evaluation

Pros

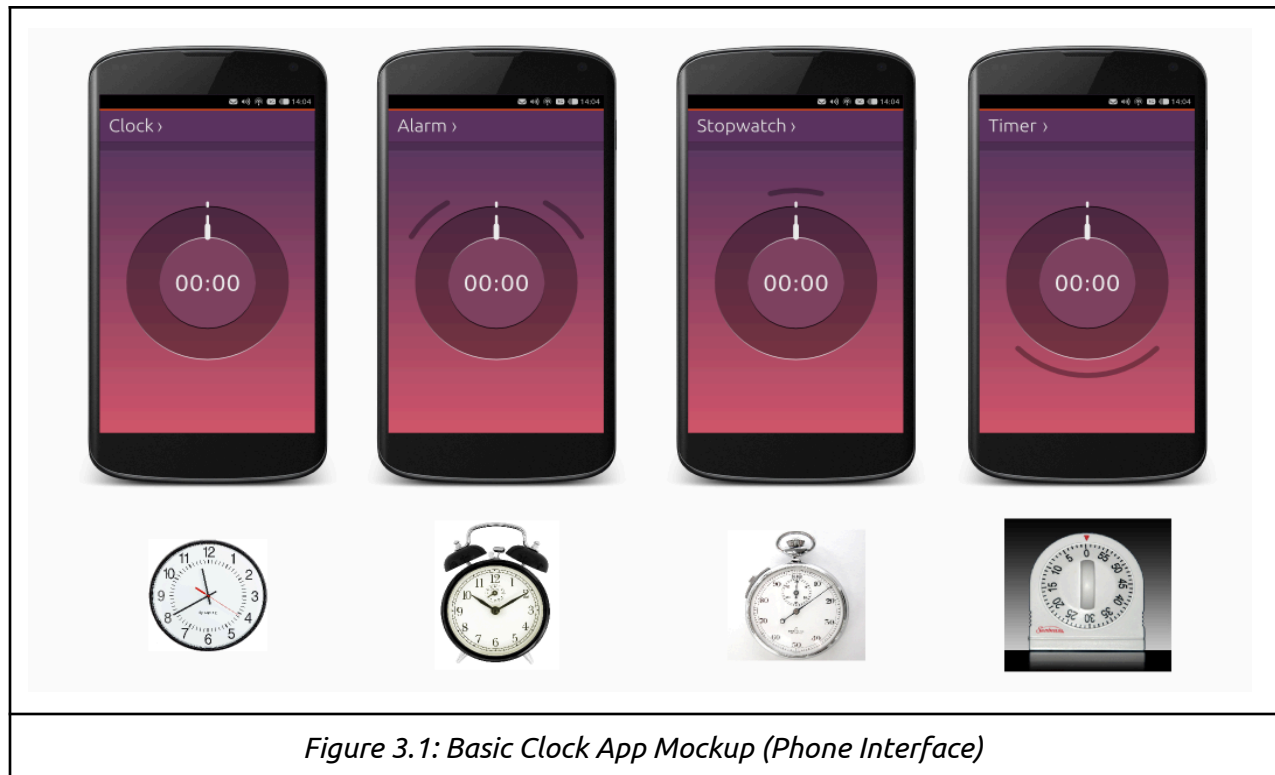
- Changing background gradients will provide a rich and refreshing user experience
- The background gradient mimic the outside sky colors there by helping with identifying the time quicker

Cons

- The tablet design uses the Dialer SDK widget to show the main clock and the world clocks. This could result in a performance overhead since there are many animations being performed every second.

Design Concept #3 - By Lucas Romero Di Benedetto

Here is another design concept by Lucas which adds some subtle elements to each tab to differentiate one from the other. It integrates well with the “less is more” approach used by the clock app. The image below describes the reasoning behind the simple elements by comparing with real life examples of timer, stopwatch etc.



One of the complaints of users regarding the current clock app design is that all the tabs (clock, timer, stopwatch and alarm) looked too similar to differentiate immediately. Lucas went ahead and added these curves to better aid the user.

These curves not only act as a visual aid, but also help depict the current state of a tab. If the timer is complete, the curve turns green to indicate that. While pressing on the stopwatch start/stop button, the top curve move up/down to indicate the action.

This is the tablet design of the Alarm Page. One thing that can be noticed is its similarity to the first design concept by Michael Spencer. However, by using a stronger background and the 3D separator, it presents a nice hierarchy difference between the analogue clock face and the alarm options. The bold use of colors really brings forth this design concept.



The image below shows the clock page design. There are several differences compared to the current clock app design. The main change is that the world clocks are no longer shown in digital format but rather as a hybrid analogue + digital format. As a result, this concept has the same drawback as design concept #2 by Andrea where it might lead to a performance overhead. However, the phone interface world list shows a cropped image of the analogue clock for the world clocks. This helps maintain consistency across the whole clock tab.



The timer tablet design sports a new icon at the bottom of the preset list (in the tablet interface) to create a new timer. This reduces the need to swipe the toolbar to create a new timer preset which is always appreciated. There are also new icons to add +15 seconds to the timer as commonly seen in other timer apps as well.

The curve at the top can also be seen indicating the current state of the timer.

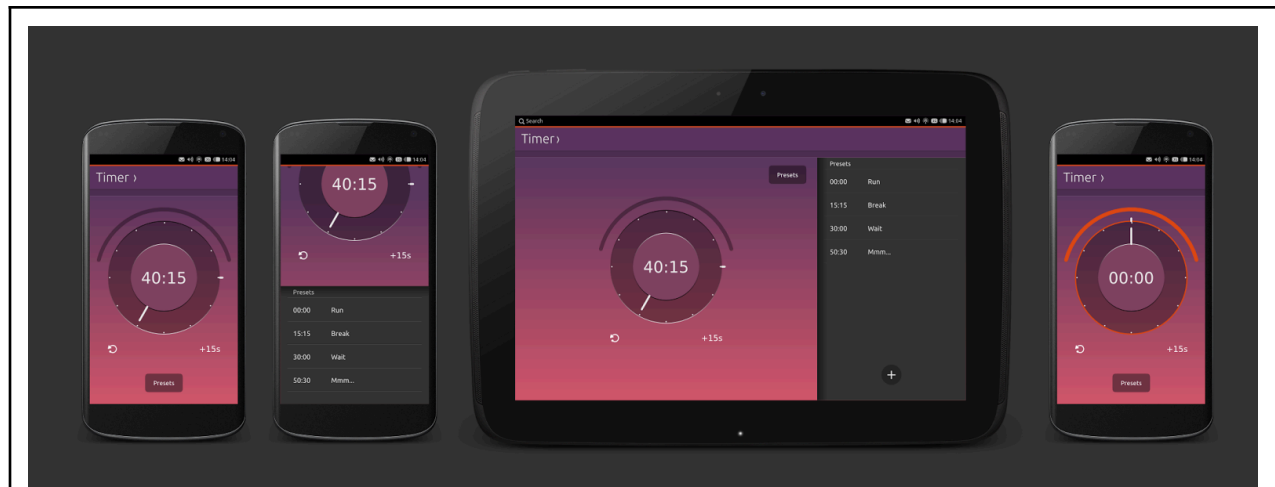


Figure 3.4: Timer Tablet Design

The final tab is the stopwatch tab as shown in the image below. The overall design is similar to the current clock app design, however with improved icons and list backgrounds. This is definitely a nice improvement.

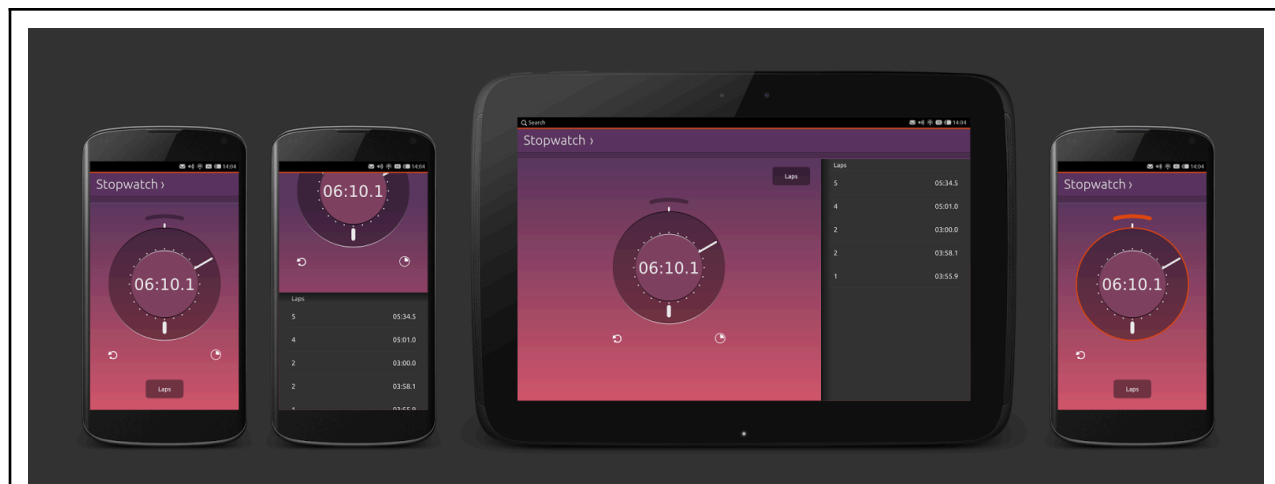


Figure 3.5: Stopwatch Tablet Design

Design Concept Evaluation

Pros

- Bold use of colors for the list background help indicate the UI hierarchy between the different UI elements.
- The curves obey the “less is more” design approach while nicely helping differentiate the tabs.
- The new icons are definitely a nice improvement over the old ones

Cons

- Performance overhead can be an issue for the clock tab in the tablet/desktop environment due to the animations running every second.

Design Concept #4: By Lucas Romero Di Benedetto, Andrea Del Sarto

This design concept is strongly based on the principle “**Focus on the content, actions and the moment**”. Anything which does not meet this idea is adapted. Let’s explore the concept further to see how it comes to play.

The first and rather most obvious fact is the black background color. The designer feels that the user shouldn’t be distracted by different background colors. Also the black background helps preserve battery life on amoled screens. The intention with this design concept is to focus on the things that happen. The center of the clock is where all the attention is captured. It is redundant to show moving clock hands when the digital clock is also displayed. Rather the important thing is the outer circle background, the time itself and the current action state.

The outer circle background will emphasise the time display since it mimics the outside sky color. It also helps to show the current state of the alarm or timer. It turns green when the timer is complete and requires user action.

Figure 4.1 shows the clock page design for phones and tablets. As you will notice the hour and minute clock hand are no longer shown. Only the second hand is shown to indicate the changing time every second. The world clocks only show the time and not the seconds hand.



Figure 4.1: Clock Tab Design

Figure 4.2 shows the alarm tab design. The alarms list is shown by pressing the alarm list button instead of scrolling down like in the current design. When an alarm is triggered the curves will turn green to emphasize their behavior while flickering numbers.



Figure 4.3 shows the timer page design.





Design Concept Evaluation

Pros

- Gorgeous UI with well thought out color contrast between elements
- Focus on the absolute i.e the time which is supported by the outer circle background and the dark background color
- New icons to indicate various actions
- No performance overhead compared to concepts #3 and #4.

Cons

- None at the moment