Google Pay

Expense Tracker in Google Pay

Overview

When I was studying architecture and moved to Pune for it, I had to manage my expenses for the first time. I would forget to pay rent and bills. I used Google Pay for my expenses, but because of distractions, I ended up spending a lot without keeping track. Sometimes, I bought things I didn't need because I felt guilty at the end of the month. I had very little money left. That's when I realized the problem and the importance of having an expense tracker within the app itself.

Why
Why is it important to track your expenses and how does it help you?

What
What are the features that you think should be included in a category for expenses?

How
How do people currently manage their expenses and payments?

When
When do people usually use a tracker for managing spending?

Where
Where do people spend most of their money and how do they keep track of their expenses currently?

Project Goals

1. Help me track what I spend:
- I want to add a feature to Google Pay that helps me keep track of my expenses.

2.Make budgeting easy:
- I want to be able to set a budget and see how much I've spent so far, so I can stick to my budget and save money.

3.Show my spending habits:
- I want Google Pay to show me how I spend my money, so I can make smarter financial decisions.

4.Make me happy:
- By adding this feature, I want Google Pay to become even better and keep me happy as a user.

Problem Statement

Many users struggle to keep track of their expenses, often relying on manual methods or multiple apps. This can lead to overspending, missed payments, and difficulty in budgeting effectively. By integrating an expense tracking feature, Google Pay can help users better manage their finances and make more informed spending decisions.

Why new feature ?

- The users cannot figure out where their money is going.
- The users faces difficulty in keeping track of their expenses.
- The users couldn't plan their budget properly according to the allowance provided to them on the monthly basis.

Needs

- A place where the users can create a budget for each category of expenses they spend in a month.
- Letting the users know how much money is still available in each category.

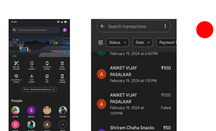
Why I Chose Google Pay for Expense Tracking:

I chose Google Pay because it's an app I already use for making payments, and I trust it to keep my financial information secure. The app's UI is easy to access on my phone, which makes it convenient for tracking expenses on the go.

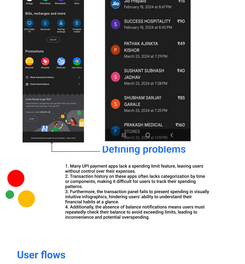
Current Status of Google Pay:

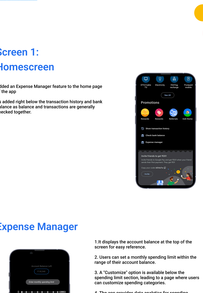
Right now, Google Pay is a popular app that many people use to send money to friends, pay for purchases online and in stores, and even bill bills. It's known for being user-friendly and reliable, with features like contactless payments and rewards for using the app. Adding expense tracking to Google Pay will make it even more helpful for managing my money all in one place.

Design Process



Empathize

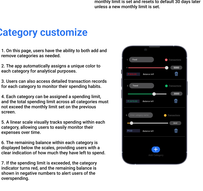




Defining problems

1. Many UPI payment apps lack a spending limit feature, leaving users without control over their expenses.
2. The transaction history in Google Pay often lacks categorization by time or components, making it difficult for users to track their spending patterns.
3. Furthermore, the transaction feature fails to present spending in visually intuitive infographics, hindering users' ability to understand their financial habits at a glance.
4. Additionally, the absence of balance notifications means users must repeatedly check their balance to avoid exceeding limits, leading to inconvenience and potential overspending.

User flows



Screen 1: Homescreen

Added an Expense Manager feature to the home page of the app

Its added right below the transaction history and bank balance as balance and transactions are generally checked together.

Expense Manager

1.It displays the account balance at the top of the screen for easy reference.

2. Users can set a monthly spending limit within the range of their account balance.

3. A "Customize" option is available below the spending limit section, leading to a page where users can customize spending categories.

4. The app provides data analytics for spending categorized by month, allowing users to view the past two months' data.

5. Each category in the analytics chart has a spending cap visible, helping users track where adjustments are needed.

6. Total spending in each category is indicated by the numbers at the top of the bar in the chart.

7. Users can scroll sideways on the chart to view more categories, depending on their number.

Note: The analytics chart starts from the date the monthly limit is set and resets to default 30 days later unless a new monthly limit is set.

Category customize

1. On this page, users have the ability to both add and remove categories as needed.

2. The app automatically assigns a unique color to each category for analytical purposes.

3. Users can also access detailed transaction records for each category to monitor their spending habits.

4. Each category can be assigned a spending limit, ensuring that the cumulative total of these limits does not exceed the monthly limit set on the previous screen.

5. A linear scale visually tracks spending within each category, allowing users to easily monitor their expenses over time.

6. The remaining balance within each category is displayed below the scales, providing users with a clear indication of how much they have left to spend.

7. If the spending limit is exceeded, the category indicator turns red, and the remaining balance is shown in negative numbers to alert users of the overspending.

Category Transactions

1. You can easily view transactions categorized separately to gain insights into your spending habits.

2. Transactions within each category will be displayed in green if they fall within the designated spending limit.

3. If a transaction surpasses the category limit, the transaction will be displayed in red, while the remaining transaction will remain green.

4. Subsequent transactions that exceed the limit will also be displayed in red, serving as a warning to exercise caution in spending.

Payment Portals

Processing Screen

1. Once the payment amount is entered, users will need to select a category to assign the expenditure to.

2. Categories will be presented alongside their respective color codes, aiding users with visual cues for navigation.

1. As the user submits the transaction and the processing begins, a loading icon will first appear, displaying the remaining balance in the relevant category.

2. The bar's color will change to green if the spending is within the limit. However, it will turn red if the spending exceeds the limit, and the balance will be shown in negative, similar to what is displayed in screen 3.

3. This notification serves as an alert to the user regarding the ongoing transaction status and provides guidance for further transactions.