

Design Problem: The Study Timer should allow the user to select one of two prescribed time intervals that will count down on a display. During this time period, the user's phone should be placed down on top of the box in order to be free from distractions during their study session. After the timer runs out, the buzzer will alert the user to remove the phone from the box. If the phone is removed while the timer is still going, the buzzer will go off until the phone is placed back down.

Design Evaluation and Revision: When constructing the design for this project, I first broke the system up into several blocks based on their parameters and purpose and came up with designs for each of those blocks. For each block in the system, I first identified any types of input signals the block will be receiving, and the types of output signals the block will be sending. With the parameters figured out, I can proceed to gather information about what components for the blocks are needed and devise a plan for its functionality. After creating prototypes for each of the blocks, I can receive constructive feedback from my designated mentor and make revisions to the design accordingly.

Key Lessons: Some of the major lessons I have learned throughout this solo and remote project experience is to always manage my time efficiently and constantly keep track of any sort of progress in a written memo. Throughout this project, I used a small notebook for keeping track of each week's progress, and I slowly discovered that I remember important details better by writing them down with pen and paper rather than using an electronic device or document. Since this project was done remotely and independently, time management was a major factor for making progress. I also had limited time and access to the computer throughout the term to work on the project due to personal circumstances created by the pandemic, so I've learned that creating personal deadlines and lists of things to do has helped me figure out how to efficiently use the small time I had.

Project Timeline

