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EasyDig

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Client Story

- •"A" is a 62-year-old female
- She has difficulties with bending at the knees and kneeling for long periods of time
- •She has pain when kneeling to dig into the ground & has weakness when digging for planting
- •"A" has trouble gardening because of this

OT & ID Collaboration

- •In this collaboration, OT students used their expertise of occupations and industrial design students used their expertise of universal design principles
- •Together, the OT and ID students created a solution by combining their strengths



Brainstorming and Idea Selection



Gardening (particularly digging holes) was identified as the project focus area based on information gathered from the initial client meeting

 Explored concept ideas through initial sketching and researching existing products on the market Visualized final selected idea through a drawing and an initial mock-up: a self-standing auger with a water hose connection, operated using a cordless drill

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Functionality:

- A cordless drill attaches to the device, powering the auger to drill into the soil
- A water hose can be attached to allow for softening of soil
- Legs allow the device to stand on its own

Impact:

- The height of the device (about 3 feet) allows for digging while standing. reducing knee tension and bending at the hips
- Using a cordless drill conserves the client's energy

Considerations & Next Steps

Considerations:

- Certain models of power drill may cause the device to become top heavy
- More stability testing is needed for steep slopes
- The hose attachment site is too close to the power drill

Next Steps:

- Easily switchable auger heads for different sized holes and tasks
- Repositioning the drill to attach perpendicularly for a more ergonomic grasp
- Adjustable legs for a larger footprint or smaller spaces