LinkedIn Job Application Tracker

Helping Job Seekers Stay Organized

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Project Overview

Context

I'm currently searching for Product Designer roles in the UK as I relocate from India in May 2026. Over the past two months, I've applied to 15+ positions. Keeping track has been a mess.

The irony: LinkedIn is THE platform for job searching, but once you click Apply, applications disappear into a black hole. No tracking, no notes, no follow-ups.

Role & Timeline

Role: Product Designer (Solo, research-focused)

Timeline: 3 weeks

Platform: LinkedIn web & mobile

Important Note

This is an unsolicited redesign, not affiliated with LinkedIn.

Understanding the Problem

What I Needed

- Track which companies I applied to
- Know application stages
- Set follow-up reminders
- Add interview notes
- See overall progress

What LinkedIn Shows

Just a list with: Company, job title, "Applied Xd ago"

Three-dot menu with only: "Send message" and "Copy link"

The 5 Problems

1. "Applied" is Dead End - No status updates beyond applied

2. No Context - Nowhere to add notes about calls/interviews

3. No Follow-Ups - No reminders, things slip through cracks

4. No Visibility - Cannot see success rates or patterns

5. Disconnected - Must use external tools (notes, spreadsheets)

Problem Statement:

LinkedIn stops being useful after you click Apply. No tracking, notes, reminders, or analytics - forcing external tools during an anxious time.

Research & Validation

My Approach

- Documented my own 2-week job search
- Interviewed 8 job seekers (tech + non-tech)
- Tested competitors: Huntr, Teal, JibberJobber
- Analyzed LinkedIn community discussions

Key Finding 1: Everyone Uses External Tools

8/8 people used something outside LinkedIn:

- 5 used spreadsheets
- 2 used Notion
- 1 used notes app

Key Finding 2: Applied Status is Useless

LinkedIn shows all as "Applied" - no distinction between active interviews, rejections, or ghosted applications.

Key Finding 3: Follow-Ups Missed

6/8 people missed follow-up opportunities due to forgetting or losing track.

Key Finding 4: Notes Lost

People want to remember recruiter conversations, skills emphasized, salary - but no place in LinkedIn.

Key Finding 5: No Learning

No one could tell me their response rate, interview conversion, or where they get rejected.

Competitor Insight

Standalone apps (Huntr, Teal) prove demand exists, but they require leaving LinkedIn and duplicating data.

The Solution

Design Principles

1. Keep LinkedIn interface familiar

2. Make features optional, not mandatory

3. Automate where possible

4. Mobile-first design

Feature 1: Status Tracker

Replace Applied with: Applied, In Review, Phone Screen, Interview, Offer, Rejected, Withdrew

Feature 2: Notes Field

Add private notes for each application: conversation highlights, salary, why interested.

Feature 3: Reminders

Set follow-up reminders. LinkedIn notifies you with quick message link.

Feature 4: Kanban View

Optional board view to drag applications through stages.

Feature 5: Analytics

Dashboard showing: response rate, interview conversion, average time, breakdown by status.

Design Process
Visual Design

Kept 95% of LinkedIn design:

- LinkedIn blue for actions
- Same typography
- Existing card components
- Same icon system

Only added:

- Status badges
- Notes text area
- Date picker for reminders
- Kanban columns

Expected Impact

Success Metrics

- Feature adoption rate
- Increased return visits
- Reduced external tool usage
- Higher follow-up rates
- Better user satisfaction

Business Impact

- Platform stickiness
- Compete with tracking tools
- Premium feature potential

Key Learnings

1. Research Matters - 8 interviews validated widespread frustration

2. Simple is Better - LinkedIn structure works, just needs additions

3. Make it Optional - Not everyone wants detailed tracking

4. Context is Key - Real job search made this authentic

Final Thoughts

I'm living this problem right now. Every day checking applications, wondering about responses. What I'm proud of: keeping it simple and integrated. Not reinventing LinkedIn - just adding missing pieces.

Thanks for reading!

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