MAPS
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From the readings I came up with the following key points to keep in mind when developing Memory Aiding Prompting Systems.

1. **Having the system adapt to the user.** One of the studies noted that when they reduced the number of steps by eliminating some of the simpler steps of a task, the users ability and correctness in performing the tasks. I think our discussions of having a log and some sort of timing system would address this well. It could start out being very broken up into small steps, then as the users ability improves, adapt and cluster or eliminate steps as necessary.

2. **Having the ability to move forward and backward through instructions/prompts.** In one of the studies, one of the users preferred the card system to the computer, and it was suggested that this might because of the ability of the card system to return to previous steps by flipping the cards back. If we had our palm device, as discussed, have this ability; I think that would also be a plus. Especially this is useful in cases where the people suffer from memory problems. For example, they may read or hear the next prompt and press the screen, then forget what they had just heard or read. With a flip back button, this problem would be easily overcome.

3. **Simplicity.** One of the articles seemed to stress the importance of simplicity and ease of use of the device. Portability is also a key part of this. In one of the studies, one of the users was not able to learn how to use the computer device due to memory and other learning problems. If our system is simple and straightforward to use, perhaps even requiring little or no training, I think it would be the most likely to be used.

4. **Affordability.** This is somewhat of an obvious part. But it too was pointed out in one of the studies that the device was not utilized because of lack of necessary funds.

I also thought that when we have a prototype that we are testing on actual users, we too should document our findings. I think it would help us later on when we try to market the device. We can say, hey, look at these results when we were developing it. This is not going to get thrown in the closet and not be used. This will also help us in the development because we can go back and look at what hasn't worked in the past, etc. I also find it useful to document things so that you can look at it from different angles and determine the best next step in the process.

Also from reading these articles, I think that what we are doing has been a long time coming. Now that we have the available technology and resources, we can make this a reality and help a lot of people.

I also think that it is very important, as shown in these studies, to test the proposed device on the actual potential users. This may overcome any issues where the people were not able to learn how to use the device, etc.