





Legends of a magical relic that encased the power of the mystics, surfaced several hundred years ago throughout central Europe and even in the distant East.

It was said that great fortune or calamity befell those who gazed into the artifact's crystal orb. Whichever the case, the undeniable truth was the outcome.

Over the generations, whispers of this mystic trunk have reminded us of its power of prophecy... though, it is difficult to forget...

...For our desire to discover our own destinies never vanished.



# Tarot Trunk

# Our Concept

An engaging, curious-looking trunk that, upon further inspection, reads my fortune and even composes it in the form of a printed slip of paper.

There are clear technological components to this artifact, but what? What's hidden inside this trunk and how is it determining my fate without having an actual person there to see the cards I've drawn?

# Twitter (Tw-ether)

## Communicating with Twitter

Arduino talks to a web service which in turn, talks to Twitter. Arduino is only concerned with telling the web service what the user inputs are and later asking for a response so it knows what to print out.



## @TarotTweeter

We set up an account on Twitter to act as our “medium” to collect responses from the Twitterverse. The first to reply has their fortune printed for the patron.

# Electronics

## Inputs

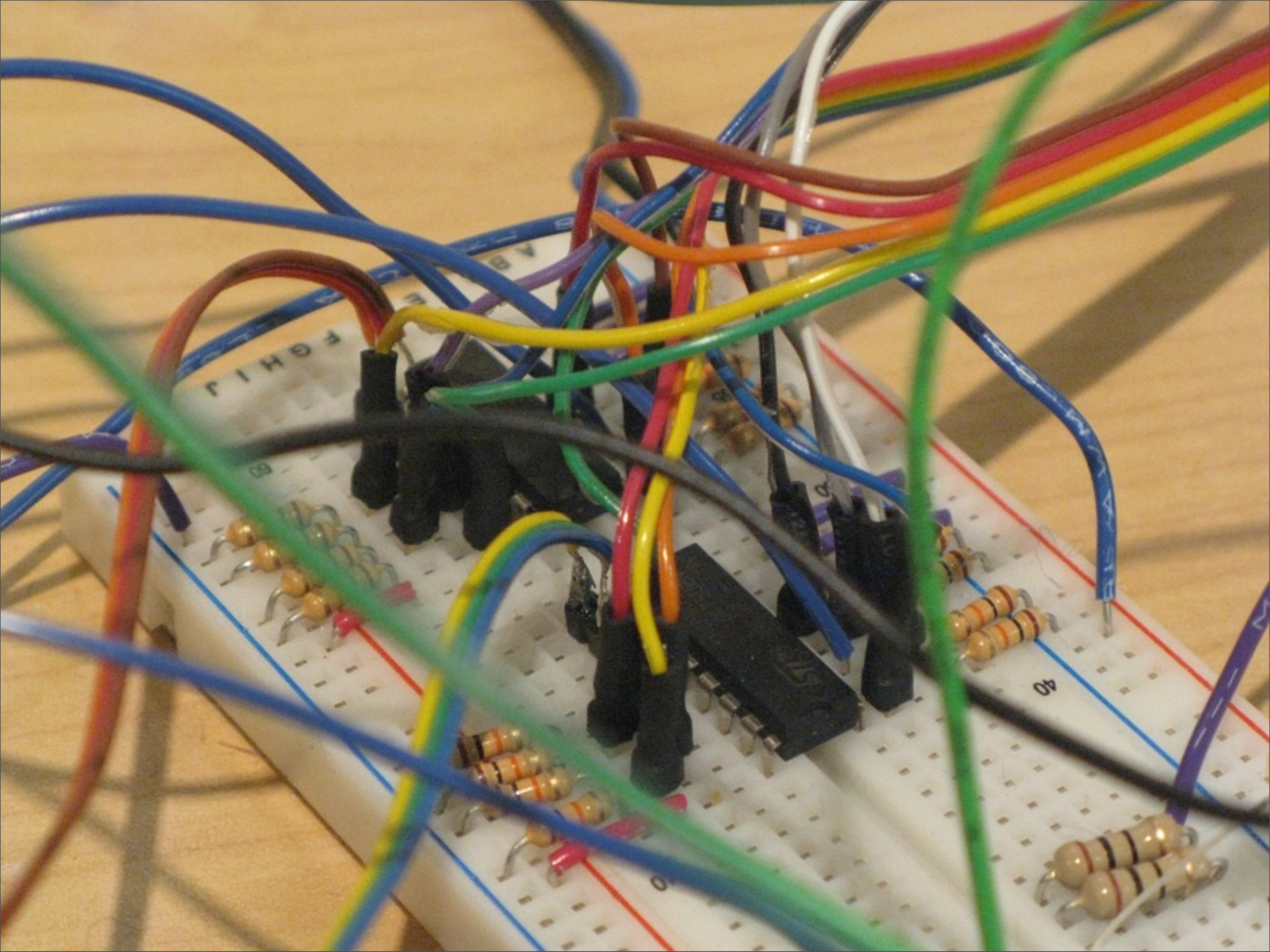
- Switches (analog and digital)
- Sensors (capacitive and proximity)

## Outputs

- Serial (printer)

## Programming

- Arduino for physical interaction
- Web service for interacting with Twitter



# Two Types of Users

## Our patrons

Tarot Trunk appeals to a wide range of people. The challenge for us was to make it look engaging and inviting - to sway the curious into coming closer to play with the trunk.

## The “Tw-ether”

Our other users are the followers of TarotTweeter. Their experience in this system also needed to be considered. Without them, we would have no fortunes.

# The User Experience

## **Mysticism**

We wanted to keep the appearance and the workings of Tarot Trunk mysterious. A lot of the decor, color choices, as well as the narrative behind its story were designed to embody mysticism, which plays on the curiosity of our patrons.

## **Environment**

Not only did we want the trunk to embody mysticism, but its immediate surroundings also needed to set the right mood.

# User Testing

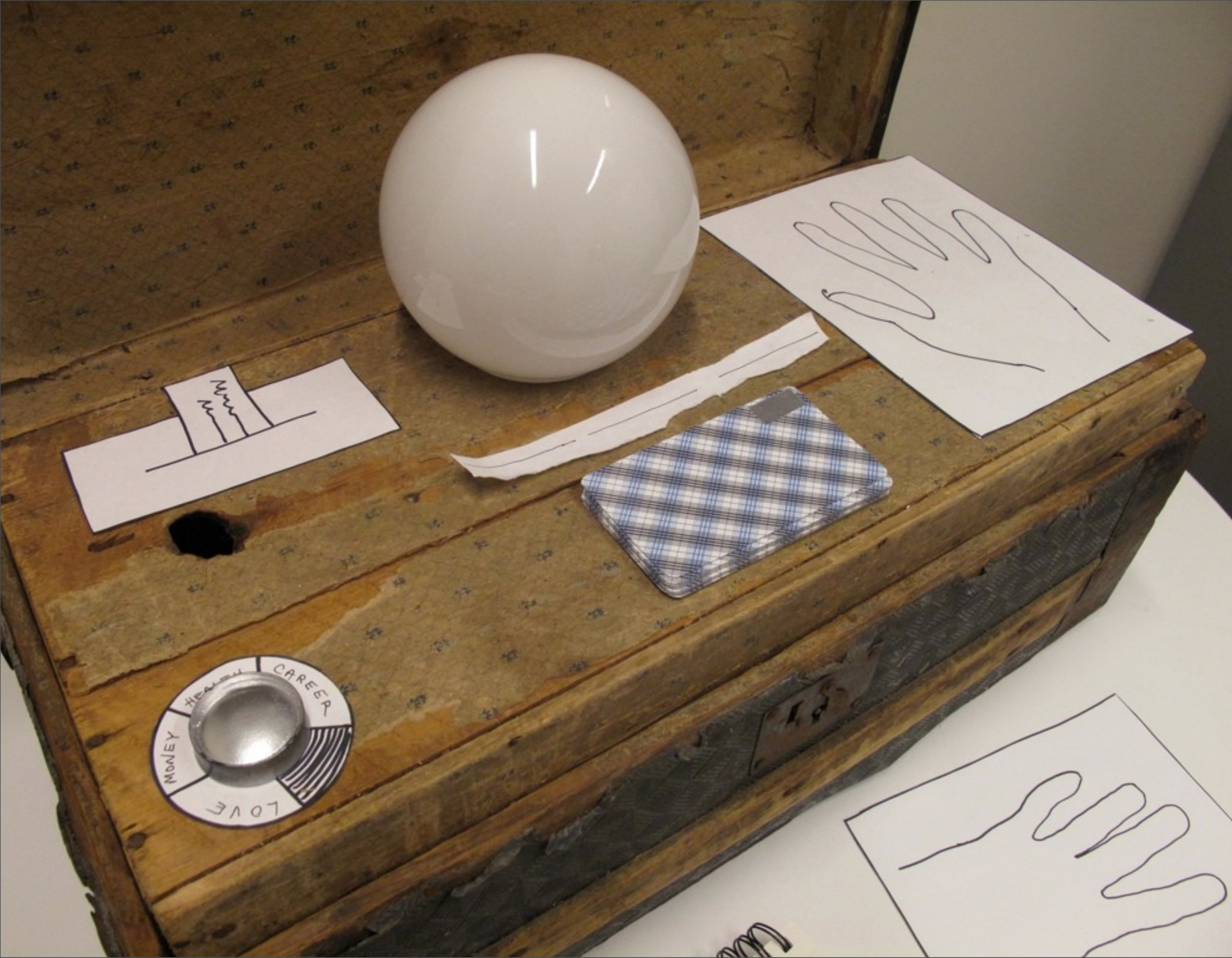
## Paper prototyping

Users were taken into a back room and observed as they interacted with the trunk's points of interactions, in paper.



Objectified.





# Observations & Findings

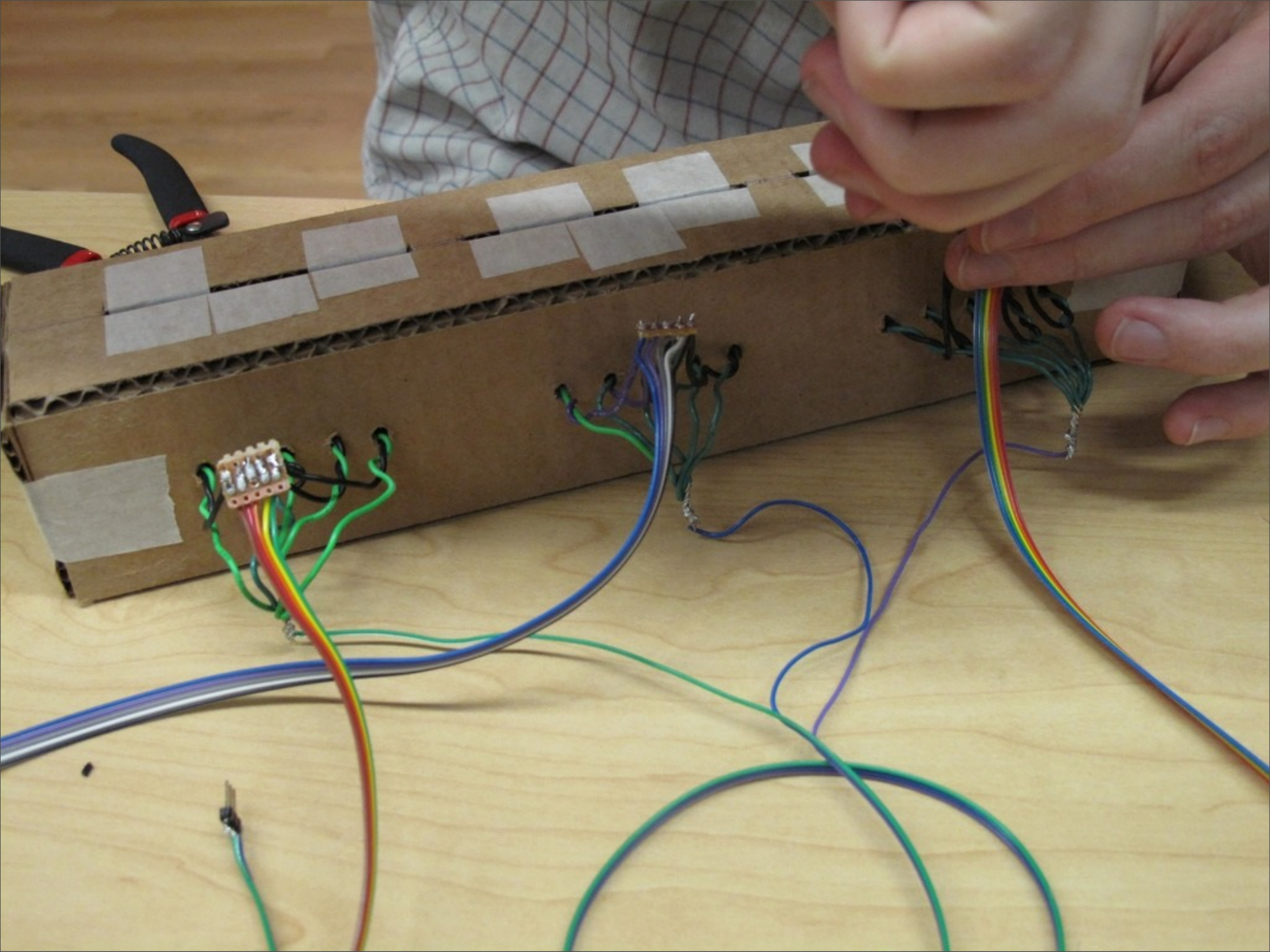
## Selection of notes:

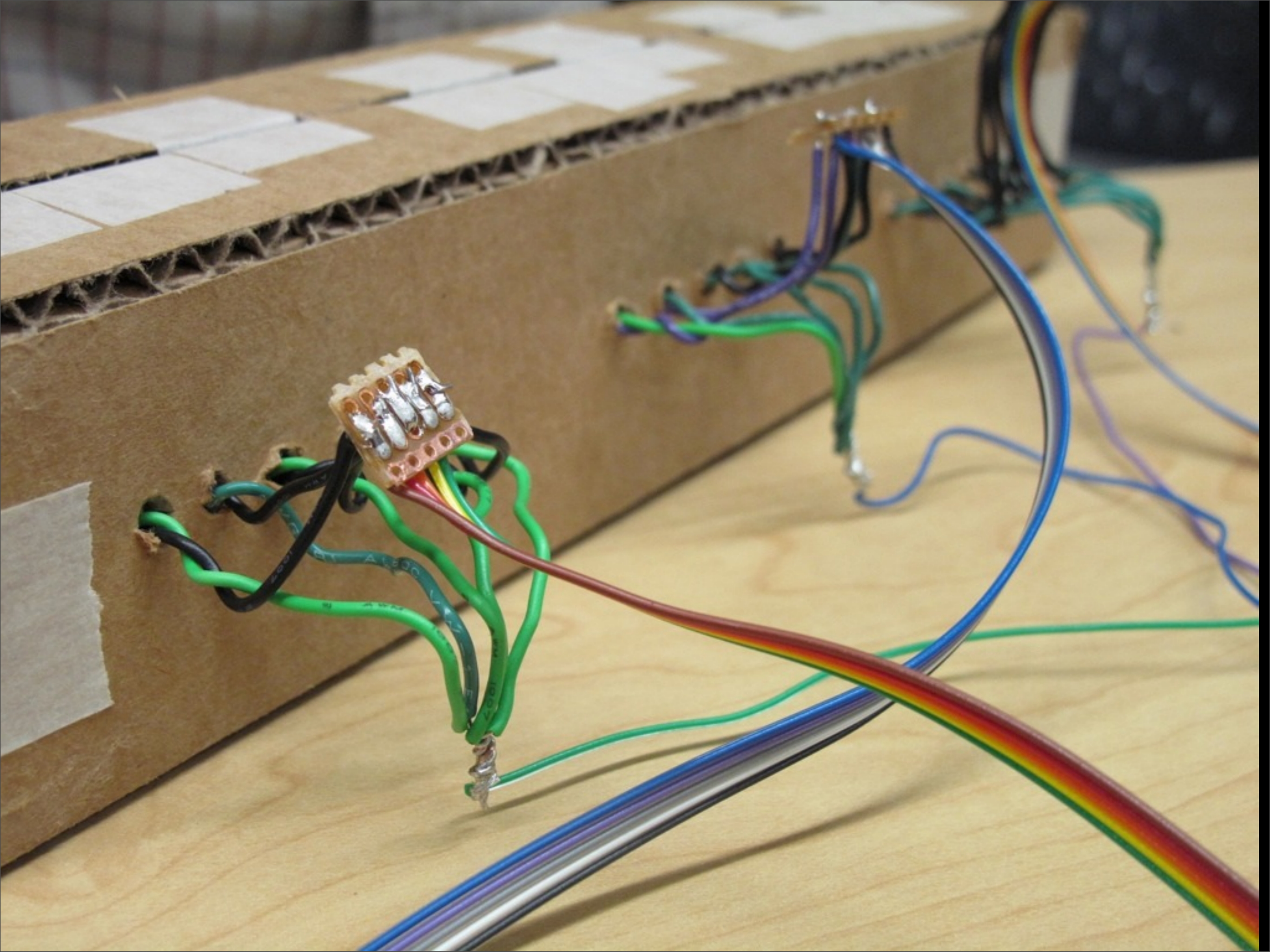
- Everyone wanted to place both their hands on the trunk and on the crystal ball.
- Working on interface elements from left to right was most intuitive.
- A lot of people didn't know what direction to insert the cards.
- Split between users holding the deck of cards and those who left it on the trunk.
- People were less likely to touch objects on the trunk the further away from them they were placed.

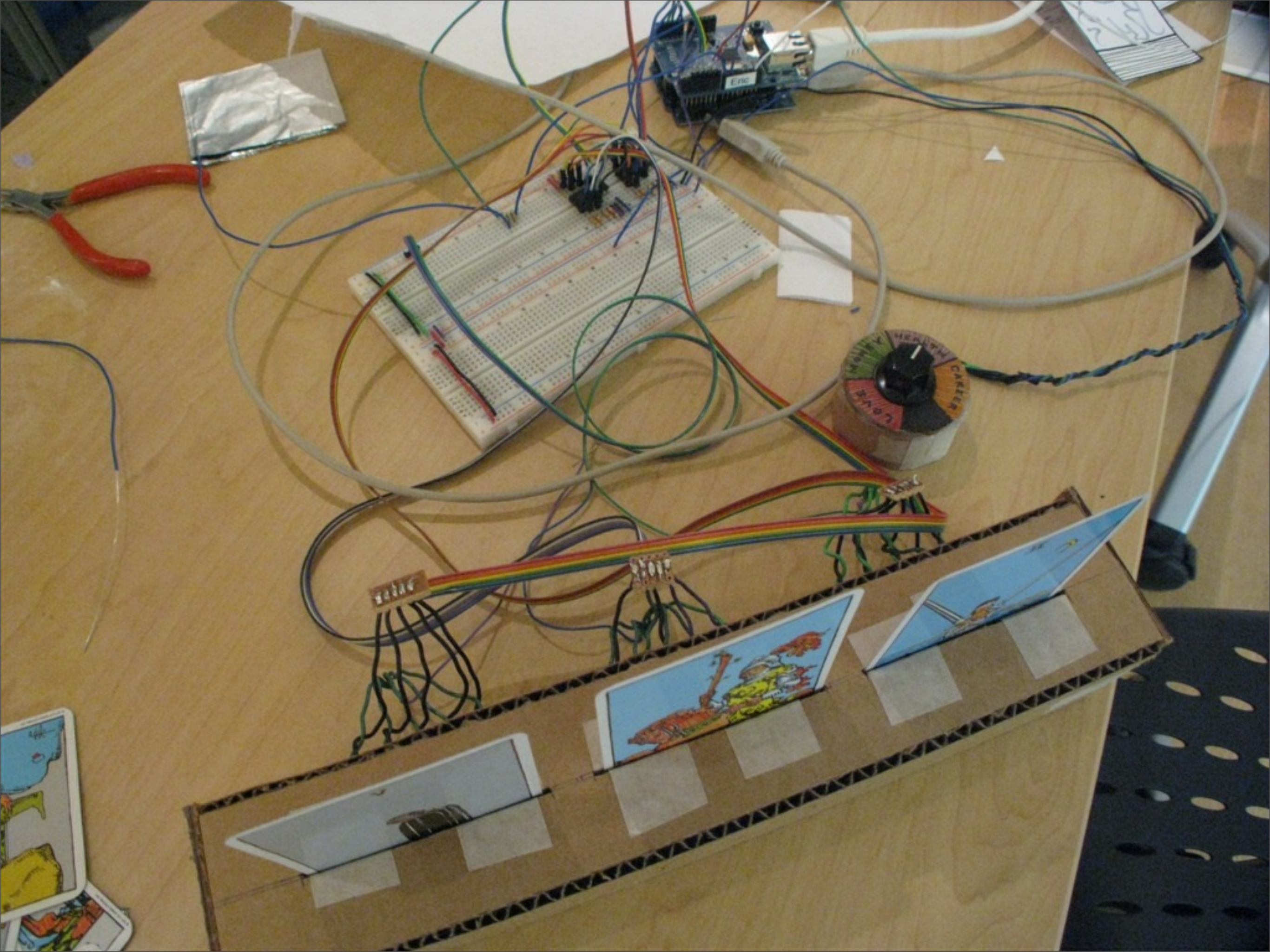
# Iterations

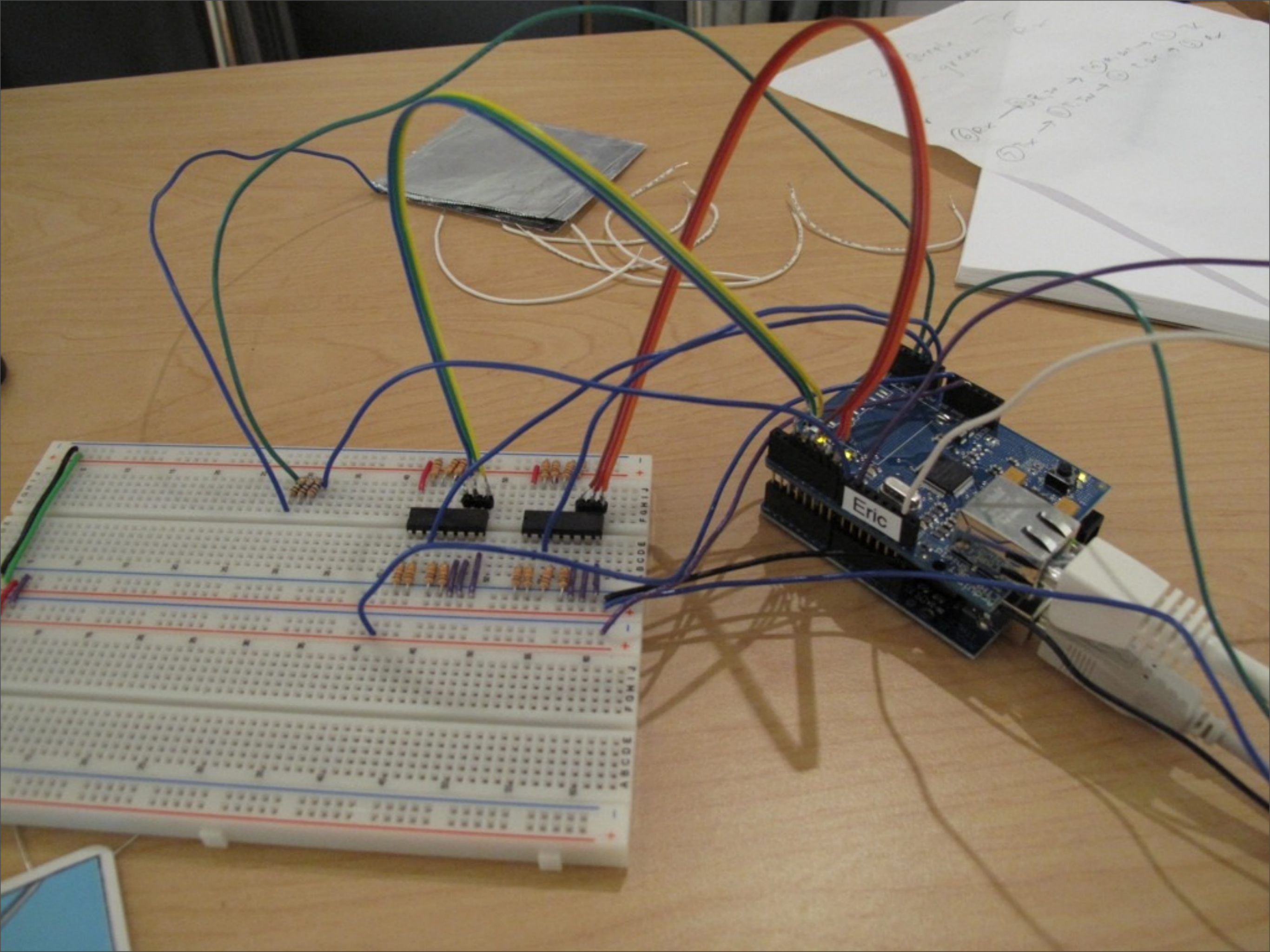
The project went through several iterations, each at a level of fidelity that allowed us to experiment, test, fail, and ultimately determine how the functionality could be supported by the final form.

Here's a look back at Tarot Trunk over time...











Wednesday, December 23, 2009







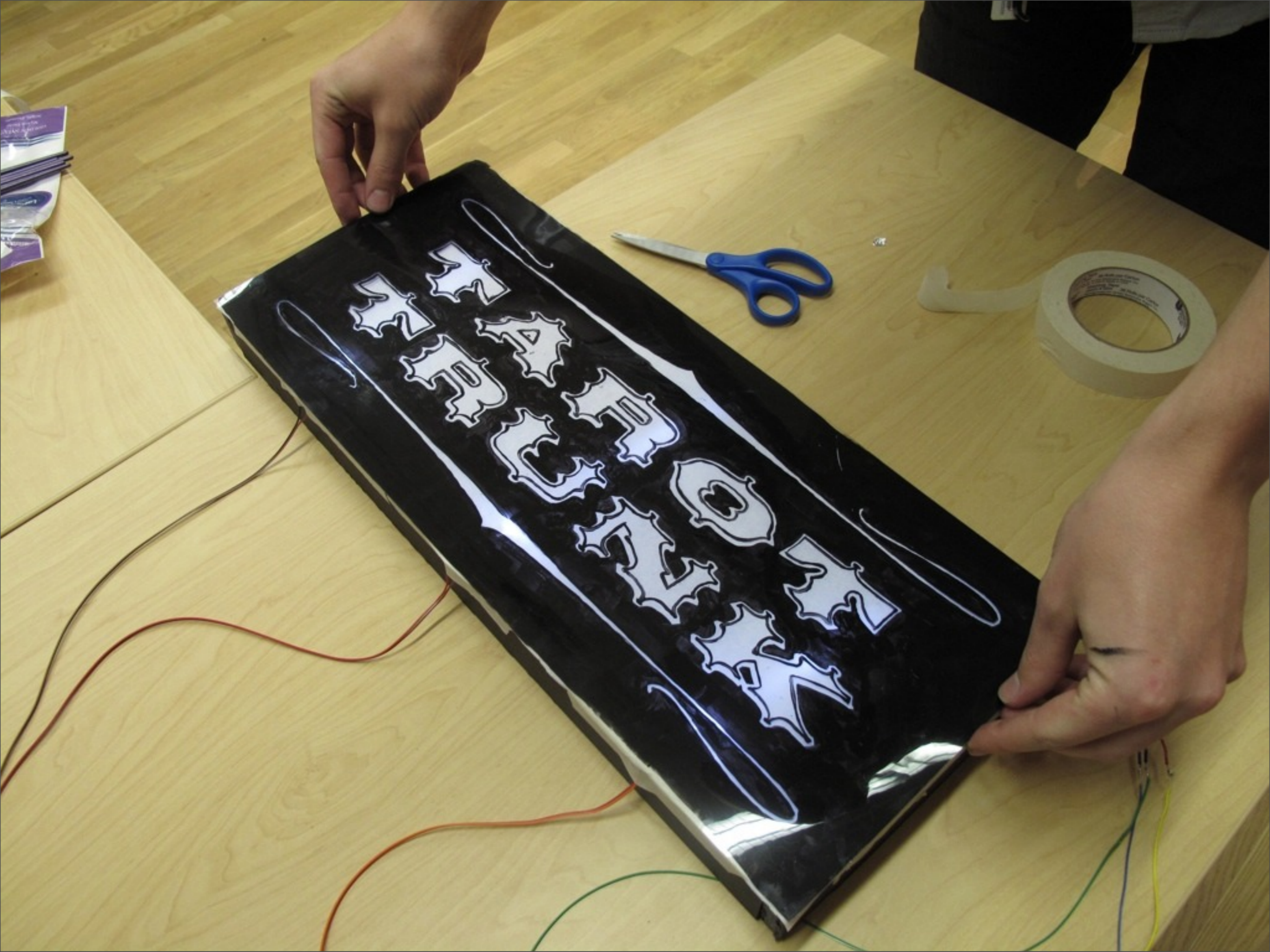
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void loop() {  
  updateApk();  
}
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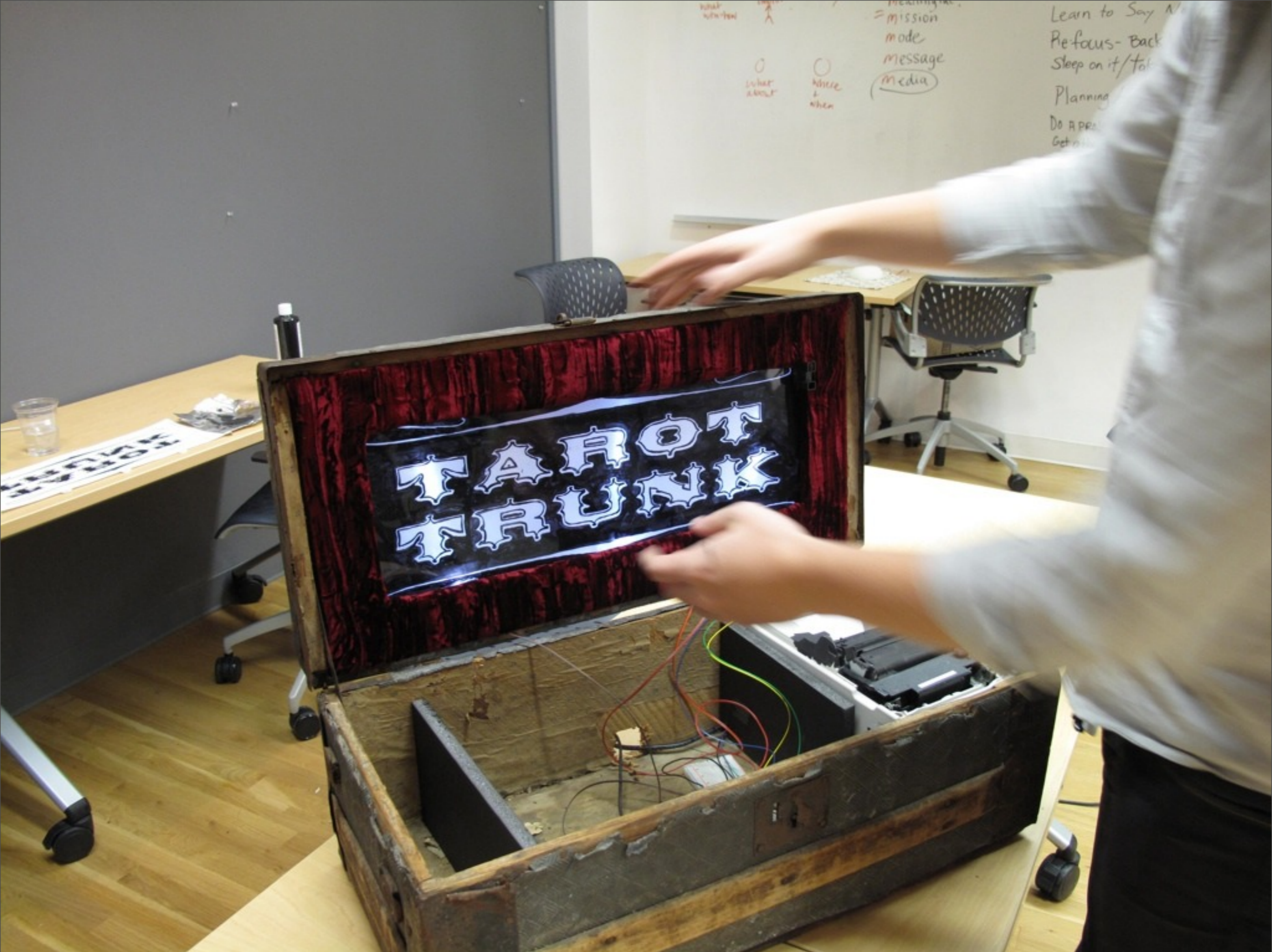




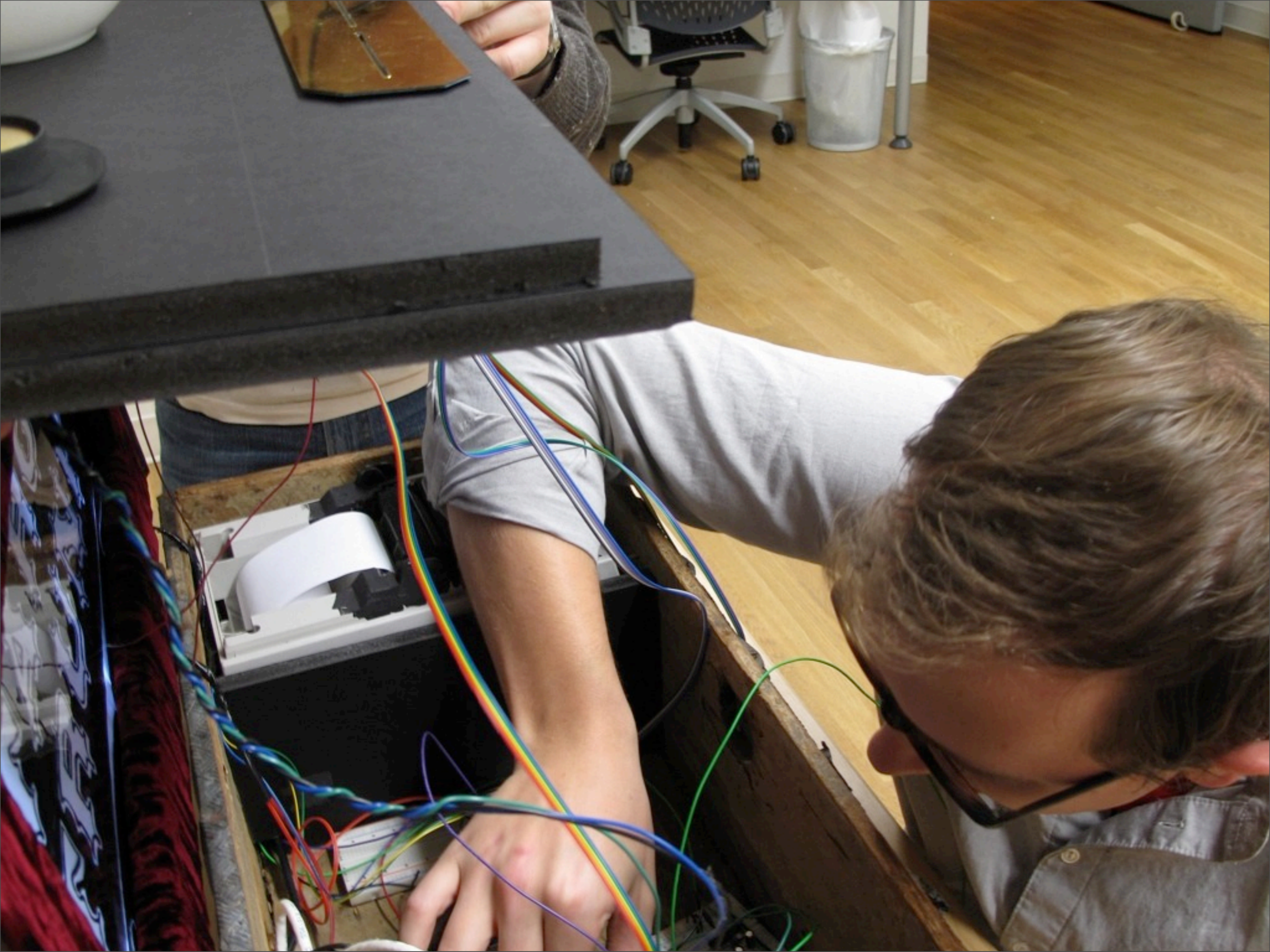














# Constructing Tarot Trunk

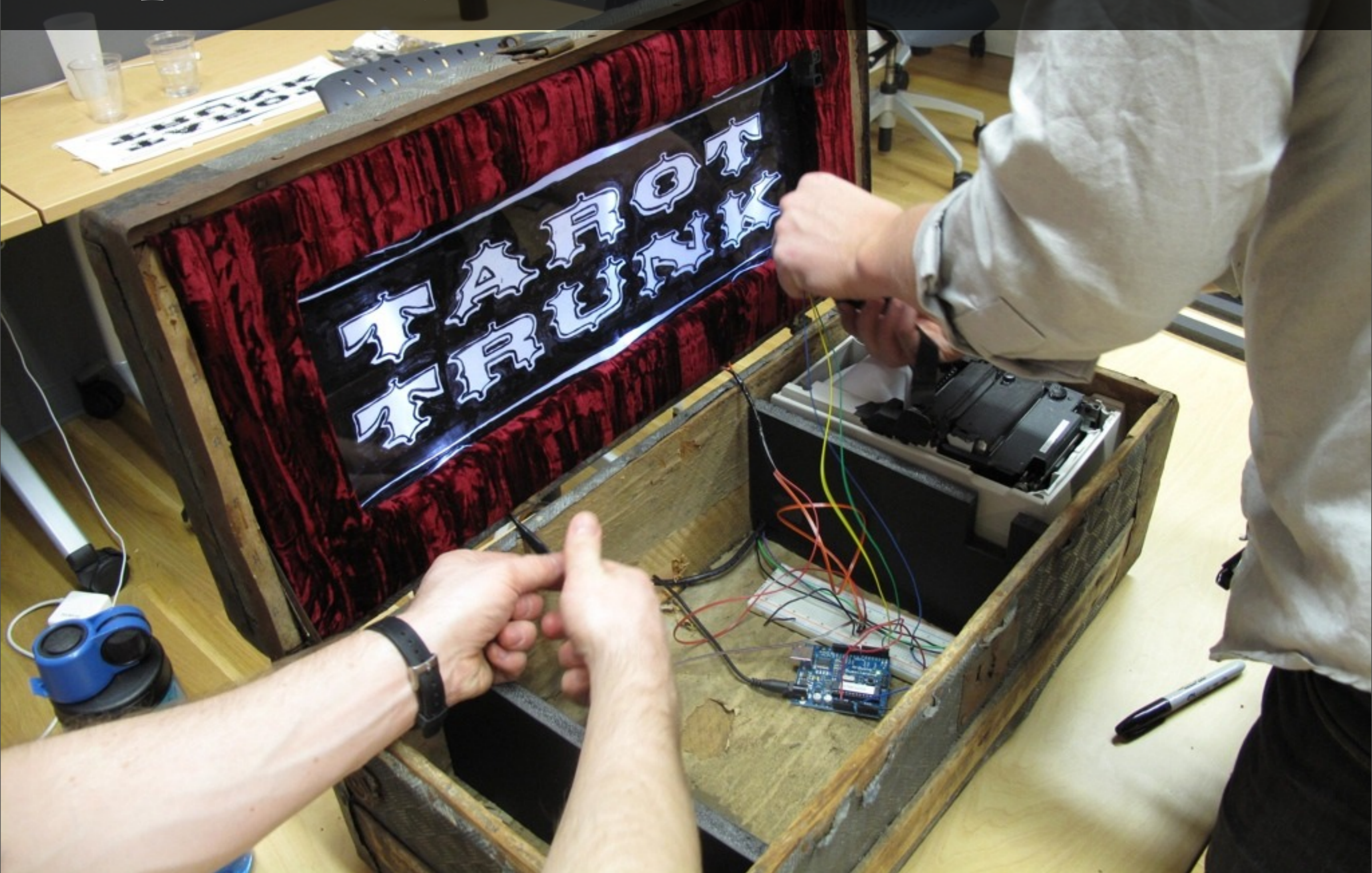
## Our approach

There were 3 easy steps to constructing Tarot Trunk...

# Step 1: Cut a hole in a box



# Step 2: Put your junk in that box



# Step 3: Make them open the box...



**...and that's the way we did it!**

# Tarot Trunk

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