

**KEYWORDS**

Smart Objects; IoT; Connected Everyday;  
Gerontechnology; Research through Design



**Caption from the video:** an older person discovers a combination of two Connected Resources that works and fits for her challenge emerged in everyday situations.

**ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

This work was conducted in Resourceful Ageing project funded by the Netherlands Organization for Scientific Research (NWO) under the Research through Design (RTD) program in 2016–2018. Thanks to Andreas D'Hollandere for video shooting

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# Connected Resources – Empowering Older People to Age Resourcefully

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**ABSTRACT**

With this video, we showcase the possibilities of the Internet of Things and machine learning to support improvisation in older people. Available smart products for older people tend to be developed with narrowly predefined use-scenarios, based on stereotypes of elderly as passive, immobile, and technologically incompetent. This type of products may restrict older people's existing capabilities of resourcefulness and autonomy [1]. As an alternative approach, we created Connected Resources, a family of combinable sensors and actuators for older people that encourages them to negotiate and situate use according to their personal and changing circumstances with a high level of freedom. The objects learn older people's unique ways of using these artifacts and share them through an online platform to encourage the development of new strategies. In this way, Connected Resources celebrate older people's creativity, instead of providing normative solutions or enforcing compliance with certain behavior.

**REFERENCE**

- [1] Elisa Giaccardi, Lenneke Kuijer and Luis Neven. 2016. Design for resourceful ageing: Intervening in the ethics of gerontechnology. Proceedings of DRS 2016, Design + Research + Society Future-Future-Focused Thinking: 50th Anniversary International Conference, Brighton, UK, 27-30

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*CHI'19 Extended Abstracts, May 4-9, 2019, Glasgow, Scotland, UK.*

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ACM ISBN 978-1-4503-5971-9/19/05.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1145/3290607.3311774>