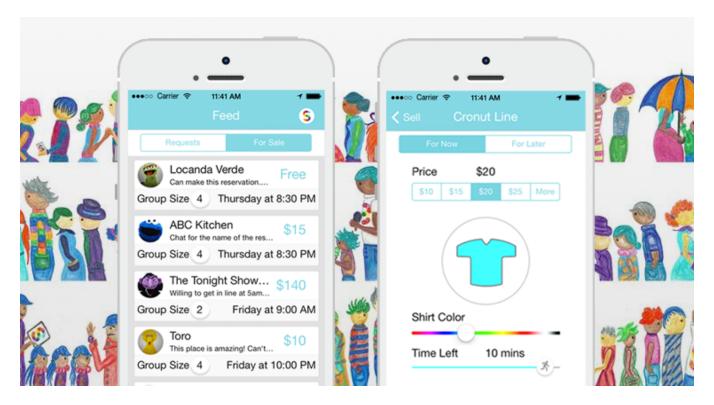


App lets users barter to jump queues



Nobody enjoys waiting in a queue, even if it's for something they really want. Apps such as <u>Qminder</u> have provided a way for businesses to avoid crowded waiting rooms or long lines of customers by providing them with smartphone notifications when their appointment or reservation is ready, and now another app called <u>Shout</u> wants to turn queues into a marketplace, where users can buy and sell spots in line for new games consoles or a table at no-reservation restaurants.

The app operates on a fairly simple basis — those looking to skip the queue for a popular restaurant or fast-selling product can buy themselves a space from others already in line who are willing to sell their space for a fee. The spot can be physical — for example, waiting in line at Brooklyn's Dominique Ansel Bakery for one of the limited Cronuts. Or it can be virtual — such as an already booked reservation or purchased concert ticket. If they can't find what they're looking for after searching, those wanting a space can make a request to the Shout community, which at the moment is limited to New York City. The price for each spot is determined by the holder and the desirability of their place in the queue.

The app is free to download from the <u>App Store</u>. Are there other ways to create a sharing economy around assets that aren't usually bought and sold?

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