Instruction Manual Design Report

Overall Effectiveness

The instruction manual mentions every detail involved in putting on laced sneakers and makes everything as clear as possible while also remaining concise. This way, readers can thoroughly understand how to put on laced sneakers and do not have to make any assumptions, but they also will never become impatient due to overly-lengthy descriptions.

Meeting Rhetorical Goals

I, the sender, acknowledge the younger readers that will likely be using my instruction manual to put on laced sneakers for the first time by having the manual accommodate for these receivers of my message.

- The manual explains what all the different referenced parts of the shoe are.
- Vocabulary that is simple and easy to understand is used in place of more technical terms.
- There are a lot of pictures so that children who are not as good at visualizing complicated concepts in their heads can see what they are supposed to do.
- The manual has a choking hazard warning for young children to see and a note which insures that children will not become too frustrated if they take a little while to master the precision necessary to put on their laced sneakers.

There is ethos in the fact that I was able to photograph all the different steps for the manual using laced sneakers that I own, rather than finding less accurate images on the internet. There is pathos in all the accommodations I made for the likely readers of my manual. Logos can be found in the easy, step-by-step format used by the instructions to easily walk readers through the process of putting on laced sneakers.

Usefulness of Peer Critique

My peers pointed out ways that I could edit the style of my instruction manual to make its format more appropriate for what it was attempting to achieve. Thanks to the peer review, the instruction manual is cleaner and therefore more visually effective.

Standards Exceeded / Problems Overcome

The manual has both pictures and descriptions for everything. Often, instructions will primarily be made up of either pictures or text. This manual, however, goes all the way from the beginning to the end with both pictures and text. This makes every required material, definition, and step as clear as possible.

The manual has highly effective formatting that makes reading it easy. It would be extremely difficult for readers to lose their place while reading these instructions. This is accomplished due the following factors of the manual:

- The instruction manual is clean and takes advantage of white space.
- Everything is numbered and labeled clearly.
- Font size, weight, and color are all modified throughout the instructions to help separate different sections and sub-sections.
- All formatting remains consistent throughout the entire manual.

It was somewhat challenging to take pictures of myself while I used both of my hands to demonstrate steps to putting on laced sneakers. However, thanks to the timer on the camera I used, I was eventually able to capture a clear picture for everything, even the most technical steps. I just had to start the timer and then move my hands into position.

Use of Active Learning Kit

A book titled Pictograms, Icons & Signs: A Guide to Information Graphics, written by Ryan Abdullah and Roger Hübner, can be found in one of the Active Learning Kits in the library. This book had a clock icon that I was able to scan and use to complete a note at the beginning of my instruction manual.