

Assignment 1

-Exemplo de um bom e mau design

Bad Design

The experience that I have with bad interface design is with the washing of my landlord. I have to admit that I hadn't had much experience with washing machines but nonetheless the interface should allow a smooth use of the various possible functions. A washing machine should allow you to choose at least the temperature and the duration of the wash. This doesn't occur with this machine...



When the machine is turned on by rotating the knob, in this case to the 60 min configuration, the lights that are visible are that ones in the next picture:



As you can see the default lights for the 60 min configuration is 60 degrees and 1200 rotations. So to change the temperature i assumed that it was as simple as pressing the button with the thermostat button. Let's say I would like 40° wash, I press the button once and the 40° light comes on as seen in the next image:



But after a few seconds the light refreshes back to 60 even if I quickly press the start button. Funnily if the knob is turned to the 40°C setting and then the start button is pressed a wash is started that begins at 60 degrees and half way through goes to 40. Another interesting thing is that the configuration that is at the bottom is the only one where the light that comes up is the 40° one. In my opinion the thermostat button should be for changing the temperature of the wash and may it be but the bad design and the feedback of pressing the button says otherwise. Not knowing what the buttons are is a bad design and I shouldn't need to go to the instruction manual to find out how to use this basic function of a washing machine.

Good Design

My good interface example is Reddit, a social media app that is known for being the front page of the internet. It has a simple concept - a user that is normally identified by “u/(name of the user)” can subscribe to a type of group called subreddit identified by “r/(name of the subreddit)” which normally has a defined topic. So when you enter the app you are greeted with trending posts made to the subreddits you are subscribed to. There is a subreddit for everything: pictures of dogs, cooking, computer science, every sport, movies, just about anything you can think of.

In the picture you see the example of a post made to the “todayilearned” subreddit where people post about interesting things that they recently learned. Users can then say that they like the post by clicking the up arrow or the down arrow if they don't (the post was liked by 4.2 thousand people). Users can then also comment, share the post.

On the top left there is a 3 lined symbol that when clicked shows a list of the subreddits

the user is subscribed to. Top right a magnifying glass to search for a subreddit and a little avatar of the user that leads to their profile.

In the middle of the screen will be posts that might interest the user from the subscribed subreddits.

At the bottom a home button to return to the main page; a compass button to discover new subreddits; a plus sign to create a post; a text bubble to check messages from other users; a bell icon to list the notifications on how to user's posts are doing.

All and all it is a simple and intuitive design for a simple concept of just viewing and posting about topics you are interested in.

