UI-UX Design, Survey, Study

Executive Summary

In this study, we had 12 participants visit the Wish e-commerce website to buy items like shoes and jackets with specific requirements and also use the wishlist and cart functionality. The original website was slowing down the users with an unnecessary login prompt. In addition to that, we also found that the time taken by the users to find the required product was longer due to lack of categorization and non-availability of filtering and sorting functionalities. The findings from the study are that by implementing filtering and sorting functionality in the product page and eliminating the login prompt at the home page, the average time spent to complete the tasks was almost reduced to half the time. The users found it very easy to navigate through the redesigned website compared to the original website.

Method

Who we tested

Twelve participants, out of which six were included in the testing of the original website and the other six were included in the testing of the redesigned website. All the participants are students of ASU and doing their graduate studies in the field of Computer Science, IT and Electrical. 8 of the 12 participants are of the age range 22-25 and the rest 4 of the participants were in the range 26-29. All the participants have good knowledge of handling computers and using e-commerce websites.

New Wish Users	10
Existing Wish Users	2
TOTAL (participants)	12

Audience Type

Computer Us	age
0 to 10 hrs. wk.	3
11 to 25 hrs. wk.	7
26+ hrs. wk.	2
TOTAL (participants)	12

Age	
18-25	8
26-39	4
TOTAL (participants)	12

Gender	
Women	4
Men	8
TOTAL	12
(participants)	

Gandar

What participants did

Each of the Twelve participants worked on two tasks, 6 on the original and 6 on the redesigned website. Each one of them took around 10 minutes to complete both tasks. Several metrics were studied based on the tasks they performed which we will discuss in the next section. The two tasks that participants performed were:

Task 1:

Book a white shoe of size 11/M. We need to select 5 shoes which fall in the price range of 90-120 dollars and wish list them. After selecting five shoes we need to remove four of them and add the remaining to the cart. We need to update the address in the payments page and select the express delivery option.

Task 2:

Book a fleece black leather jacket of size XL. For this we need to add 3 distinct cheaply available fleece black jackets and select the option in store. Then we need to remove two of them and buy the remaining one.

What metrics we collected

The metrics we collected are as follows:

Time on task

This metric is the time based metric. It is the time the user spends for task completion. It is useful in measuring the efficiency of the application. In our case we want to reduce the time on task by our design changes.

Lostness

The lostness metric can show how dissatisfied your customers are with your product. The metric itself is straightforward, ranging from zero to one. A high level of lostness indicates that users are having difficulty finding what they are looking for. A low score indicates the opposite, that they can easily find what they are looking for.

We have used the following formula to calculate the lostness:

$$L = \sqrt{(N/S-1)^2 + (R/N-1)^2}$$

L = Lostness

N = The number of different screens visited during the task.

S = The total number of screens visited during the task.

R = The minimum number of screens that must be visited to complete a task.

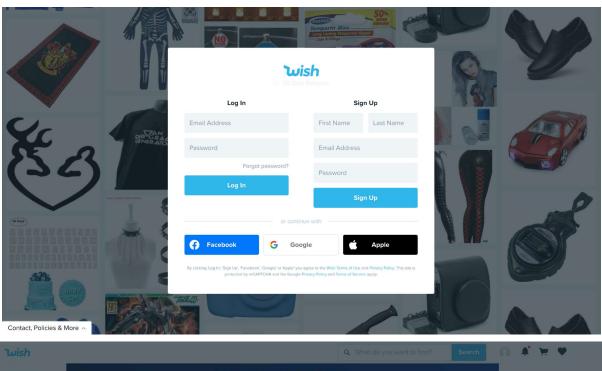
Errors

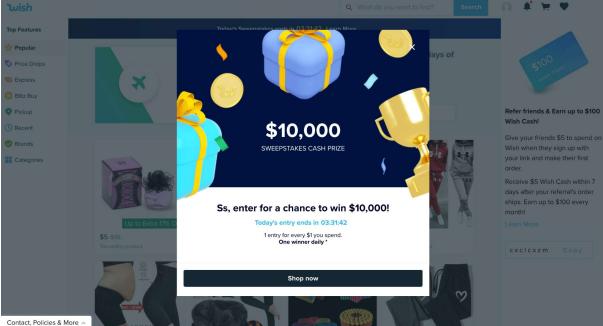
This is one of the simplest usability test metrics. It is a self-explanatory metric, it is the errors the users make during the task completion such as entering wrong data, making wrong choices or actions, not following the correct sequence of steps and more. When we see errors in usability tests, we try to figure out what caused them.

What improvements were made to the site

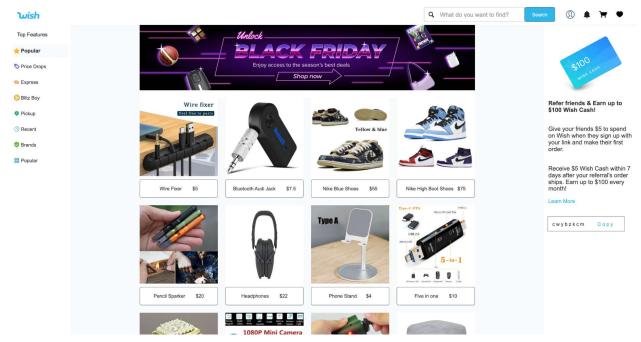
Homepage: Minimal Barriers and Points of Prospect

The basic necessities of a website homepage are clear points of prospect and minimal barriers. It should be able to guide the users to determine where they need to go without getting blocked. The original website homepage design is very poor in the sense that the user is not able to see the products unless they Log In / Sign Up to the website. There is another barrier of offers before the user actually gets to see the product home page as shown below. The redesigned website addresses this issue by eliminating the login prompt and the pop up offer screen by directly displaying the products home page.





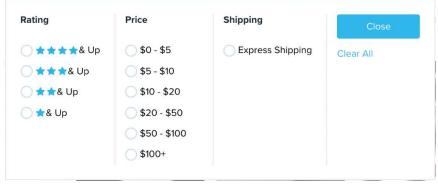
Original - Home Page



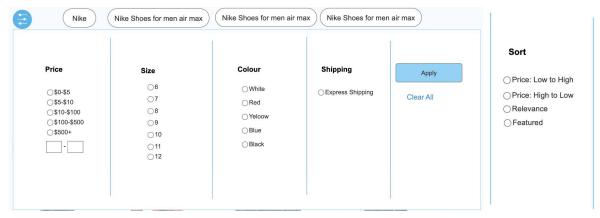
Redesign - Home Page

Filtering and Sorting: Ensure Usable Filtered Results

The results of user searches and filters should be very clear and provide accurate information being queried. The results should match the user's expectations. On the original website, if the user wants to filter the products based on a certain criteria, the website does not have the option to do so. The filtering functionality is very basic and is not helpful in performing the tasks provided to the user in the study. The site also lacks the sorting functionality. The redesigned website fixes this issue by including filtering criteria based on the product being searched for and it also has an option for sorting the results based on price, relevance, etc. This helps the user to reduce the time taken to search for the precise product meeting all the expectations.



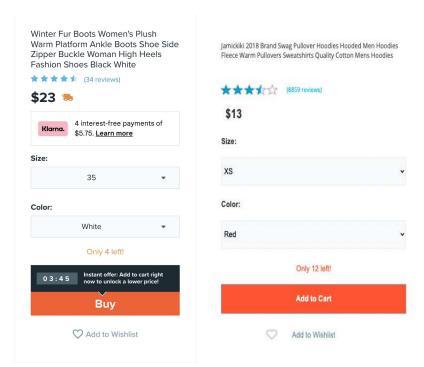
Original - Filtering



Redesign - Filtering and Sorting

Product Pages: Functionality and Naming

Another important feature is the functional consistency and naming conventions. The functionality of a button/feature should be aligned with the name specified for it. The original website has a button called "Buy" on each of the product pages but when the user clicks on it, the product is added to cart instead of taking the user to the payments page. The redesigned product page has the button named as "Add to Cart" and it aligns with the functionality of the button i.e., it adds that particular product to the cart.

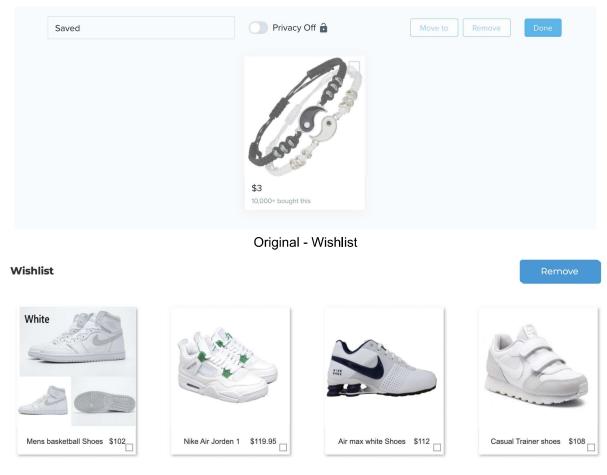


Original - Button Functionality

Redesign - Button Functionality

Wishlist Page : Aesthetic Usability Effect

The users of a website generally tend to perceive the more aesthetically pleasing designs as easier to use than the less aesthetic ones. This is known as the aesthetic usability effect. The simpler the website design is, the better the user experience will be. The removal of products from the wishlist in the original website has lots of buttons and the checkbox is not visible to the user to select the products. The user gets confused on what to click after selecting the products to be removed. This has been improved by providing only one button when the user tries to remove products from the wishlist in the redesigned website. This makes it easy for the user to remove the products and proceed with other tasks without getting distracted by the other buttons.

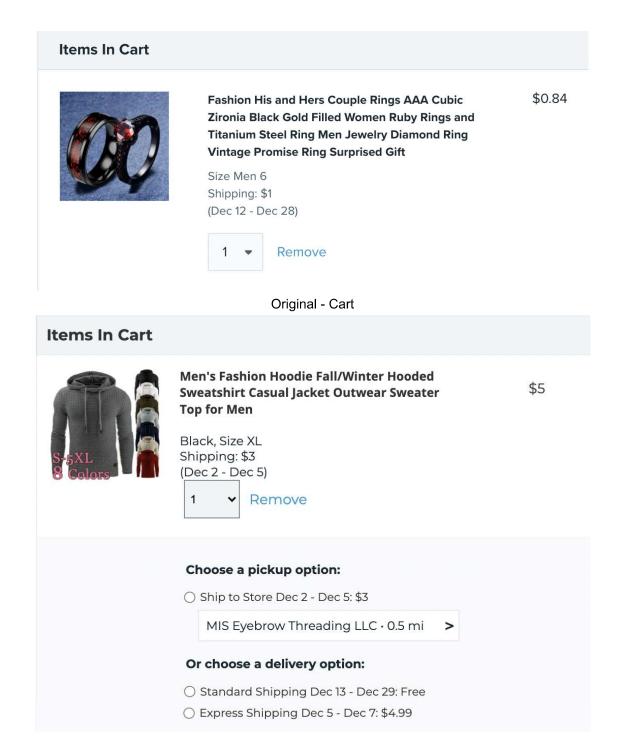


Redesign - Wishlist

Cart Page: Control and Customization

The users should be able to control the functionality of a system and should be able to customize based on their needs. A general user who has used e-commerce sites before will be familiar with the shipping options and would expect the site to have similar functionality. In the

original site, the shipping option for standard/express shipping or ship to store has to be selected while the product is added to the cart. It is not available at checkout. This was improved in the redesigned site where the user has an option to choose from one of the available shipping options.



Redesign - Cart

Overall Findings and Recommendations

Task 1

Original	Redesign
Total Participant : 6	Total Participant : 6
Total Successful : 4	Total Successful : 6
% Successful : 66.66	% Successful : 100

Metric	Mean	Standard Deviation	t-valve	p-valve	Significance
Time to	300.67	161.65	4.34868	0.001447	The result is statistically significant at 0.001447. On average, the users spent 52% lesser time on the redesigned site than the
task	140.33	121.03			original one. A lot of time was saved in eliminating the login screen and providing filtering.
Lostness	0.8	0.01	- 3.38358	0.006961	The result is statistically significant at 0.006961. The level of lostness also significantly reduced in the redesigned site as the user is now able to get access to the products faster with filtering and sorting
Lostness	0.69	0.03			options. The users seemed to be lost on the original site when they had to open up each product to find the one with the exact requirements.
Fanor	1.17	2.83	1 75110	0.0978	The result is not statistically significant at 0.0978. But, the overall trend of making errors was drastically reduced in the
Error	0.5	1.5	1.75412	0.0978	redesigned website. The users are well guided on the redesigned site compared to the original and hence they make fewer errors.

Original Sample Findings	Redesigned sample Findings	Recommendations/Comments
4 Participants completed the task successfully while other 2 participants made errors with selections.	·	site showed significant improvement in interms of time on task and lostness. The
task is 300.67, it's mostly due to the time consuming by selecting the products as the site lacks many basic filtering options and also the website	major reduction is due to the better filtering options and naming the product in the display thumbnail helps the user to better understand the product and reach the desired	filtering options and sorting options that we improvised in redesigned helped the user to reach the desired product with ease and pace. Making design changes to the product naming and display too played key roles in the improvement of performance.
to browse through the website is also one of the reasons for	Making login an option rather than making it mandatory helped people skip through the time consuming process.	

Task 2

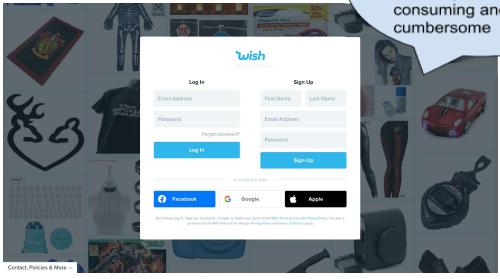
Original	Redesign
Total Participant : 6	Total Participant : 6
Total Successful : 5	Total Successful : 6
% Successful : 83.33	% Successful : 100

Metric	Mean	Standard Deviation	t-valve	p-valve	Significance			
Time to	217.33	104.2	3 54251 0 005334	The result is not statistically significant at 0.005334. On average, the users spent 52% lesser time on the redesigned site				
task	108.83	131.46			than the original one. A lot of time was saved in eliminating the login screen and providing filtering options			

	0.82	0.01	2 50724	0.004952	The result is statistically significant at 0.004952. The level of lostness also significantly reduced in the redesigned site as the user is now able to get access to the products	
Losuress	0.69 0.03 3.58721 0.0049		options. The users seeme lost on the original site what to open up each pr	faster with filtering and sorting options. The users seemed to be lost on the original site when they had to open up each product to find the one with the exact requirements.		
F	1.17	2.83	4.74600	0.444296	The result is not statistically significant at 0.111386. But, the overall trend of making errors was drastically reduced in the	
Error	0.5	1.5	1.74608	1.74608	0.111386	redesigned website. The users are well guided on the redesigned site compared to the original site and hence they make fewer errors.

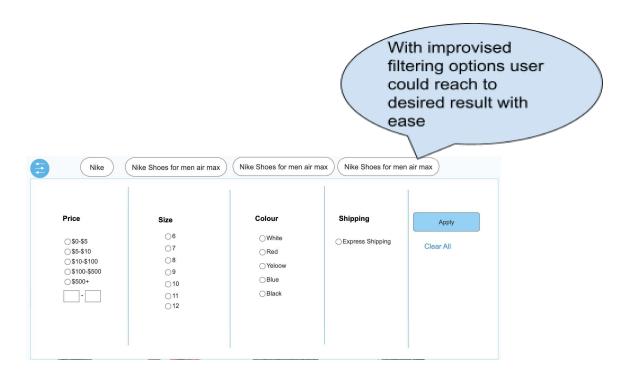
Original Sample Findings	Redesigned sample Findings	Recommendations/Commen ts			
5 Participants completed the task successfully while participants made errors with selections.	task successfully	site showed significant improvement in interms of time on task and lostness.			
The mean time of the time on task is 217.33, it's mostly due to the time consuming by selecting the products as the site lacks many basic filtering options and also the website lacks the naming on the product display thumbnails which make it difficult to identify the product by name.	major reduction is due to the better filtering options and naming the product in the display thumbnail helps the user to better understand the product and reach the desired	The filtering options and sorting options that we improvised in redesigned helped the user to reach the desired product with ease and pace. Making design changes to the product naming and display too played key roles in the improvement			
Making the login mandatory to browse through the website is also one of the reasons for high time on task	than making it mandatory	performance.			

Original Page making login page mandatory makes the search and wishlist process time consuming and cumbersome





With this minimalistic filtering options it becomes difficult to filter out the desired results Rating Price Shipping ★★★ & Up \$0 - \$5 Express Shipping Clear All ★★★& Up \$5 - \$10 ★★& Up \$10 - \$20 ★ Up \$20 - \$50 \$50 - \$100 \$100+



Satisfaction Index from Users

Ver	y Difficult					Very Easy
Participant - 1						
Participant - 2						
Participant - 3						
Participant - 4						
Participant - 5						
Participant - 6						
Very	/ Difficult				١	/ery Easy
Participant - 1						
Participant - 2						
Participant - 3						
Participant - 4						
Participant - 5						
Dartisia ant C						