#### Computer Aspect of HCI

# Prototyping techniques

#### Prototyping and construction

- •What is a prototype?
- •Why prototype?
- Different kinds of prototyping
  - low fidelity
  - medium fidelity
  - high fidelity
- Compromises in prototyping
- Construction

# What is a prototype?

In other design fields a prototype is a small-scale model:

a miniature car a miniature building or town

# What is a prototype?

In interaction design it can be (among other things):

- a series of screen sketches
- a storyboard, i.e. a cartoon-like series of scenes a Powerpoint slide show
- a video simulating the use of a system
- a piece of software with limited functionality written in the target language or in another language

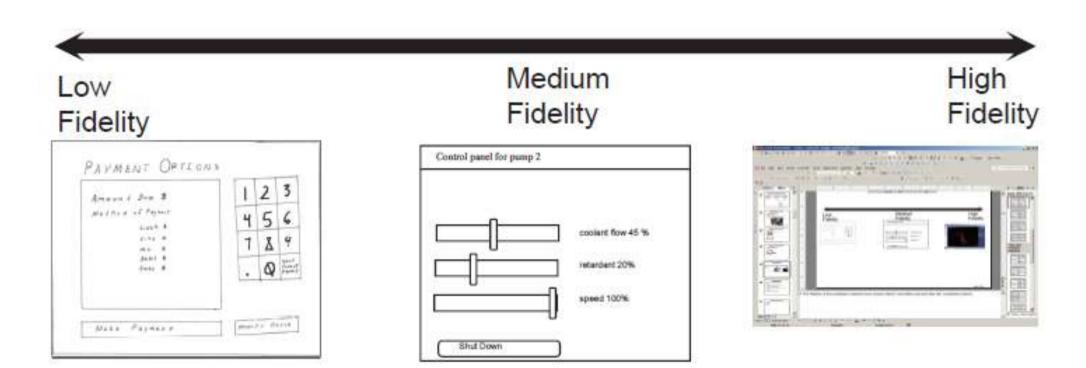
# Why prototype?

- Evaluation and feedback are central to interaction design
- Users can see, hold, interact with a prototype more easily than a document or a drawing
- •Team members can communicate effectively
- You can test out ideas for yourself
- Prototypes answer questions, and support designers in choosing between alternatives

# What to prototype?

- Technical issues
- Work flow, task design
- Screen layouts and information display
- Difficult, controversial, critical areas

#### Prototyping Techniques



#### Low Fidelity Prototypes

- Hand drawn mockups of some design ideas
- Focus on:
  - Brainstorming as many ideas as possible (discount usability)
  - Making it clear enough to be understandable
- But don't focus on making it "pretty"
  - They are not computer generated images (don't use drawing programs to generate them)
- May be used to elicit feedback from the user

# Types Of Low Fidelity Prototypes

- Sketches
- Storyboards

#### Low Fidelity Prototypes

#### •Sketches:

- A drawing of the high-level appearance of the intended system
- -The crudity of the prototype means people concentrate on high level concepts
- It may be hard to envision the progression of a dialog
- -Don't be inhibited about drawing ability. Practice simple symbols

#### Sketches

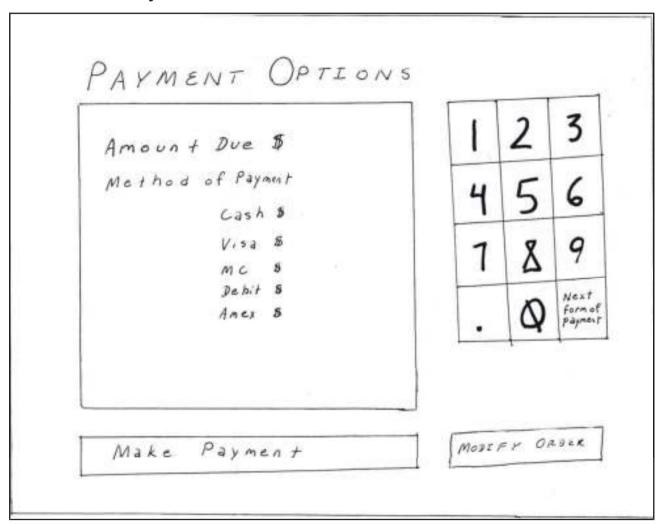
#### Screen 1: Initial order screen

THE	HAPPY	DUDE	MENU
1116	110111	2000	111010

BURGERS	FRIES	BEVERAGES			
BASIC MERRY BURGER \$150 (SINGLE BEEF PADDY)	SMIRKING SMALL FRIES 80.75	POP (LOKE, SPRETE OR ROOT BEER)	LTTTLE GIGHE SIZED BO.ZQ	MEDIUM CHUCKLESTZED \$1.00	GREAT GUFFAVSIU \$1,75
THE JOLLY BURGER \$2.25 (DOUBLE BEEF PROBY WITH LETTING & TOMBYO)	MEDIUM GRINNER FIZES \$1.00	JUICE (APRIE, O RANGEOR CRANBERRY)	\$1.00	\$1.50	81.75
CLASSIC HAPPY BURGER \$275 (DOUBLE BEEF PADDY, SWISS CHESTE, LETTUCE & TOMATO)	LARGE SMILEY FRIES \$ 1.50	COFFEE (DECAF, REGULAR, STRONG OR INSOMMENC)	\$ 0.75	\$ 7.00	\$ 1.25
THE ECSTATIC BURGER \$3500 (A TRIME DECKER BURGER DRIPPLING WITH SWITS CHEESE, LETTUCE & TOMATOES)	SUPER LARGE SMILLEY FROM \$ 1.75	TEA (HOT OR ICE)	\$0.75	\$1.00	\$7,25

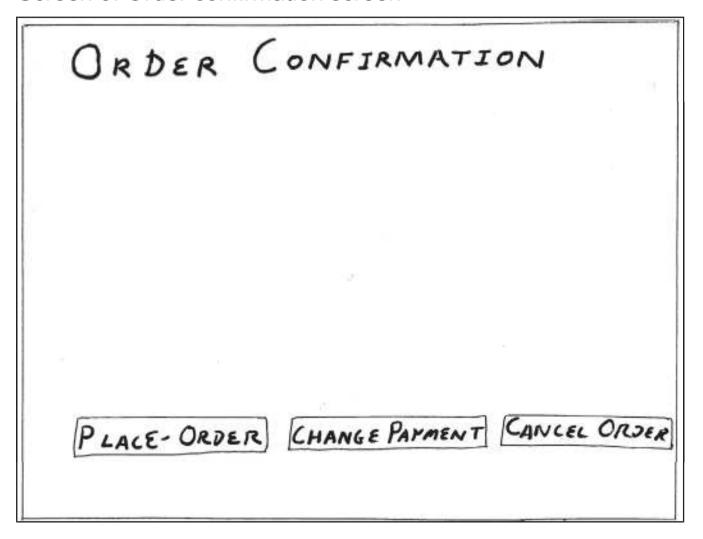
#### Sketches (2)

Screen 2: Payment screen



#### Sketches (3)

Screen 3: Order confirmation screen



#### Sketches (4)

Screen 4: Order is confirmed

YOUR ORDER HAS BEEN PLACED.

PLEASE TAKE YOUR RECEIPT TO THE COUNTER TO GET YOUR ORDER.

Thank you and come again!

#### Sketches (5)

Screen 5: Inactivity screen

#### WARNING!

YOU HAVE BEEN IDLE FOR TOO LONG

YOU NOW HAVE 'S SECONDS TO TOUCH THE SCREEN BEFORE YOUR ORDER IS CANCELLED

#### Low Fidelity Prototypes

- Storyboarding
- -It's a series of key frames
  - Originally from film; used to get the idea of a scene
  - Snapshots of the interface at particular points in the interaction

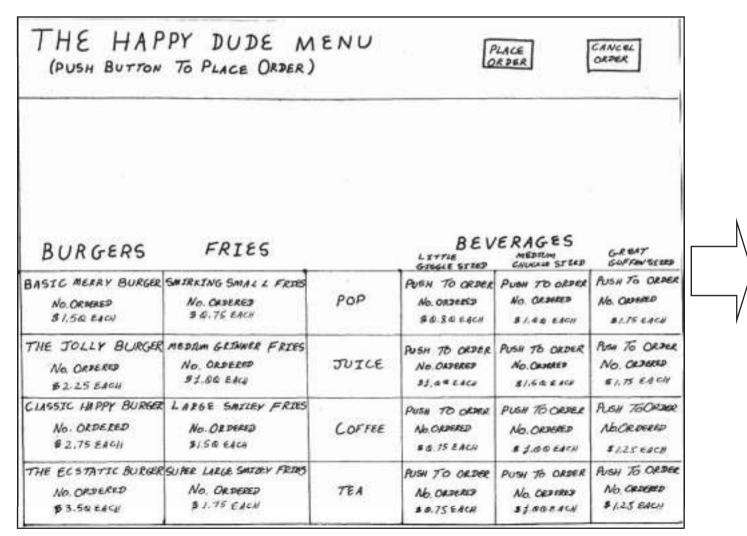


• For interfaces it allows users to quickly evaluate the direction of the design

# Storyboards

- Often used with scenarios, bringing more detail, and a chance to role play
- It is a series of sketches showing how a user might progress through a task using the device
- Used early in design

#### Storyboarding



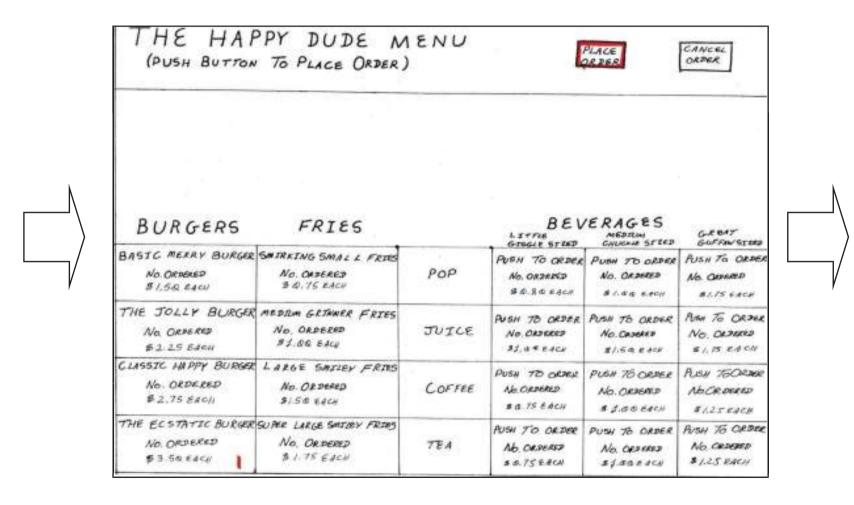
Initial order screen

# Storyboarding (2)

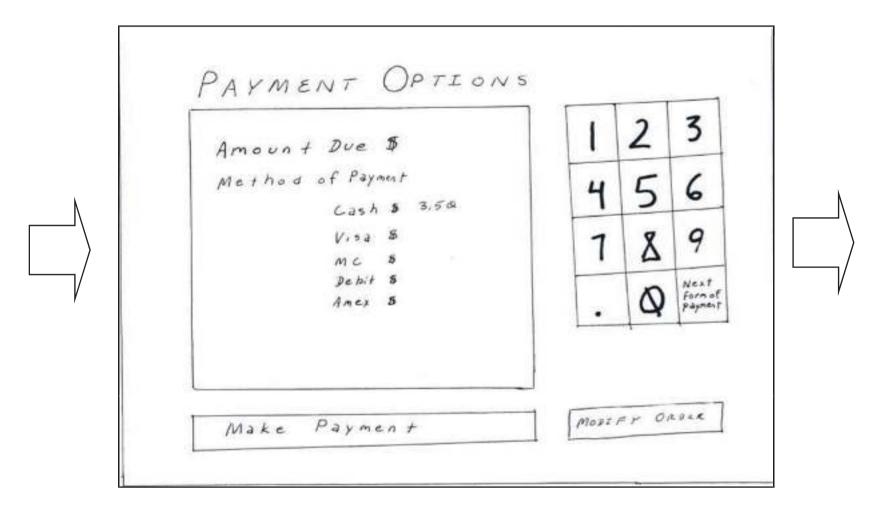
(PUSH BUTTON	TO PLACE ORDER)	2.		RDER	ORTHER
BURGERS	FRIES		BEV	ERAGES MEDIUM CHUCKUE STEED	GREAT GUFFENSTEES
BASTC MERRY BURGER No. ORDERED \$1,50 8400	SMIRKING SMALL FRIES  No. CARRED B 0.75 EACH	POP		PUBLI TO ORPER No. ORPERED S/SE EACH	PUSH TO ORDER No. OWNERD B1.75 EACH
THE JOLLY BURGER  No ORPERED  \$2.15 EACH	MEDRIM GRIANER FRIES  No. ORDERED  81.00 EACH	JUICE	PUSH TO ORDER No OKSERES 31,4 4 EACH	PUSH TO ORDER No. CAMPER 8/64 E 444	No. ORTHER NO. ORTHER ST. IS EACH
CLASSIC HAPPY BURGER No. OKDERED \$ 2,75 EACH	LARGE SMILEY FRIES  No. ORDERED  \$1.50 EACH	COFFEE	PUSH TO ORREZ NO ORBERTO 8 S. 75 E ACH	PLON TO ORDER NO ORDERS 8 2.00 EACH	ALSH TOCKNOR ALCRONORD \$1,25 EACH
	SLINE LARGE SMITHEY FRIES		PUSH TO DEDER	PUSH TO DEBER	FUSH TO CREEKE

User orders an "Ecstatic Burger"

#### Storyboarding (3)

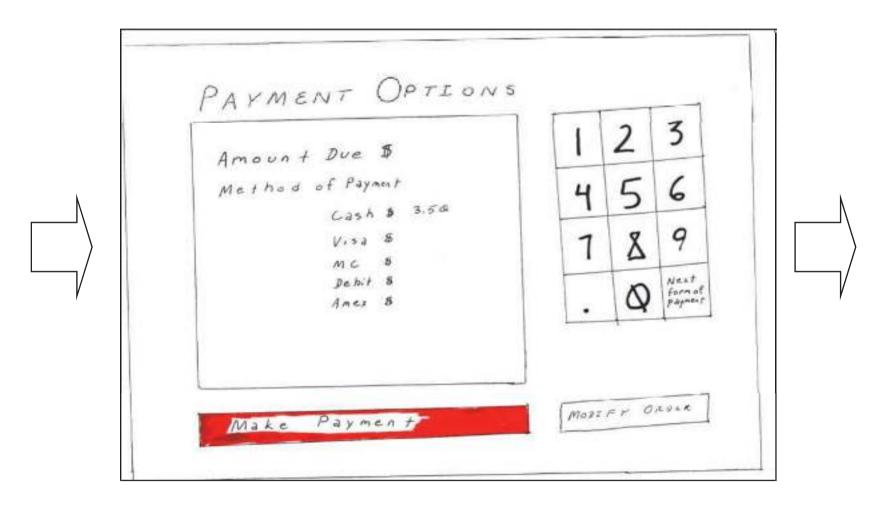


## Storyboarding (4)



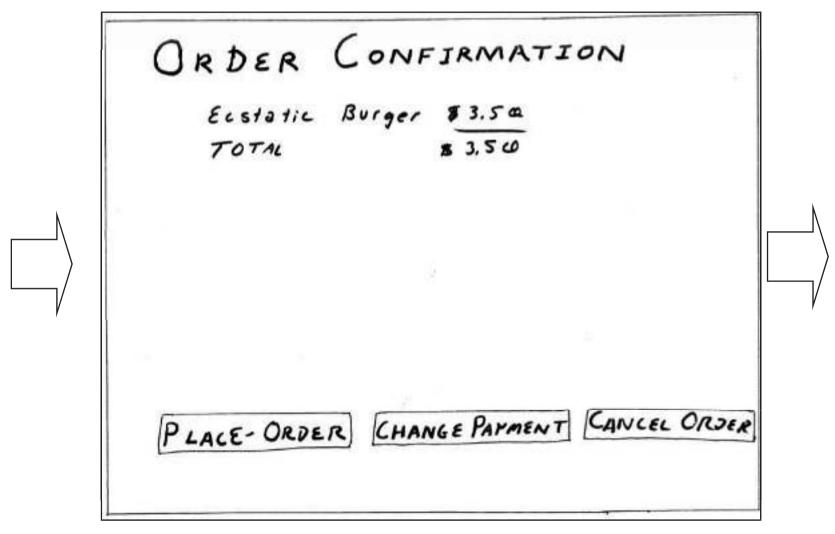
Payment screen comes up

# Storyboarding (5)



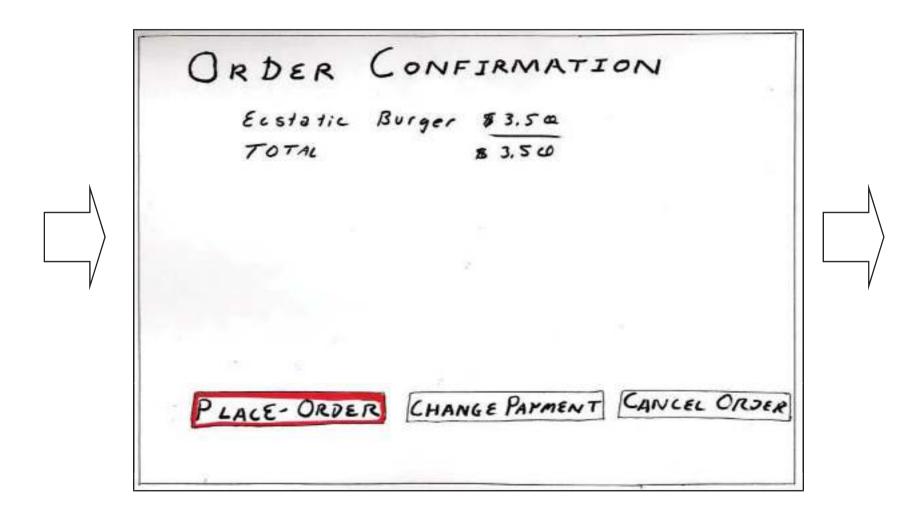
User pays with cash

## Storyboarding (6)



Order confirmation screen comes up

#### Storyboarding (7)



#### Storyboarding (8)

```
YOUR ORDER HAS
BEEN PLACED.
PLEASE TAKE YOUR RECEIPT TO
THE COUNTER TO GET YOUR
OR DER .
Thank you and come again!
```

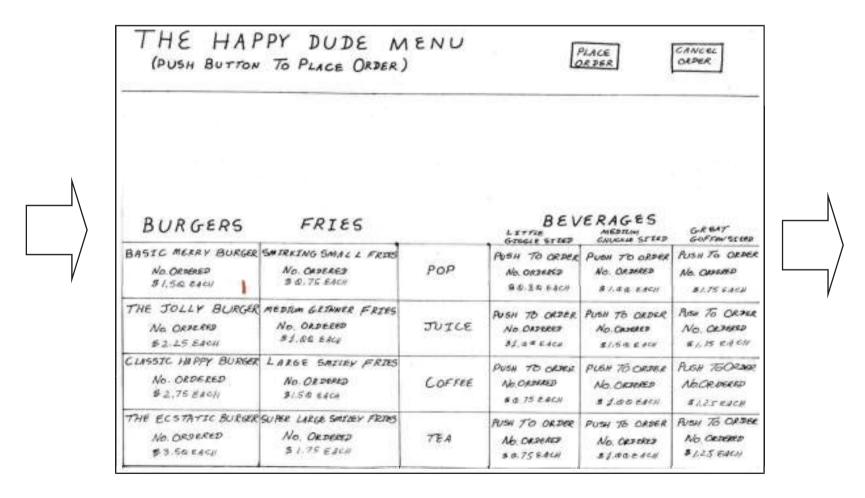
Order confirmation is shown

# Storyboarding: Alternate Path

(PUSH BUTTON	TO PLACE ORDER)			RPER	
BURGERS	FRIES		BEV	ERAGES MEDIUM CHUCHU SITAD	GREAT GUFFAN SELED
BASIC MEKRY BURGE No.ORMERP B1.50 EACH	SMIRKING SMALL FRIES No. CADERED 3 0.75 EACH	POP		PUBLI TO DEPEK No. OKRRED 81.84 EACH	PUSH TO ORDER No. OWERED BJ.TS EACH
THE JOLLY BURGER No ORPER® \$2.15 EACH	MEDEM GLIMMER FRIES No. ORDERED 81.00 EACH	JUICE	PUSH TO ORDER No. ORDERED 31, a 4 EACH	PUBLI TO ORDER No. Careers 81.50.2104	RAN TO CROSER NO. CROSER SILTS EACH
CLASSIC HAPPY BURGER No. ORDERED \$ 2.75 EACH	LARGE SMILEY FRIES No. OLDERED \$1.50 EACH	COFFEE	PUSH TO CAMER Ab.ORDERED 8 g. 75 EACH	PUGH TÓ CRPER No. CRPERED 8 J.O.O EACH	PLISH TEORIDE ABORDORED \$1.25 EACH
	SUPER LARGE SHITEY PRINTS		PUSH TO DEDER	PUSH TO ORDER	AUSH TO OFFICE

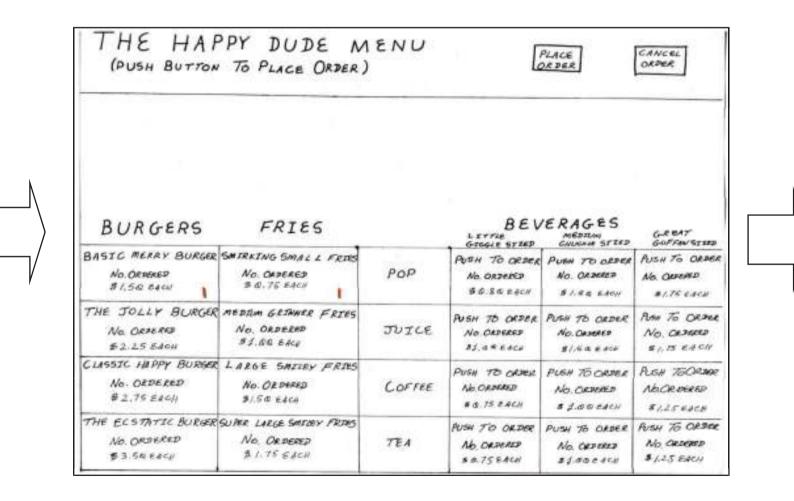
Initial order screen

#### Storyboarding: Alternate Path (2)



User orders a "Basic Merry Burger"

#### Storyboarding: Alternate Path (3)



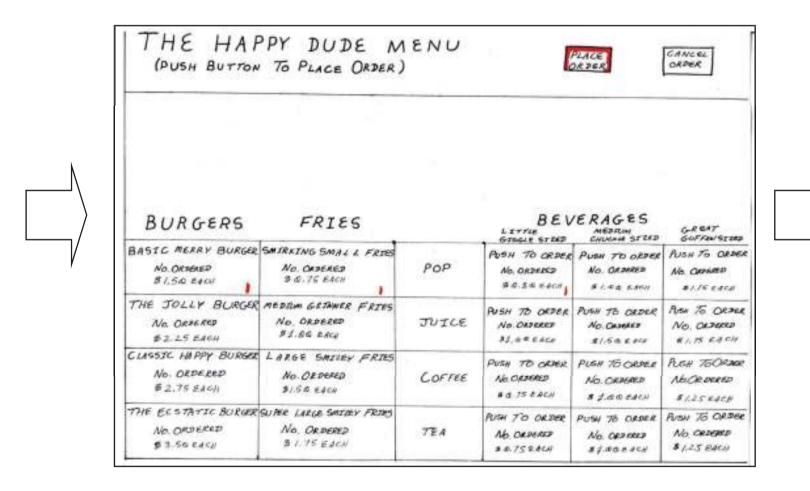
User orders "Smirking small fries"

# Storyboarding: Alternate Path (4)

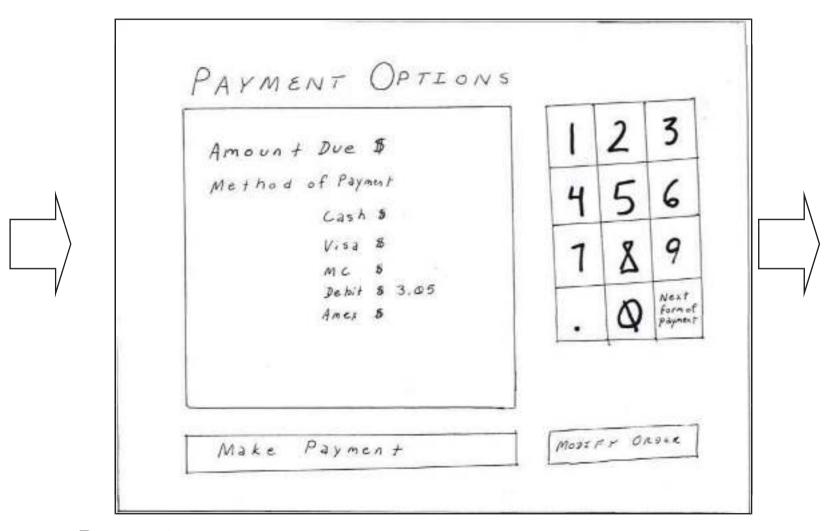
THE HAPPY DUDE N (PUSH BUTTON TO PLACE ORDER,			PLACE DK PBR	CANCEL
BURGERS FRIES		BEV	ERAGES	GR GAT GOF FAW STIZE
BASTC MERRY BURGER SMIRKING SMALL FRES No. ORDERED 8 1.542 EACH S 0.75 EACH	POP		PUBN TO OFFER No. OFFERED S.I.E. E.SCH	PUSH TO ORDER NO. ORDER 10.75 FACE
THE JOLLY BURGER MEDEM GLIMER FRIES  No. ORFERED No. ORDERED  \$ 2.15 EACH \$ \$1.00 EACH	JUICE	PUSH TO DEPER No CASERES 31, 4 E ACA	PUSH TO ORDER No. ORMARD 81.50 EACH	Run To ORDEN No. ORDEND E. 15 ERCH
CLASSIC HAPPY BURGER LARGE SMILEY FRIES  No. ORDERED No. ORDERED  \$ 2,75 Each \$1.50 Eace	COFFEE	PUSH TO ORDER No ORDERED 8-9-75 EACH	PLEN TO CROSE A No. CROSSED 8 2.00 EACH	RIGH TOCKMEN ABORDERED \$1.25 EACH
THE ECSTATIC BURGER SUPER LARGE SMILEY PRIES  NO. ORDERED NO. ORDERED  \$ 3.50 EACH \$ 1.75 EACH	TEA	PUSH TO ORDER  Ab ORDERED  \$ 0.75 EACH	PUSH TO CREEK No. CREEKE \$1.00 2.400	RVSH 76 OR\$6 No OR\$682 \$ 125 EACH

User orders a "Giggle sized pop"

#### Storyboarding: Alternate Path (5)

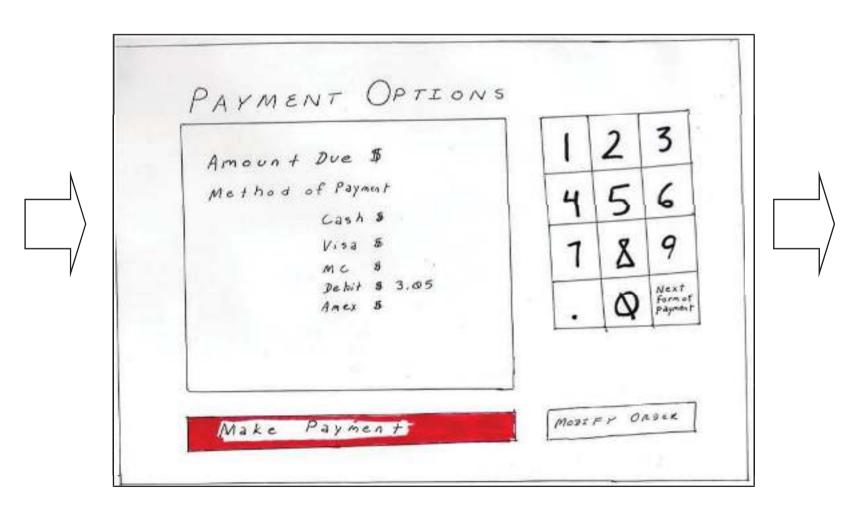


#### Storyboarding: Alternate Path (6)



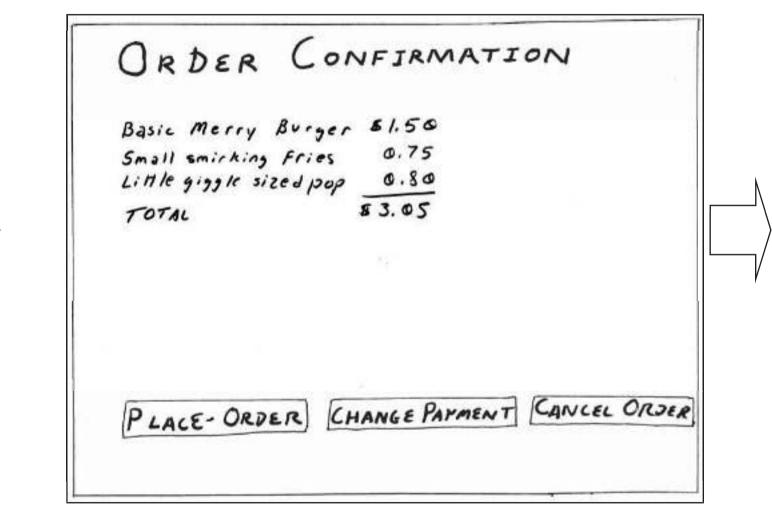
Payment screen comes up

#### Storyboarding: Alternate Path (7)



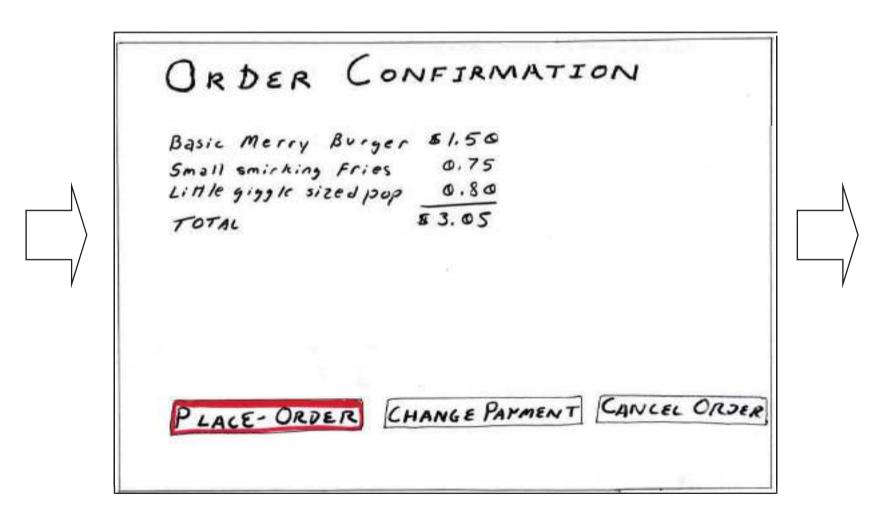
User pays by debit

# Storyboarding: Alternate Path (8)



Order confirmation screen comes up

## Storyboarding: Alternate Path (9)



#### Storyboarding: Alternate Path (10)



Order confirmation is shown

#### Medium Fidelity Prototypes

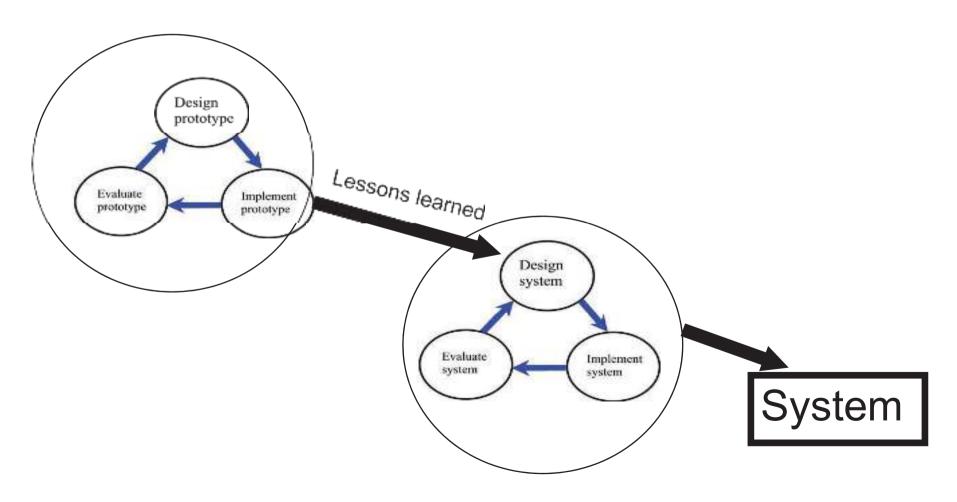
- Many different types
  - Range from simple computer draw images to partially working systems
- They may take longer to generate and change than simple low fidelity representations
- Benefits
  - It seems more like the completed system so it provides a clearer idea of how it works
  - May be used to elicit feedback from the user when lowfidelity approaches cannot be used

- Tutorials and manuals
- -Write them in advance of the system
- -What are they?
  - Tutorial for step by step description of an interaction
    - -an interface "walk-through" with directions
  - Manual for reference of key concepts
    - -in-depth technical description of the different parts of the system
- -Does this work?
  - People often read manuals of competing products to check:
    - -interface, functionality, match to task
  - Acts as a design tool

- Approaches to integrating prototypes and the final product:
  - -Throw-away
  - -Incremental
  - -Evolutionary

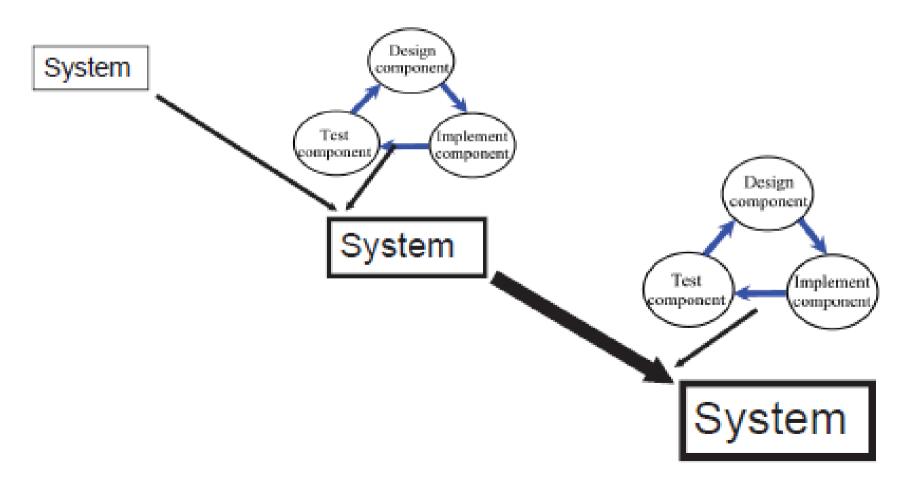
### Throw-Away Approach To Prototyping

- The prototype only is used to get feedback
- •The prototype is built, tested and then discarded



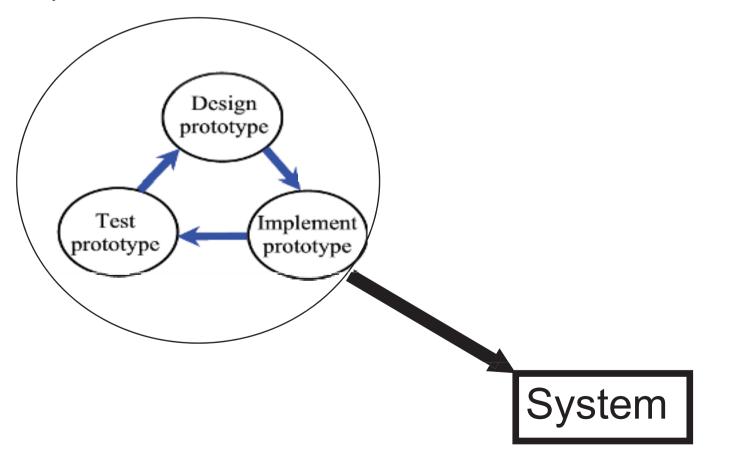
# Incremental Approach To Prototyping

- Build the system as separate modules (component)
- •Each module is designed, prototyped and completed separately before being added to the final system

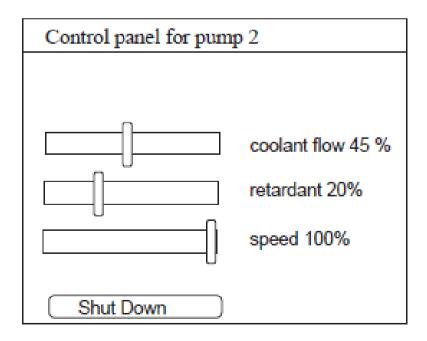


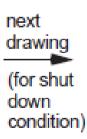
# Evolutionary Approach To Prototyping

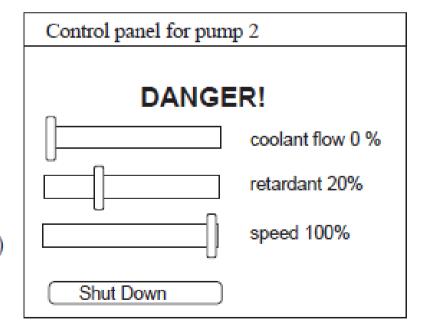
- Change the prototype itself in order to incorporate changes
- Eventually the reworked prototype becomes the final system



- Painting/drawing packages
  - Draw each storyboard scene on computer
    - Neater/easier (?) to change on the fly than paper

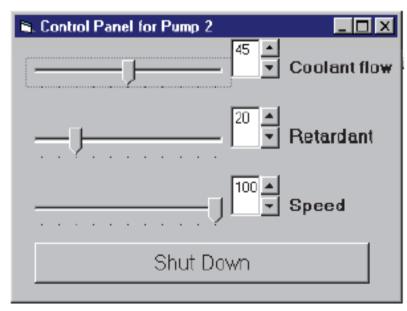






- Scripted simulations and slide shows
  - Encode the storyboard on the computer
    - Created with media tools
    - Scene transition activated by simple user inputs

- Interface builders
  - -Tools for letting a designer lay out the common widgets
  - Construct mode
    - Change attributes of objects
  - -Test mode:
    - Objects behave as they would under real situations
  - Excellent for showing look and feel
    - A broader horizontal prototype
    - But constrained to widget library
  - Vertical functionality added selectively
    - Through programming



# High fidelity prototyping

- •Uses materials that you would expect to be in the final product.
- Prototype looks more like the final system than a low-fidelity version.
- •For a high-fidelity software prototype common environments include Macromedia Director, Visual Basic, and Smalltalk.
- Danger that users think they have a full system

# The Prototyping Process

#### Early designs

Brainstorm different representations

Choose a representation

Rough out interface style

Task centered walkthrough and redesign

Fine tune interface, screen design

and redesign

Usability testing and redesign

Limited field testing

Alpha/Beta tests

Low fidelity paper prototypes

Medium fidelity prototypes

High fidelity prototypes / restricted systems

Working systems

Later designs

# Screen design

#### Two aspects:

- How to split across screens
   moving around within and between
   screens
   how much interaction per screen?
- Individual screen design
   white space: balance between enough
   information/interaction and clarity
   grouping items together: separation with
   boxes? lines? colors?

# Screen design: splitting function across screens

- Task analysis as a starting point
- Each screen contains a single simple step?
- Frustration if too many simple screens

# Screen design: individual screen design

- Draw user attention to salient point, e.g. colour, motion, boxing
- Animation is very powerful but can be distracting
- Good organization helps: grouping, physical proximity

# Grouping

A:	B:
C:	D:
E:	F:
G:	H:

A:	E:
B:	F:
C:	G: H:

Right Wrong

