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"3 button designs from 3 different decades that almost resulted in catastrophe" written by Pulkit Verma, is an article about how major problems occurred due to simple design flaws in buttons. Whether it be placement, or what the button represented; all of these examples show that when designing, everything, no matter how small, should be meticulously created.

The first button example comes from Pennsylvania in 1979. The buttons in a U.S. commercial nuclear power plant were confusing, which caused huge usability problems. When the nuclear accident began, failures happened within a non-nuclear secondary system but worsened due to a valve being stuck open. Operators thought the valve was because the status light indicated otherwise, but it turned out that the button had nothing to do with the valve; the light was only on because that was the indication that it was powered. If the nuclear operators knew exactly what each button did, they could've stopped major damage before it occurred.

The second button design example comes from Palm Beach County, Florida, in the year 2000. The electronic voting system used a vote counting system called the "butterfly ballot". This ballot was poorly designed and led to mass confusion which caused a large number of voters to mismark their ballots. The layout of the buttons caused voters to vote for Reform Party candidate, Pat Buchanan, when they intended to vote for Al Gore from the Democratic Party instead. In the end, the votes were recounted and Bush still won regardless, but the whole voting process led to calls for electoral reform in Florida.

The last button design comes from Lincoln cars in 2015. The location of the engine start/stop button was placed directly below the "sport" mode button. This caused drivers to turn off their cars while driving at high speeds, instead of switching to sport mode due to their limited attention to which button they were pressing. Lincoln ended up recalling all 13,574 cars produced and moved the engine start/stop button at the very opposite end of the column to lower the chances of drivers stopping their engine while driving.

In the end, it's important to understand that bad design can lead to catastrophes. Something as small as button position can lead to people being harmed in very serious ways. When designing something, all parts, no matter how small, should be carefully thought out and considered.