

## 1. What is Prototyping?

- Definition:** Building a draft or an early version of a product or system to explore, demonstrate, and test design ideas for part or all of the system.
- Place in Design Thinking:** Prototyping follows the ideate phase and precedes the test phase. It involves building real, tactile representations of ideas.

## 2. Prototyping Methods

- Low-Fidelity:** Mocking up designs using sketches and basic supplies (paper, pens, etc.).
- Interactive:** Prototyping with digital elements, often using software to simulate interactions.
- Wireframes (with Annotations):** Lo-fi prototypes showing the structure and components of a design, often using wireframe tools.
- Clickdummy:** Most useful in early-to-mid design stages.
- Interactive Prototyping:** Creating realistic prototypes focusing on navigation or interaction.
- Wizard of Oz:** Involves living screens/pages to simulate transitions and navigation.
- Native Prototyping:** Implementing and testing design ideas directly on the target technology platform (e.g., using React Studio, Bootstrap Studio).

## 3. Prototyping Theory

- Dimensions of Prototyping:** Prototypes represent three dimensions of a design idea:
  - Role:** The functions the system serves in the user's life (how it's used).
  - Look and Feel:** The sensory experience (what the user sees, hears, feels).
  - Implementation:** The technical capabilities enabling the system's function (how it works).
- Integration:** Combining these dimensions creates a holistic prototype or pre-alpha product.
- Prototyping Scope:** Refers to the breadth and depth of features/functions represented.
- Horizontal Prototype:** Broad view of the entire system, focusing on user interaction over deep functionality (e.g., Good for testing discoverability and findability initially).
- Vertical Prototype:** Focuses on a single feature, providing its full functionality in depth. Good for testing usability of specific interactions.
- Prototyping Fidelity:** The level of detail in the prototype.
- Hi-Fi Fidelity (Hi-Fi):** Rough representations (e.g., sketches, paper prototypes).
- Lo-Fi Fidelity (Lo-Fi):** More refined representations (e.g., clickable prototypes, interactive wireframes).

- Benefits:** Lower cost, encourages broader feedback, allows rapid iteration, helps identify high-level issues (structure, navigation).
- Limitations:** Needs facilitation, limited ability to find detailed breakdowns, lacks development space, limited feasibility sense.
- High-fidelity (Hi-Fi):** Closer to the final product (e.g., interactive mockups, native prototypes).
- Consideration:** The more "done" it looks, the narrower (more specific) the feedback tends to be. Use no higher fidelity than necessary.

## 4. Choosing the Right Method

- Consider these factors:**
  - Project Team:** What do you need to learn or test? (e.g., conceptual feedback, navigation testing, look & feel communication).
  - Availability and Resources:** What tools and skills does the team have?
  - Timeline:** How much time can be dedicated to prototyping?
- Stage of Design:**
  - Early (Concept):** Sketches, Paper Prototyping.
  - Mid (Structure/Navigation):** Wireframes, Interactive Prototypes (Lo-Fi).
  - Late (Look & Feel/Implementation):** Interactive Prototypes (Hi-Fi), Native Prototyping.

## 1. Mobile Input

- Overview:** Mobile input primarily uses touch-sensitive screens, requiring direct manipulation and multi-touch gestures. Mobile devices have unique input and sensing capabilities.
- Direct Manipulation:** Unlike the relational mapping of mouse/trackpad on desktops, mobile uses absolute mapping where the user directly interacts with screen elements.
- Multi-Touch Gestures:**
  - Tap:** Brief touch, maps to a desktop click for selection or activation.
  - Double-Tap:** Two rapid taps, used for zooming, selecting items, or toggling states.
  - Triple-Tap:** Selects a sentence, quadruple-tap selects a paragraph.
  - Long-Press:** Touching the surface for an extended time, used for contextual menus, content previews, or enabling editing modes.
  - Drag/Swipe:** Moving a fingertip across the surface without losing contact. Used for scrolling, moving objects, or adjusting content. Vertical (up/down) for content; horizontal swipes scroll carousels, open drawers, or navigate screens. Dragging can also move objects or operate context menus.
  - Pinch/Spread (Two-Finger):** Bringing two fingers closer (pinch) or moving them apart (spread) to shrink or expand elements like maps or photos.
  - Pinch/Swipe (Three-Finger):** Often mapped to OS-level gestures like switching apps or search.
  - Extended Touch:** Holding a finger on the screen to reveal hidden options.
  - Rotate:** Touching with two fingers and moving in a circular direction.
- Considerations:** Consider how people hold devices (one-handed, two-handed, handed) and the device size to determine reach zones (Comfort, Reachable, Hard) when choosing gestures.
- Motion Gestures:** Involves moving the device itself (e.g., shake to undo, Office 365). Pay attention to device ergonomics and user expectations.
- Examples:** include placing the phone to ear to answer a phone call.
- Example (S1):** Pay attention to device ergonomics and user expectations.

## 2. Microinteractions

- Definition:** Contained product moments revolving around a single action (e.g., liking, posting, post-to-refresh). Think of them as single-purpose action-feedback pairs.
- Structure:** Four parts:
  - Trigger:** Initiates the microinteraction. Can be manual (user-initiated) or automatic (system-initiated).
  - Rules:** Determine what happens (and doesn't) when triggered.
  - Feedback:** How the system signals what's happening (visual, aural, haptic).
  - Loops & Modes:** Meta-rules changing behavior based on context.

- Loops:** Determine duration, repetition (like a fridge door alarm), or changes over time (like a microwave timer).
- Modes:** Switch system operation (e.g., "do not disturb") silent mode changing feedback from chime to vibration.
- Pro Tip:** Keep microinteractions focused on a single task/action; don't let them become complex features.
- Mobile Platforms:** are constrained, and patterns help overcome limitations.
- Screen Carousels:** Full-screen horizontal arrays for displaying different pieces of the same information type (e.g., weather for different cities).
- Drawers:** Slide-out panels (usually from the side) providing navigation links or settings controls.
- Lists:** Vertical stacks of items (text, controls, thumbnails) supporting vertical scrolling.
- Grids:** Large continuous grids (or panes of grids) for vertical or horizontal scrolling, often used for visual content like photos or icons.

- Carousels (Content):** A horizontal row of content items (images, cards) navigated by swiping left/right.
- Swimlanes:** Stacked content carousels, allowing visual browse through several rows/categories simultaneously.
- Cards:** Rectangular containers with images/text serving as entry points to more detail. Can be organized in lists/grids, combining multiple content.
- Bars:** Horizontal or vertical strips with buttons/tabs.
- Navigation Bar:** For navigation between content (top or bottom).
- Navigation Bar:** Activate application or OS functions.
- Navigation Bar:** Link to previous content (often next/previous items).
- Search, Sorting, Filtering:** Provide ways to navigate large amounts of content via search boxes (text/voice input, history) and filtering/sorting options.
- Guided Tours:** Guided tour/welcome/home screens acting as portals to common functions or guides.
- Guided Tours:** Provide ways to help new users.
- Advance Direct Manipulation:** Custom controls for content creation/editing in apps like image editors or media players (e.g., sliders, zoom, crop, rotate).
- Panels and Palettes:** Multi-pane structures and pop-up panels, common on tablets, providing secondary windows and options.
- AR/VR (Mixed Reality):** Overlaying digital objects/info onto the real-world view captured by the device.

## 1. Introduction to Conversational Interfaces (CIs)

- Definition:** Technology supporting conversational interaction with virtual personal assistants (VPAs) via speech and other modalities.
- Advances:** Machine learning, natural language processing, speech recognition (audio to words), spoken language understanding (words to meaning), dialog management (decides next system action), response generation (meaning to words).
- Text-to-Speech Synthesis:** Words to audio.
- Value Proposition:** While often less effective, efficient, and satisfactory than GUIs, CIs deliver value: In contexts with constraints (e.g., driving), For accessibility (addressing vision, motor, cognitive deficiencies).
- Challenges:** Automating tasks like installation, login, payment, notifications within a conversational paradigm.

## 2. Design Principles for Conversational Interfaces

- Principles:** Derived from the cooperative principle for effective conversation:
  - Quantity:** Provide just the right amount of information.
  - Quality:** Be as clear and accurate.
  - Quantity:** Provide just the right amount of information.
  - Relevance:** Provide appropriate and relevant information.
  - Fluency:** Be clear and cooperative.
  - Modality:** Most CIs are multimodal, using visual and audio, speech, touch, etc.
  - Principle:** Leverage other modalities (visuals, vibrations) where appropriate. Use them for breaks, decisions, or interruptions.
  - Turn-taking:** Core structure involving one speaker at a time and token exchange.
  - Principles:** One speaker at a time; explicit signaling for turn exchange; handle interruptions (difficult).
  - Conversational Markers:** Speech cues indicating conversation state transitions.
  - Types:** Timelines ("First," "Finally"), Acknowledgment ("Got it"), "Sorry about that", Positive Feedback ("Good job").
  - Confirmations:** Improve usability and transparency, operate context menus.
  - Explicit:** Require user confirmation ("Is that right?").
  - Implicit:** Let the user know what was understood via results or next prompt ("Ok, setting reminder...").
  - Errors:** Handling: Address errors gracefully, direct feedback.
  - Types of Errors:** No speech detected, speech not correctly recognized, unrecognized action, unrecognized intent, unrecognized command/prototype CI interactions, showing flows based on system state, user behavior, etc.
  - Personality:** Designing a personality for the CI.
  - Why it Works:** By acting out interactions, we apply our tacit knowledge of conversational norms ("What I do, I understand").
  - When to Use:** Understanding existing user experiences/context.
  - Exploring and evaluating design ideas.**
  - Communicating ideas.**

## 3. Experience Prototyping

- The Problem:** Conventional prototyping methods have limited support for CIs because human interaction relies on tacit knowledge (knowing more than we can tell).
- Definition:** Prototyping the experience of interacting with a product/system. Any representation designed to understand, explore, or communicate what it might be like to engage with the system.
- Why it Works:** By acting out interactions, we apply our tacit knowledge of conversational norms ("What I do, I understand").
- When to Use:** Understanding existing user experiences/context.
- Exploring and evaluating design ideas.**
- Communicating ideas.**

- What to Prototype:**
  - System behavior.
  - User behavior.
  - Interactions with context.
  - How to Do It (Steps).
- Define Context:** Where does the interaction occur? (e.g., mobile app, website, kiosk).
- Develop Scenarios:** What concrete interactions need support? (e.g., buying a ticket, cooking a meal).
- Identify Key Elements:** What role does the design play? What capabilities does it offer? (e.g., find/filter flights, provide local reminders).
- Set up the Experience:** Reconstruct the context physically (e.g., use props).
- Act out Interaction:** How does the interaction unfold? Roleplay the scenario.
- Bodystorming:** Physically experiencing a situation to gain insights.
- Develop Insight:** What was learned about system/user behavior and context interactions?
- Pro Tip:** Experience prototyping can feel awkward; push through it to focus on design.

## 1. Computers as Social Actors (CASA)

- Definition:** A paradigm stating that humans mindlessly apply social heuristics from human-human interaction to computers, treating them as social agents. Mindlessness relies on past distinctions without active thought.
- Implications:** People attribute social characteristics to computers, such as gender, ethnicity, group membership, personality, and affective social roles like politeness and reciprocity.

## 2. Social-Psychological Theories in Agent Design

- Similarity-Attraction Theory:** "Likeness begets liking." People are attracted to agents similar to themselves.
- Explicit Characteristics:** Age, gender, language, accent.
- Implicit Characteristics:** Personality (e.g., extroversion), intentionality, affective social roles like politeness and reciprocity.
- User Preferences:** Robots matching user introversion/extraversion through voice contact increased user motivation (though intrinsic motivation is stronger).
- Consistency-Attraction Theory:** People prefer agents that behave consistently with their cognitive load and increases predictability.
- Internal Consistency:** Behaviors, appearance, function are mutually consistent.
- External Consistency:** Design aligns with user expectations and preferences.
- Application:** Creating believable characters requires consistent behavior, verbal/nonverbal behaviors, and cultural expression.

## 3. Designing Character Speech

- Politeness Theory:** Individuals use communication strategies to express and minimize face threats to a face (self-esteem/public image).
- Face:**
  - Positive Face:** Need for self-image to be accepted, appreciated, approved.
  - Negative Face:** Need for independence, freedom from imposition.
- Face Saving:** Threatening: Saving face involves showing deference (negative face) or solidarity (positive face). Threatening face opposes the other's politeness.
- Politeness Types:**
  - Positive Politeness:** Avoiding offense through friendliness, emphasizing common ground.
  - Negative Politeness:** Avoiding offense through deference, minimizing imposition.
- Effective Politeness Strategies (Do Use):**
  - Gratitude ("I really appreciate...")
  - Deference ("Nice work so far...")
  - Indirectness ("By the way, where did you find...")
  - "Please" (mid-sentence) ("Could you please say more...")
  - Apologizing ("Sorry to bother you...")
  - Counterbalancing Ideals ("Could/Would you...")
  - Greeting ("Hey, I just tried to...")
- Ineffective/Rude Strategies (Don't Use):**
  - Directness ("I need you to review it or not?")
  - Factuality ("In fact you did link...")
  - 2nd Person Start ("You've reverted yourself...")
  - "Please" Start ("Please do not remove your avatars...")
  - Direct Question ("What is your native language?")
  - Negative Lexicon ("If you're going to accuse me...")
  - Questioning: Measurements of performance, errors, ratings.

- Who (Users, Team):**
  - Define Participants:** Recruit users representative of target subgroups (based on experience, demographics, domain knowledge, etc.).
  - Assign Team Roles:** Moderator (guides participant), Note-taker (records data), Observer(s), Technician (operates system and equipment).
- Test Plan (Protocol):** A document detailing the Why, What, How, and Who. Includes scripts, checklists, consent forms, etc.
- 5. Measurement**
  - Performance Metrics:**
    - Task Success:** Completion rate (binary or levels).
    - Time on Task:** Time taken to complete.
    - Errors:** Frequency and type of mistakes.
    - Efficiency:** Effort required (e.g., clicks, steps).
    - Learnability:** Change in performance over time/repeated use.
  - Self-Report Metrics:** User perceptions and experiences.
  - Latent Scale:** Numerical rating scales with descriptive anchors (e.g., "Strongly Disagree" to "Strongly Agree").
  - Standardized Questionnaires:**
    - SUS (System Usability Scale):** 10 items, widely used general usability measure.
    - USE (Usability, Ease of Use, Ease of Learning):** Feedback: Open-ended questions, narratives.
    - Issue-Based Metrics:** Identifying usability problems.
    - Identification:** Use images to create focal points or imply movement, verbal/non-verbal cues (frustration, confusion, surprise).
    - Severity Ratings:** Prioritize issues based on impact (user experience, business), frequency, and cost. Levels:
      - Low:** Annoyance; doesn't cause task failure.
      - Medium:** Causes significant difficulty, but not task failure.
      - High:** Directly leads to task failure.

## 4. Personality in Artificial Agents

- Definition:** Individual differences in characteristic patterns of thinking, feeling, and behaving.
- Models:**
  - Personality Traits (e.g., Big Five):** Openness, Conscientiousness, Extraversion, Agreeableness, Neuroticism (OCEAN).
  - Personality Types (e.g., Myers-Briggs - MBTI):** Posits distinct personality categories (16 types) on combinations of preferences (Extraversion/Introversion, Sensing/Intuition, Thinking/Feeling, Judging/Perceiving).
  - Design Strategies:**
    - Personality Matching:** Agent matches user (leverages similarity/attraction).
    - Complementary Personality:** Agent has a personality that complements user (e.g., task-focused agent for a visionary user).
    - Personality Expression:** Conveying personality through:
      - Language use (politeness, expertise cues)
      - Visible cues (gaze, gesture, facial expression, appearance)
      - Marking & Branding
      - Specialization & Domain Knowledge
    - Persons Development:** Creating detailed fictional characters based on user research to represent user types. Agents can be designed to align with or interact effectively with specific user personas.

## 1. Why Evaluate?

- User experience (UX) design aims to create meaningful and relevant user experiences.
- Evaluation, specifically the Test phase, is a core part of the iterative design process (Empathize, Define, Ideate, Prototype, Test, Implement).
- Testing-based methods involve empirical testing with users representing the target population.

## 2. Defining Usability (The Five-E Model)

- Effective:** How completely and accurately users achieve goals.
  - Evaluation:** Use tasks of varying difficulty; measure accuracy, unexpected errors.
- Efficient:** How quickly users can complete work.
  - Evaluation:** Use realistic tasks; measure time, working software/h/fi-prototype; assess subjective speed via interviews.
- Engaging:** How well the interface draws users in and is pleasant/satisfying.
  - Evaluation:** Use satisfaction surveys/interviews; comparative preference tests; allow users to abandon the product.
- Error Tolerant:** How well the product prevents errors and helps users recover.
  - Evaluation:** Design scenarios likely to cause errors; observe recovery ease/accuracy.
- Easy to Learn:** How well the product supports initial orientation and continued learning.
  - Evaluation:** Control instruction level; recruit users with varied experience; mix frequent and infrequent tasks.

Note: The importance (weight) of each "E" varies depending on the product/context (e.g., Engaging is more critical for museum exhibits than for a registration form).

## 3. Usability Testing Basics

- Definition:** Observing users performing tasks with a design solution and asking them about their experience, understanding, and preferences.
- When to Use:**
  - Formative Testing:** Done throughout the design process. Aims to diagnose and fix problems. Typically uses a small number of users (e.g., 5 users can find ~85% of issues) repeatedly to inform design iterations. Considered a "discount" method.
  - Summative Testing:** Done at the end of the design process. Aims to establish baseline usability. Involves larger numbers of users, often comparative, uses metrics and statistics.
- Representing Ideals:**
  - Laboratory Testing:** Controlled setting with specialized equipment (recording, eye-tracking, observation rooms).
  - Field Testing:** Testing in the user's natural environment (target setting) with target users.
  - Guerrilla Testing:** Low-cost field testing in public spaces, recruiting passersby.
  - Known-Tester:** Recruiting users over the internet. Can be Moderated (facilitator guided user) or Unmoderated (user completes tasks independently, behavior logged, e.g., A/B testing).

## 4. Designing a Usability Test (The 4 Dimensions)

- A structured approach involves defining:**
  - 1. Why (Goals):** Define the purpose of the test. Formulate goals as questions the test should answer.
    - Goals should specify:
      - Desired Outcome:** What the design aims to achieve (e.g., improve accessibility, reduce errors).
      - Basis for Comparison:** Is the outcome measured against a baseline (e.g., previous version, competitor, standard benchmark)?
  - 2. Scope (Task Scenarios):**
    - Determine what aspects of the system/prototype to test (scope relates to horizontal vs. vertical prototype types).
    - Create Scenarios (brief stories providing context and goals for tasks).
    - Scenario Design: Typically derived from general to specific, simple to complex, short to long.
  - 3. How (Approach, Metrics):**
    - Method selection: Informative vs. summative, single vs. comparative.
    - Decide on data collection:
      - Quantitative:** Measurements of performance, errors, ratings.
      - Qualitative:** Observations, user comments, answers to questions.
  - 4. Who (Users, Team):**
    - Define Participants:** Recruit users representative of target subgroups (based on experience, demographics, domain knowledge, etc.).
    - Assign Team Roles:** Moderator (guides participant), Note-taker (records data), Observer(s), Technician (operates system and equipment).
- Test Plan (Protocol):** A document detailing the Why, What, How, and Who. Includes scripts, checklists, consent forms, etc.

## 5. Measurement

- Performance Metrics:**
  - Task Success:** Completion rate (binary or levels).
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      - Low:** Annoyance; doesn't cause task failure.
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- What is Design Thinking?**
  - An Approach:** A hands-on, user-centric approach to innovation.
  - A Process:** An iterative process typically involving phases focused on understanding the user, exploring potential solutions, and materializing those solutions. (The lecture uses the NN/g 6-phase model).

## 2. Phases of Design Thinking (NN/g Model)

### Phase Group 1: UNDERSTAND

- 1. Empathize:**
  - Goal:** Immerse yourself in research to develop an understanding of your users (their needs, preferences, expectations, what they say, what they think, feel).
  - Key Method: Contextual Inquiry**
    - Definition:** A method for gathering data about how users and their work/life in their actual environment.
    - Steps:**
      - Go to where the user works or lives.
      - Observe the user as they perform relevant tasks.
      - Talk to the user about their work/actions in context.
    - Tip:** It's an inquiry (learning from the user as they work, think, feel), not just an interview. Ask questions but don't distract. Focus on the context.
- 2. Define:**
  - Goal:** Combine all research findings (data) and analyze them to observe where users' problems exist and derive insights.
  - Key Method: Affinity Diagramming**
    - Definition:** A method for organizing qualitative/messy data into clusters based on similarity or "affinity." Helps make sense of observations.
- Bottom-Up Process:**
  - Start with disorganized notes (e.g., observations from contextual inquiry on sticky notes).
  - Group related notes together based on likeness.
  - Consult with the team on groupings.
  - Re-organize if needed.
  - Identify and label the common themes for each group.
  - Outcome:** The themes identified represent findings and insights that guide design.

### Phase Group 2: EXPLORE

- 3. Ideate:**
  - Goal:** Generate a wide range of crazy, creative ideas to address the problems/issues identified in the Define phase.
  - Nature:** Active, creative, exploratory, iterative, fast-moving, collaborative process.
  - Key Considerations:** Workspace setup, team dynamics, structure, rules of engagement, time, capture method.
  - Brainstorming Rules (Emancipate!):** Defer judgment, Encourage wild ideas, Build on others' ideas, Stay focused, One conversation at a time, Be visual, Go for quantity.
- Representing Ideals:**
  - Conceptual Design:** An abstract characterization of the envisioned solution's context, use, or characteristics.
  - Sketching:** Quick, inexpensive, disposable drawings to explore many ideas, effective for team communication, doesn't require artistic skill.
  - Storyboarding:** A sequence of visual frames (like a comic strip) illustrating how a user interacts with the envisioned solution within a specific context (showing setting, actions, outcomes).

### Phase Group 3: MATERIALIZE

- 4. Prototype:**
  - Goal:** Build real, tactile representations (from low- to high-fidelity) for a range of ideas. (Covered in Lec 10).
- 5. Test:**
  - Goal:** Return to users for feedback on the prototypes.
  - Covered in Lec 10.**
- 6. Implement:**
  - Goal:** Put the refined vision into effect (build the actual product/service).
  - Note: Design thinking is iterative, not strictly linear. You may loop back to earlier phases based on discoveries in later phases (e.g., testing reveals a need to redefine the problem).

## 1. Elements of Design (The Building Blocks)

- Space:** The canvas area, occupied by the main subject/elements.
- White Space:** Area surrounding the subject (can be used creatively).
- Line:** The most basic element; can divide space, draw attention, organize, create texture, and form other elements.
- Shape:** An area defined by a contour or outline.
  - Geometric:** Mathematically regular (squares, circles, triangles).
  - Organic:** Irregular, natural (leaves, ink splatters).
  - Abstract:** Stylized representations (icons, symbols).
- Size (Scale):** The relative extent or dimensions of elements (lines, shapes).
- Pattern:** Systematic repetition or duplication of elements (lines, shapes).
- Texture:** The perceived tactile or visual surface quality (smooth, rough, bumpy).
- Value:** The lightness or darkness (intensity) of an element or color.
- Balance:** Arranging elements to create a sense of equilibrium.
- Symmetry:** Elements mirrored across an axis.
- Mirroring:** Elements placed at an equal weight without mirroring.
- Movement:** Organizing elements to suggest flow and direct the viewer's eye through the design in a specific path.
- Rhythm:** Using elements in a patterned or recurring way to create movement, energy.
- Perspective:** Creating an illusion of depth or distance on a 2D surface.
- Unity (Harmony):** Ensuring all parts of the design work together cohesively to form a coherent whole; consistency.

## 2. Principles of Design (How to Use the Elements)

- Focal Point (Emphasis):** The area of primary visual interest where the viewer's attention is directed.
- Contrast:** Juxtaposing strikingly different elements (color, texture, movement, order, energy).
- Balance:** Arranging elements to create a sense of equilibrium.
- Symmetry:** Elements mirrored across an axis.
- Mirroring:** Elements placed at an equal weight without mirroring.
- Movement:** Organizing elements to suggest flow and direct the viewer's eye through the design in a specific path.
- Rhythm:** Using elements in a patterned or recurring way to create movement, energy.
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- Unity (Harmony):** Ensuring all parts of the design work together cohesively to form a coherent whole; consistency.

## 3. Key Components for UX Visual Design

- Type (Typography):**
  - Definition:** Type: Printed letters/characters.
    - Font:** A specific style of type (e.g., Arial Regular).
    - Typeface:** A family of related faces (e.g., Arial, including Regular, Bold, Italic).
    - Style:** An individual character (letter, number, symbol).
- Categories:**
  - San Serif:** Serifs (small strokes at ends of letters) taper, (e.g., Garamond).
  - Modern:** Very thin, straight serifs, high contrast.
  - Slab Serif:** Thick, block-like serifs. (e.g., Rockwell).

- Sans Serif:** No serifs, often uniform stroke weight. (e.g., Gill Sans, Helvetica).
- Script:** Mimics cursive handwriting.
- Decorative:** Stylized fonts for specific contexts/texts/moods (e.g., Gothic).
- Paragraphs:** Text blocks with high bold. Style (italic, oblique), Caps (all caps, small caps).
- Usage:** Type creates hierarchy and guides the eye. Pay attention to leading (line spacing), tracking (letter spacing), kerning (space between specific letter pairs), and avoiding widows/orphans (isolated lines/words).
- Color:**
  - Purpose:** Creates emphasis, organizes content, evokes emotions.
  - Color Wheel:**
    - Primary Colors:** Red, Yellow, Blue.
    - Secondary Colors:** Green, Orange, Purple (mixing primaries).
    - Tertiary Colors:** Mixing primary and secondary.
    - Tints:** Add white. **Shades:** Add black. **Tones:** Add warm vs. cool colors. **Affects mood.**
  - Color Harmonies (Palettes):**
    - Analogous:** Adjacent colors on the wheel (high contrast).
    - Complementary:** Opposite colors on the wheel (high contrast).
    - Split Complementary:** A base color + two colors adjacent to its complement.
    - Triadic:** Three equidistant colors.
    - Monochromatic:** Variations (tints/shades/tones) of one color.
    - Asymmetrical:** Neutrals (black, white, grey).
- Accessibility:** Use color contrast, font size, patterns, not just hue, use tools to check.
- Images:**
  - Types:** Photos, illustrations, icons, infographics, etc.
  - Formats:** Raster (pixel-based, photos) vs. Vector (path-based, logos, icons, diagrams).
  - Usage:** Should complement and support content goals, not distract. Choose appropriate realism level (realistic to stylized).

## 4. Applying Visual Design

- Analyze existing designs to identify elements and principles.
- Practice applying principles intentionally.
- Use checklists/cheat sheets.
- Designing visual elements serves a purpose within the overall design principles.

## 1. Designing for the Desktop (Context)

- WIMP Paradigm:** The traditional desktop interface model: Windows, Icons, Menu, Pointer. Dates back to Xerox Alto (1973).
- Windows:** Resizable containers for applications.
  - Types:**
    - Primary:** Contain main application functionality (e.g., document canvases).
    - Secondary:** Support primary windows (e.g., dialog boxes, modal palettes, modal panes).
- Organization:** Can overlap or be tiled across the screen.
- Structure:** Common desktop elements (e.g., email: folders pane, message list pane, message preview pane).
- Navigation:** Menu, toolbar, functions; serve educational/reference purposes.
- Toolbars/Sidebars/Tooltips:** Provide quick visual and textual information.
- Tool Palettes:** Provide advanced controls for specific functions (unlike toolbars for frequent functions).
- Pointing:** Enable direct manipulation of objects on the canvas.

## 2. Designing for the Web

- Desktop vs. Web:**
  - Desktop Apps:** Typically dynamic, persistent screens enabling complex interactions.
  - Websites:** Interconnected pages focused on navigating and accessing content.
- Web Applications (SPAs):** Single-Page Applications that provide desktop-like functionality within a webpage.
- The Page:** The fundamental building block of web content.
- Web Navigation:**
  - Primary Navigation:** Menu/menu bars reflecting major site sections.
  - Secondary Navigation:** Comprehensive links to specific content (e.g., site maps, side navigation, footer links).
  - Breadcrumbs/Hierarchical Lists:** Help users understand their location and navigate back up the site structure ("get home").
- Organizing Page Content:**
  - The Fold:** The imaginary line separating content visible on initial load ("above the fold") from content requiring scrolling ("below the fold"). Content above the fold receives significantly more attention.
  - Handling Large Content:**
    - Pagination:** Breaking content into discrete pages or sections.
    - Scrolling:** Managing content incrementally as the user scrolls down.
- Search:**
  - An alternative to browse/navigation.
  - Faceted Search:** Facilitates complex search results using filters and sorting options based on content attributes (e.g., price, brand, size).

## 3. Layout Design (Arranging Elements on the Page/Canvas)

- Building visual hierarchy principles:**
  - Create a Focal Point:** Direct the viewer's eye to the most important element first.
  - Use Contrast:** Contrast is key to create focal points, creating aesthetically pleasing, often asymmetrical balance.
  - Golden Ratio (1.618):** Mathematical proportion creating aesthetically pleasing, often asymmetrical balance.
  - Rule of Thirds:** Divides the canvas into a 3x3 grid, creating emphasis along lines or at intersections for visual interest.
  - Grid System:** Provides an underlying structure for organizing elements in an orderly, balanced way. Essential for responsive design.
  - Integrate Type:** Use headlines, text size, and weight to create hierarchy and guide reading flow.
  - Place Imagery:** Use images to create focal points or imply movement. Position strategically (e.g., top, facing content flow). Avoid interrupting headlines or awkwardly wrapping.
  - Use Negative Space (Whitespace):** Empty areas around content, crucial for visual breathing room, balance, and directing flow.
  - Group Elements (Gestalt Principles):** Users perceive related elements based on design cues:
    - Proximity:** Items close together are seen as a group.
    - Similarity:** Similar items are seen as a group.
    - Continuity:** The eye follows smooth lines or curves.
    - Closure:** The mind fills in gaps to perceive complete shapes.
  - Create Visual Hierarchy:** Use size, color, contrast, position.

