

Guidelines for User Interface Design

1. Strive for consistency

Users should not have to think about whether different words, situations, or actions mean the same thing. Do not confuse your user — keep the words and actions consistent.

In other words, use all items across your application consistently. For example, a certain style of button should always do the same thing, or navigation should function logically.

Keep consistency of:

- Functionality
- Appearance
- Terminology

2. Visibility of system status or Offer informative feedback

The system should always keep users informed about what is happening through appropriate feedback in a reasonable time. Don't keep the users guessing — tell the user what's happening.

Users don't like surprises. The user wants to have control, and trust that the system behaves as expected. For frequent and small actions, the response can be modest, while for infrequent and major actions, the response should be more noticeable.

Feedback:

- Relevant
- Fits importance and urgency
- Comprehensible and meaningful
- Within appropriate context (time and place)

References

Babich, N. (2016) *Golden Rules of User Interface Design*. UX Planet. [Online] [Accessed on 29th September 2020] <https://uxplanet.org/golden-rules-of-user-interface-design-19282aeb06b>