

Guidelines for User Interface Design

Babich (2016) gave the following guidance for user interface design.

1. Consistency

Users should not have to consider that different words, situations, or actions might mean different things at different times. Keep the words and actions consistent so that you do not confuse your user.

Use all items consistently within your application. For example, button that has a particular style should always do the same thing, and page navigation should function logically.

Try to ensure consistency of functionality, appearance and terminology.

2. Feedback to users

The system should always keep users informed about what is happening through appropriate feedback in a reasonable time. Tell the user what's happening so that they do not have to keep guessing.

The user wants to have control, and trust that the system behaves as expected, they don't like surprises. For minor actions that the user does frequently, the response can be minor, but for important or infrequent actions, the response should be more noticeable.

Feedback should be, relevant, fit the importance and urgency of the situation, meaningful and appropriate in 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>