

# Assignment 1

## Bad Design

Since I couldn't decide which was the best example of a bad design, I will try to talk briefly about both because I think each one represents a bad design in its own category.

### Foros de Amora Parking Lot



As it's very obvious from the images provided above, there is an enormous sidewalk near the end of the parking lot, which makes no sense since the target users are people who want to just leave their cars there and take the train, so there is no need for such a big sidewalk for something designed to just have parked cars while the owners are away. Although, from an objective perspective, there is enough space to leave the car in the parking lot, if the users are leaving their cars there, clearly, the purpose of the design is not being fulfilled.

#### *Negative Aspects:*

- The sidewalk is too big for the purpose of the parking lot;
- The sidewalk takes, at least, around 10-15 car slots;
- Since the space is so big, people have started leaving their cars on the sidewalk.

#### *Possible Improvements:*

- Since this is not something that is easily fixable because it is a building, the best solution would be to remove a big chunk of the sidewalk and turn it into car slots, similar to what was done to the rest of the space around the parking lot.

## Porsche Macan 2.0 Standard Shift Lever



This time, the example covers a different topic, this one is about cars! On the Porsche Macan 2.0 Standard, around the shift lever, we can see a lot of buttons with different icons to represent them. Even without thinking too much, just by looking, we can detect that it is very confusing and not very pleasant to see. The biggest problem with car interfaces is that, with each newer model, we try to make them simpler and more accessible. In this case, they added a control tablet but also a lot of buttons to use, which, in a sense, defeats a little the purpose of having the tablet.

### *Negative Aspects:*

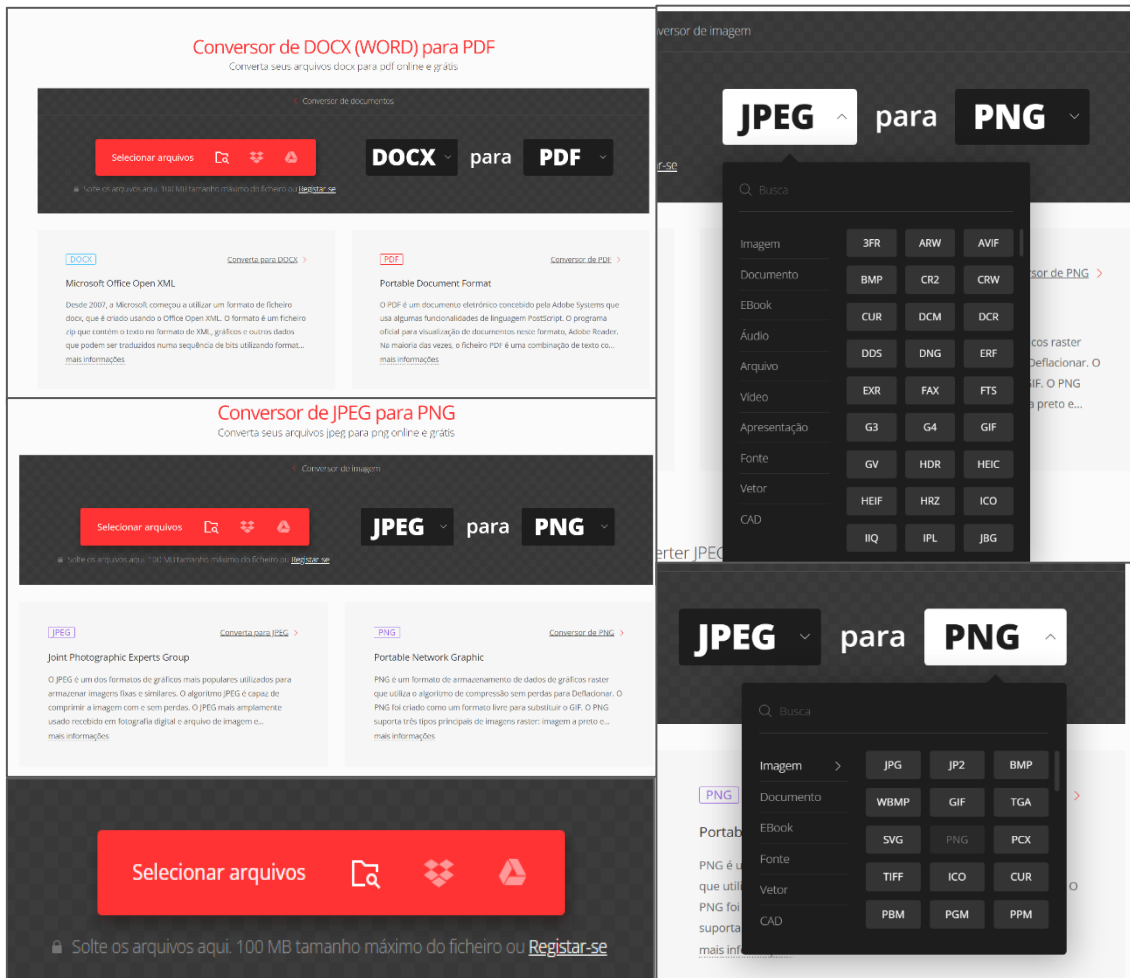
- To start, there are a lot of buttons—18 just on the sides—to use and learn their different outputs;
- Most of the buttons are around the shift lever, which could be dangerous or, at least, make it hard to use since that is a place where we have to change gears;
- If the car comes with a tablet, there is no need to have so many buttons to execute different tasks.

### *Possible Improvements:*

- As some cars do, to make, at least, the place around the shift lever a little simpler, we could move some buttons to other places that may be simpler to access or places where they are more expected to appear.
- Also, as a lot of modern cars do, if we have a tablet, a lot of tasks should be done or controlled there instead of using a button, since it's simpler to access and, after all, that is the purpose of it, without putting the driver in danger moving his hand around the lever.

## Good Design

### Convertio.io Website



For the good design, I chose a website I often use because it provides a service that, nowadays, is getting more and more needed, which is a file converter. As it is possible to observe, the design is very simple but, at the same time, very interesting and captivating. You have a place to get your files, which could also be dragged into the webpage. You can choose from and what to convert, divided by category of file, and it even gives you a little description of the type of files you are converting.

#### Positive Aspects:

- It lets you drag or select files from your PC or choose files from either Dropbox or Google Drive.
- It lets you convert from and to a lot of types of files, having dropdowns with categories of files while letting you write the type at the same time;
- The dropdown with the type of files to convert to only shows types that are possible to convert;
- The website is clear and does not flood you with a lot of buttons or descriptions, everything is straight forward without being confusing;
- The website layout, as you can see from 2 of the images above, changes depending on what type of files you convert from and convert to, which does not change the practical side, but adds a nice touch to the design.