

Design Ideas

1. We use signifiers in our design such as the arrows on dropdowns which show to the user that it is a dropdown. Emails and phone numbers are also underlined which show to the user that they can be clicked. These signifiers enhance the user experience by giving them clues as to how the website can be used.
2. We also used affordances for our website. 'Search' and 'Add New' buttons are some examples. It makes it easy for the user to make a guess about the behavior of an object, like if the user clicks on this button something will happen.
3. We also use metaphors in the icons on the website. One example is that on the list (or card) of files there is a pushpin icon which indicates the file is "pinned" to the top of the list. The file list also uses an image of an eye to indicate showing or hiding hidden files and a plus icon to represent "adding" files. Finally, there are buttons which allow the user to switch between viewing a list and viewing a grid. These buttons are grouped together to show the user they are related. Both use signifiers which show the user what they do. The list button has an image of a list and the grid button has an image of items arranged in a grid. All of these images and metaphors help the user understand what effect clicking on something might have.