Game UI Design Basics

TrueRyoB

What matters the most is uniformity.

Macro

How to make a blueprint

First, it's important to decide the theme of your game UI, including but not limited to image source, dominant color, font, and motifs, to reexamine the overall idea.

After that, it's always the best practice to make a flow chart of game scene transitions with a brief explanation for each of its purpose, so that you can fully take advantage of usability afterwards.

Then, it's the very first prototyping stage for the UI design for each scene; but it's only to list every element that would be necessary to fulfill the scene's purpose and functionality and sort them up in priority queue; if time allows, make a simple slide describing the scene using texts only, including purpose, outline, function, and (indexed) elements.

Now, you have an overall abstract idea about what your UI should look like; draw as many drafts as you can using only achromatic color to pick the best one; make sure that every draft follows the priority you made beforehand.

After completing some modifications and coloring following the micro tips, finally, you are free to move on to the game engine; your blueprints are ready!

Micro

For Efficient Design Construction

Put larger objects before putting smaller ones.

Adopt color which meaning correlates with the object's functionality.

Use the same framework for every group member BUT differentiate some with color gradient to offset the monotonic nature.

Never hesitate to use icons over description... especially when it comes to attribution.

Be attentive to a user's expectation in a change in the UI for every input.

For Intuitive Visual Guidance

Put the back button on the LEFT and the next on the RIGHT.

Put elements from top to bottom when displaying elements gradually.

Let the player skip elements if not necessarily necessary.

Put double arrow signs facing right for every pressable elements

Font

If you have no special reason, always prioritize readability in case they are used for small characters. Considering a potential localization possibility, avoid using a screenshot from Photoshop and recreate a similar one on the game engine instead. Don't heavily rely on the material itself, and rather modify it by tilting each chunk of characters in an unordered manner or changing its font size.

Blank space / Margin

Standardize margin size. Standardize rounded corner size. Concatenate related fields closely together instead of separating them.

Very Micro

Stage Selection

Do NOT use a number; it makes your game less immersive; instead, create a world map and let the player choose the stage while wandering around it.

Reference (credit: https://youtu.be/RkKQrCEDliA)

NG…
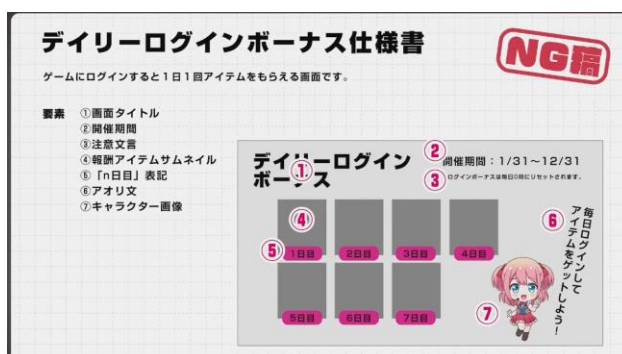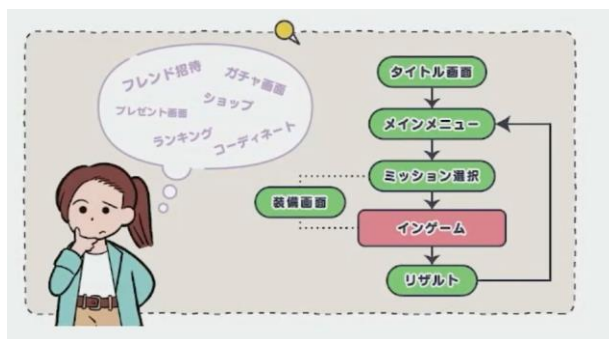
能力パラメータ

体力	80
攻撃力	40
防御力	65
スピード	45
幸運	99

特性　優柔不断　複数の敵がいるとき、攻撃力が半減する。

TYPE 機械

優しいココロをもったロボット。相手の能力をスキャンできる。

	スキル		
特殊	ハイパースキャン	5 / 5
特殊	タイピング	10 / 10
物理	パンチ	20 / 20
特殊	情報収集	15 / 15

◀▶ キャラクター切替　Ⓑ もどる

OK！

体力 80
幸運 99　　攻撃力 40
スピード 45　　防御力 65

TYPE 機械

優しいココロをもったロボット。相手の能力をスキャンできる。

スキル		特性	
	ハイパースキャン	5 / 5
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▲▼ 情報切替　◀▶ キャラクター切替　Ⓑ もどる