

Brandon Dorn

User Experience Design

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Summary

My name is Brandon Dorn, and I'm a user experience designer. I solve business problems with my mind and my heart, which is to say that I believe the success of any product is determined by how well it fits and serves the people who use it.

I got my start as a brand strategist at Leo Burnett in Chicago, where I learned that behind every business problem is a fundamental human problem that can only be uncovered through diligent, inventive research. Before that, I studied English Literature and Economics, which taught me how to understand the complexity of micro personal relationships and macro market systems.

I currently work as a UX designer in State Farm's Systems Department, one of the largest of its kind. Teams across the enterprise invite me to help create applications that enable efficient interaction with and understanding of complex data. I lead the user research and visual design of these applications, and collaborate with development teams to make them a reality.

My work as a designer is marked by the pursuit of interfaces that gracefully present nuanced information. Although I regularly work on final UI designs, I feel my strengths lie in conducting research, organizing information into systems, and prototyping.

Abilities

Research

Stakeholder and user interviews, card sorts, questionnaires, technical and product research

Information architecture

Wireframes, sitemaps, information taxonomy, usability consulting

Prototyping

Paper, static, and browser prototypes, mockups

Lean UX and Agile

Tools

Adobe Creative Cloud (Illustrator, Photoshop, and InDesign)

Web (HTML5, SASS, jQuery, and Bootstrap)

Version control (Git and Subversion)

Roles

Oct 2014
8 months
(Present)

User Experience Designer

State Farm (Bloomington, IL)

Jun 2013
1 yr. 5 mos.

User Experience Designer

TEKsystems for State Farm (Bloomington, IL)

I lead the research and design of products that improve the use of information and modernize development at State Farm.

Aug 2012
10 months

Technical Writer

TEKsystems for State Farm (Bloomington, IL)

I planned content strategies and wrote for the State Farm development community.

Aug 2011
1 year

Brand Strategist

Leo Burnett (Chicago, IL)

May 2011
4 months

Brand Strategy Intern

Leo Burnett (Chicago, IL)

I discovered audience insights and market trends to shape the strategy of advertising campaigns for Fortune 500 companies such as Fifth Third Bank, Samsung, and Procter & Gamble.

Education

May 2007
4 years

Bachelor of Arts, English Literature and Economics

Illinois Wesleyan University, Bloomington IL

Summa cum laude

Phi Beta Kappa

Winner of the President's Club Award for Excellence in Writing

Winner of the Memorial Award for Achievement in the Humanities

2009 - 2010
1 year

Academic year abroad (Oxford, England)

St. Catherine's College, Oxford University

Classes in English Literature and Economics

Member of the CS Lewis Society

Interests

Rock climbing, cycling, gardening, German, sandwiches