

## User Interface Design – Q&A

1. List three principles that should be applied when building any user interface.
  - Place user in control.
  - Reduce user's memory load.
  - Make the interface consistent.
2. What framework activities are completed when following an evolutionary (or spiral) user interface development process?
  - User, task, and environmental analysis
  - Interface design
  - Interface construction
  - Interface validation
3. List four interface design issues present in the development of most user interfaces.
  - System response time
  - User help facilities
  - Error information handling
  - Menu and command labeling
  - Application accessibility
  - Internationalization
4. What elements of a user interface design can be evaluated without building a working computer prototype?

The length and complexity of the interface specification (provides insight into learning effort required by user).

The number of user tasks specified and the number of user actions required to complete each (provide estimates of system efficiency). Number of tasks, actions, and states in the design model (imply the memory load imposed on the user).

Interface style, help facilities, and error handling protocol provide a general indication of complexity
5. Develop two additional design principles that “place the user in control.”

Catch potential interaction errors before they do "undoable" damage.

Allow the user to customize screen layout as well as commands.

Make use of breakaway menus so that common functions are always readily available.
6. Develop two additional design principles that “reduce the user’s memory load.”

Examples might be:

If the user desires, display shortcut command sequences on the screen at all times.

Provide the facilities for "hints" when a WebApp requires password input
7. Develop two additional design principles that “make the interface consistent.”

Examples might be:

Use color consistently, e.g., red for warning messages, blue for informational content.

Provide keyword driven on-line help.