

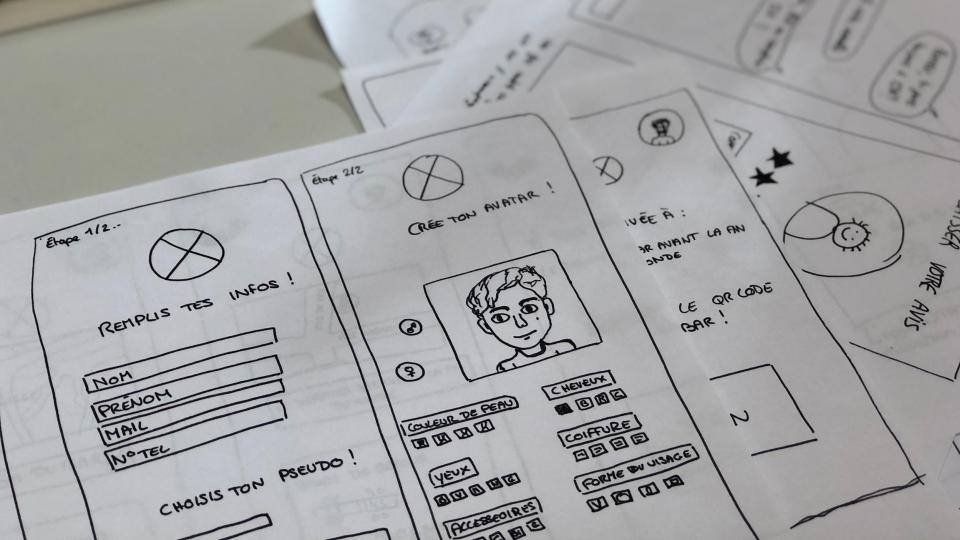
# Software Engineering HCI Design

**CIS641** 

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<u>Adapted from materials provided by Gregory Schymik</u>





# Points to ponder

https://xd.adobe.com/ideas/p rocess/ui-design/good-bad-u x-design-examples/

let's start here

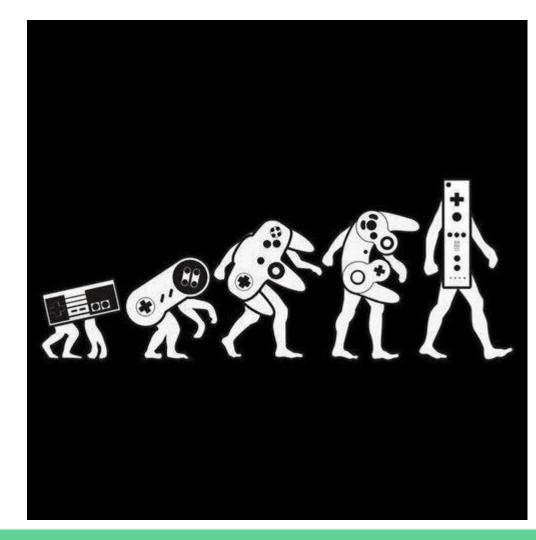
# Intro

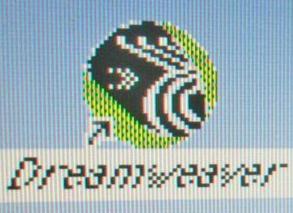
Interface Design defines how the system will interact with external entities (e.g., customers, users, other systems)

- System Interfaces are machine-machine and are dealt with as part of systems integration
- User Interfaces are human-computer and are the focus of this chapter

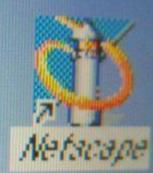
Principles for UI design
The UI design process
Navigation, Input, Output Design
Mobile & social media UI design
Non-functional requirements and UI design

What to keep in mind during the entirety of this lecture

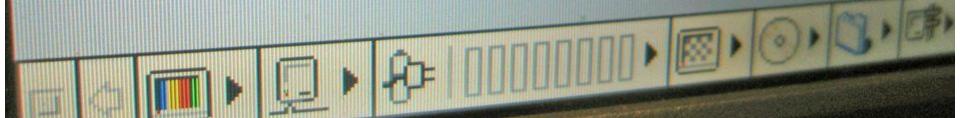












# Layout of the screen, form or report

### **Content Awareness**

How well the user understands the information contained

### **Aesthetics**

How well does it appeal to the user

### User Experience

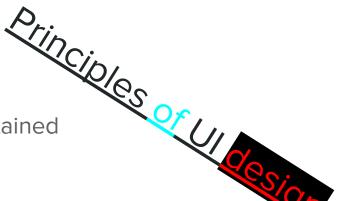
Is it easy to use?

# Consistency

Similarity of presentation in different areas of the application

### Minimal User Effort

Can tasks be accomplished quickly?



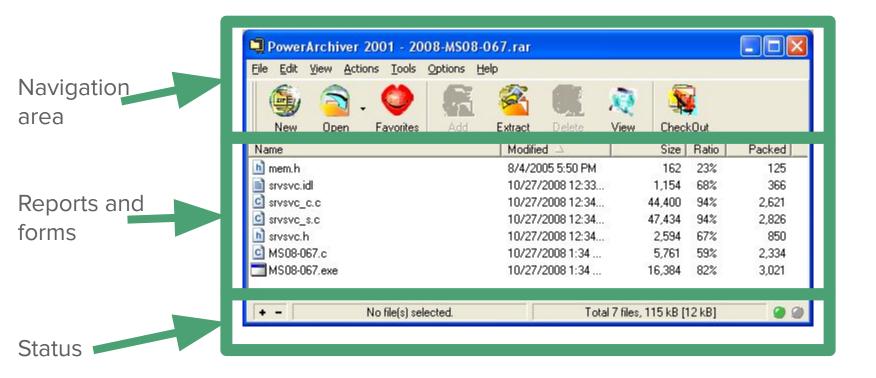
# Layout

The arrangement of items on the screen

Like items are grouped into areas

- Areas can be further subdivided
- Each area is self-contained
- Areas should have a natural intuitive flow
  - Users from western nations tend to read from left to right and top to bottom
  - Users from other regions may have different flows

# General layout



# Content awareness

Applies to the interface in general

- To each screen
- To each area on a screen
- To sub-areas as well

Include titles on all interfaces

Menus should show where the user is and how the user got there

All areas should be **well defined**, **logically grouped** together and **easily discernible** visually



# (aesthetics)

Interfaces should be functional, inviting to use, and pleasing to the eye

Simple minimalist designs are generally better

White space is important to provide separation

Acceptable information density is proportional to the user's expertise

- Novice users prefer lower density (< 50%)
- Expert users prefer higher density (> 50%)

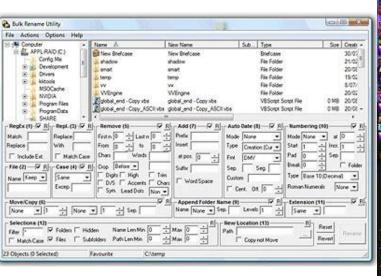
Serif

Sans-Serif

Text design: size, serif vs. sans serif, use of capitals

Abc Abc

Color and patterns (e.g., don't use red on blue))





# User experience

### Ease of learning

- Significant issue for inexperienced users
- Relevant to systems with a large user population

### Ease of use

- Significant issue for expert users
- Most important in specialized systems

### Ease of learning and use of use are related

- Complementary: lead to similar design decisions
- Conflicting: designer must choose whether to satisfy novices or experts

# Consistency

Extremely important concept in making the system simple

- It allows the users to predict what is going to happen
- All parts of the system work in the same way
- Users learn how one portion works and immediately apply it to others

### Key areas of consistency are

- Navigation controls
- Terminology—use the same descriptors on forms & reports

1. Visual consistency

Submit

Submit

- 2. Functional consistency
- 3. Consistent with user expectations





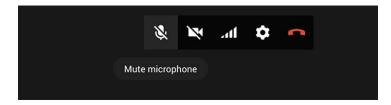
# Reduce Cognitive Load

1. Chunkify info or actions

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1 (650) 238-89-15

- 2. Reduce # of actions
- 3. Recognition over recall



4. Promote visual clarity

# Minimal. User. Effort.

(i.e., users are losers → thanks my undergrad CS prof)

Interfaces should be designed to minimize the effort needed to accomplish tasks

A common rule is the three-clicks rule

Users should be able to go from main menu of a system to the information they want in no more than three mouse clicks







(2019) <a href="https://youtu.be/rWMoC6wPqlU">https://youtu.be/rWMoC6wPqlU</a> (2025) <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4oBkm4YPkQM">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4oBkm4YPkQM</a> 2014 2018 Purpose Communication Typefaces Colors Images Navigation Grid based layouts "F" Pattern Design Load Time <u>-design/</u> Mobile Friendly https://shortiedesigns.com/blog/1 O-top-principles-effective-web-de sign/

Principles

esign

Simple

Consistency

Typography and Readability

Mobile Compatibility

Color palette and imagery

Easy loading

Easy Navigation

Communication

https://wpastra.com/good-website

# Golden rules

https://xd.adobe.com/ideas/process/ui-design/4-golden-rules-ui-design/

Place users in control of the interface

Make it comfortable to interact with a product

Reduce cognitive load

Make user interfaces consistent

Do those on the previous slide meet/support these rules?

# Place users in control...

- 1. Reversible
- 2. Easy to navigate
- 3. Provide feedback/status
- 4. Different skill levels

### Live on Instagram

We'll notify some of your followers so that they can watch. Live videos disappear after they've finished

# Comfortable to interact...

- 1. Eliminate elements that don't help the customer
- 2. Enter data only once
- 3. Avoid jargon and system-oriented terms (speak the user's language)
- 4. Large targets for important functions (Fitts' Law)
- 5. Accessible interfaces
- 6. Real-world metaphors
- 7. Engineer for errors
- 8. Protect (save) their work

# User interface design process

### Use case driven, incremental and iterative process

- Examine use case and sequence diagrams
- Develop use scenarios that describe commonly employed patterns of actions.
   It may uncover additional requirements
- Once a basic set of use scenarios have been developed, the actual user interfaces are designed

Sound familiar at all?

# User interface design process

- Designed interfaces are evaluated to determine if they are satisfactory and how they can be improved
- Interface design process is repeated in a cyclical process until no new improvements are identified.

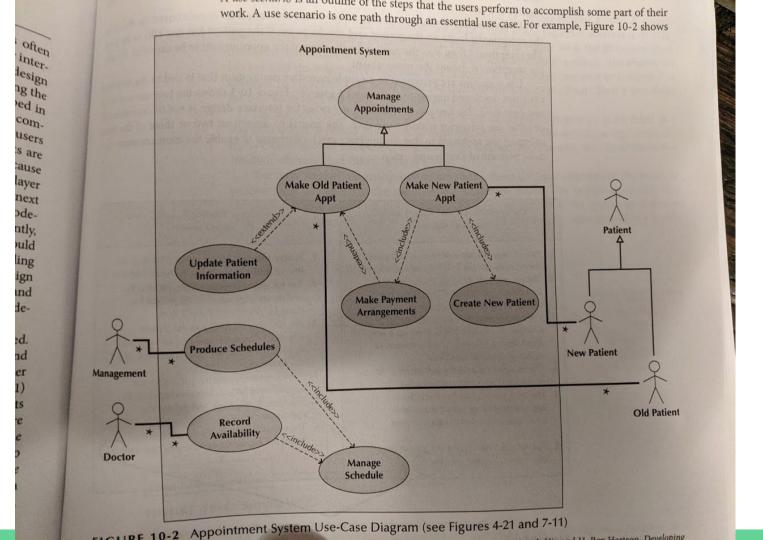
# Use scenario development

Use scenarios outline the steps performed by users to accomplish some part of their work

A use scenario is one path through an essential use case

Presented in a simple narrative description

Document the most common cases so interface designs will be easy to use for those situations



to be performed simply and

# Use scenario: Existing Patient Makes New Appointment

- Patient requests appointment (1) and gives
   the receptionist his or her name and address (2).

  The receipt (3)
- 2. The receptionist looks up the patient (3) and determines whether the patient has changed any information (3 & 4).
- 3. The receptionist then asks the patient whether he or she is going to set up a new appointment, change an appointment, or delete an appointment (5).
- The receptionist asks the patient for a list of potential appointment times (S-1, 1).
- 5. The receptionist matches the potential appointment times with the available times and schedules the appointment (S-1, 2).
- 6. The receptionist informs the patient of his or her appointment time (6).

# Use scenario: Existing Patient Cancels Appointment

- 1. Patient requests appointment (1) and gives the receptionist his or her name and address (2)
- 2. The receptionist looks up the patient (3) and determines whether the patient has changed any information (3 & 4).
- 3. The receptionist then asks the patient whether he or she is going to set up a new appointment, change an appointment, or delete an appointment (5).
- 4. The receptionist asks the patient for the appointment time to be canceled (S-2, 1).
- 5. The receptionist finds and deletes the appointment (S-2, 2).
- 6. The receptionist informs the patient that his or her appointment time was canceled (6).

The numbers in parentheses refer to specific events in the essential use case.

FIGURE 10-3 Use Scenarios

Cli

# Nav. structure

### The navigation structure defines

- The basic components of the interface
- How they work together to provide functionality to users

# Windows Navigation Diagrams (WND)

- Similar to a behavioral state machine
- Shows the relationship between all screens, forms, and reports used by the system
- Shows how the user moves from one to another
- Boxes represent components
- Arrows represent transitions from and to a calling state

# Windows nav. diagrams

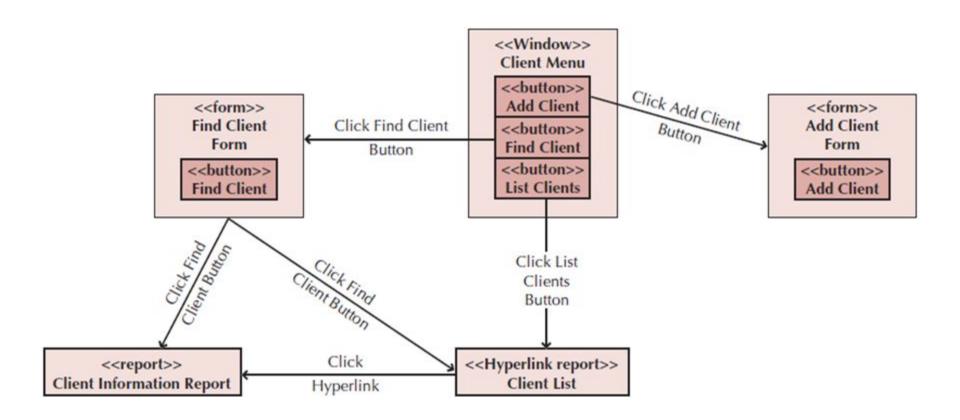
Like a state diagram for the user interface

### Boxes represent components

- Window
- Form
- Report
- Button

### Arrows represent transitions

- Single arrow indicates no return to the calling state
- Double arrow represents a required return
- Stereotypes show interface type



# 10 minutes effort GO NOW MAKE A WND

What does your interface look like? What are the pieces?

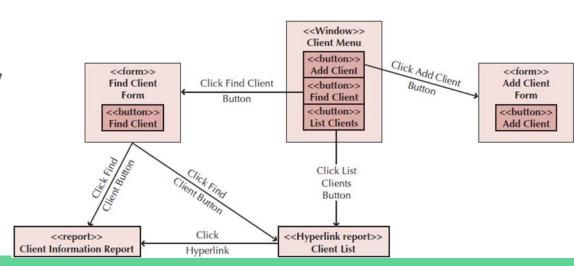
Remember user interfaces can be console-based as well...

Provide at least **three** stereotypes (the things in << ... >>)

and their connections

(Check it into your team GH repounder artifacts/hci)

<del>(Copy/paste the commit ID into</del> <del>blackboard)</del>



# Interface standards design

Interface standards are basic design elements found across the system user interface

### Standards are needed for:

- Interface metaphor: defines how an interface will work (e.g., the shopping cart to store items selected for purchase)
- Interface objects
- Interface actions
- Interface icons
- Interface templates



# Interface design prototyping

Mock-ups or simulations of computer screens, forms, and reports

Four common approaches (listed in increasing detail)

- Storyboard: hand drawn pictures of what the screens will look like
- Windows layout diagram: a computer generated storyboard that more closely resembles the actual interface
- HTML prototype: web pages linked with hypertext
- Language prototype: more sophisticated than HTML
  - Built in the programming language with no real functionality
  - User does not have to guess about the final appearance of the screen

# Interface evaluation

Goal is to understand how to improve the interface design before the system is complete

Have as many people as possible evaluate the interface

Ideally, interface evaluation is done while the system is being designed—before it is built

- Help identify and correct problems early
- Designs will likely go through several changes after the users see it for the first time

# Approaches to UI evaluation

### Heuristic

Compare the design to known principles or rules of thumb

# Walkthrough evaluation

Design team presents prototype to the users & explains how it works

### Interactive

Users work with the prototype with a project team member

# Formal Usability Testing

Performed in labs with users on a language prototype

## Common sense approach

Users should not have to think about how to navigate the user interface

The number of clicks should:

- Relate to the complexity of the task
- Should be unambiguous

Minimize the number of words on the screen

# Navigation design

The component that enables the user to navigate through the system

Also provides messages of success or failure of actions performed

Make it simple so that the user never really notices

#### Basic principles:

- Prevent the user from making mistakes
- Simplify recovery for the user when mistakes are made
- Use a consistent grammar order (e.g., File ➤ Open vs. Open ➤ File)

## Types of navigation controls

#### Language

- Command language—user types in a command to be executed
- Natural language—system interprets the user's language

#### Menus

- User is presented a list of choices
- Comes in different forms (e.g., menu bars, popups, drop downs)

Direct manipulation (e.g., drag and drop)

Voice recognition systems

## Messages

How the system informs the user of the status of an interaction

- Error messages
  - User did something that is not permitted
- Confirmation messages (e.g., "Are you sure?")
- Acknowledgment messages (e.g., "Order entered")
- Delay messages
  - Provides feedback to the user that the process is running
- Help messages
  - Provides additional information about the system to assist the user in performing a task

## Navigation design document

Handled with WNDs and real use-cases

#### Real use-cases are implementation dependent

- Detailed description of how to use the implemented system
- Essential use-cases evolve into real use cases by specifying them in terms of the actual user interface
- For multi platform applications, e.g., desktops, tablets, and smartphones, real use cases will need to be developed for each platform on which the use case is being deployed.

#### **Object-Oriented Analysis and Design**



# **Essential versus Real Use Cases**

Essential	Real
The Librarian records the call number.	The Librarian uses the laser wand to scan the bar code for the call number, which is transmitted to the computer.
The AccountHolder identifies himself to the ATM.	The AccountHolder inserts the card into the ATM card reader. He is prompted to enter his PIN (see screen shot 4), which he inputs with a numeric keypad.

## Input design

Screens that are used to input data

Data can be structured or unstructured

Structured: Dates, names, products, etc.

• **Unstructured**: Comments, descriptions

#### Basic principles

- Online vs. batch processing
- Capture data at the source (e.g., barcode vs. RFID)
- Minimize keystrokes (e.g., by using defaults for frequently used values)

## Types of input

#### Free form controls

- Text boxes for alphanumeric information
- Number boxes with automatic formatting
  - Example: Enter a phone number as 3451236789; automatically formats as (345)-123-6789

Password boxes that hide characters with stars and do not allow cutting or

copying





## Types of input

#### Selection boxes

- Check boxes when several items can be selected
- Radio buttons when items are mutually exclusive
- List boxes to present a set of choices
- Sliders—a pointer that can be moved along a scale





## Input validation

Data should be validated prior to entry to ensure accuracy

Do not accept invalid data (e.g., input text when a number is required)

#### Validation checks:

- Completeness
- Format (e.g. MM/DD/YYYY)
- Range (e.g. a number falls within a minimum and maximum value)
- Check sum digit—reduces errors in entering numbers
- Consistency—data are related
- Database check—does not violate entity or referential integrity

AND AFTER NEVER RELY ON CLIENT-SIDE VALIDATION EVER EVER EVER EVER

## Output design

Reports produced from the data generated by the system

#### Basic principles:

- Report usage and its frequency will affect its layout
  - Why?
- Manage the information load in a report
  - Provide only what is needed and place most important information near the top
- Minimize bias, especially in graphical displays (charts)

# Types of output

#### Summary reports

Details are aggregated (e.g., sums, averages)

#### **Detail reports**

Users need full information

#### **Exception reports**

#### Turnaround documents

Outputs turn around and become inputs

#### Graphs

For easy visual comparison

Media for reports can be electronic (seen on the screen) or hard copy (printed on paper)

#### USABILITY TESTING REPORT - PRICE EXPLORER



Filter display - few noticed the filter edit button



After clicking the filter edit button, the current filters are shown in the Attribute Filter window.



But when clicking "Filter by Attribute", the current filters are not shown in the Attribute Filter window.

#### Editing filters

When asked to change the waterfall chart from showing Georgia Pipe to showing Liberty Plastics, only one of the participants used the filter offit button. It is the "+" icon to the left of the "x" at the top, right of the filter display area. Two tried to click directly on Georgia Pipe in the filter display area, thinking that would being up the list of customers to choose from.

 "I don't want to clear filters and start over. I want to just go back to the customer list. [Tries clicking on Georgia Pipe] And there's no back button... It would have been easier to have a more obvious way to back up one step."

Two participants clicked the "Fifter by Attribute" link and thought that selecting Liberty Plastics would replace Georgia Pipe. After adding Liberty Plastics, they did not notice at first that Georgia Pipe was still in the fifter list. That was because clicking the "Fifter by Attribute" link brings up a version of the Attribute Fifter window that does not show the current fifters selected on the right. Clicking the fifter odit link brings up the Attribute Fifter window with the current fifters displayed on the right side. This inconsistency can cause these types of errors.

#### Recommendations:

- Open the Attribute Filter window when users double click on the items in the filter display area (e.g., Georgia Pipe).
- When filters are selected, clicking the "Filter by Attribute" link should open the Attribute Filter window with the current filters displayed in the "Filter Lists" box on the right side of the window (the same as it appears when the filter odit button is clicked).



**Analytics Report** 

## Mobile computing / UI design

Smaller devices have **limited space**, **touch screens**, and **haptic feedback** 

Necessitate design from the ground up

- Not simply porting a web interface already designed for a larger computer
- Why not?

Capabilities of devices varies widely and are used everywhere under highly variable conditions (ambient light and noise levels)

# Suggestions for mobile

Focus on user needs, not user wants

Remove all "fluff" from big websites

Utilize the capabilities of the device (e.g., built-in GPS, accelerometers, etc.)

Make things vertically scrollable, not horizontally

Reduce interactions with the network to the extent possible

Make use of reusable patterns (e.g., vertically stacking web pages)

Designs for touchscreens (designer needs to consider tapping, pinching, spreading, flicking, scrolling (one-finger vs. two-finger), and dragging ,etc...)

# Challenges

Mobile computing devices

Touchscreens

Social media

Games, gamification

Dimensional display of data (data visualization)

Immersive environments (VR)

## Challenges

Multilingual environments

Cultural issues

Color

Speed of messages

Context

Time (multi-tasking, distractions, etc) – polychromic, monochromic

Cultural dimensions

Power distance

Uncertainty avoidance

Individualism v. collectivism

Masculinity v. femininity

Non-functional requirements

## Mobile challenges

- 1. Keeping it simple but feature rich
- 2. Mobile Search
- 3. UI elements wagging the dog?
- 4. Avoiding fragmentation

Prototype...prototype...prototype...

## Social media and UI design

Social media presents alternative opportunities and challenges

- Facebook, Twitter, Flickr<sup>™</sup>, YouTube<sup>™</sup>
- Wikis, blogs

Who is the target audience?

What is the purpose of the application? (e.g., marketing channel)

Which type of social media works best for your functional requirements?

# Social media guidelines

Post and update information often

Use a combination of push and pull approaches

Keep your sites synchronized to the extent possible

Allow customers to share your content

 Provide a voting or "like" mechanism to encourage customers to become involved in your site



## Social media guidelines

Design the site for longer term engagement

Build a sense of community—users "belong" to something

Take into account international and cultural issues



#### International/Cultural issues

Websites have a global presence

#### Considerations:

- Multilingual requirements
- The meaning of certain colors
- Cultural differences
  - Power distance
  - Uncertainty avoidance
  - o Individualism vs. collectivism

#### Let's talk non-functional requirements

What do you think some NFRs could be that can impact HCI?

## Non-functional requirements

Operational Requirements—choice of hardware and software platforms

Technologies that can be used (e.g. GUI, 2 or 3 button mouse)

#### Performance Requirements

Mobile computing and web browsing inject additional performance obstacles

#### Security Requirements

- Appropriate log on controls and possibly encryption
- Wireless networks are especially vulnerable

#### Political & Cultural Requirements

Date formats, colors, and currencies

# Let's dip back into UX

## User experience design

"...we should make sure that the people designing a product are not the same people building it. Even with appropriate skills and the best intentions, it simply isn't possible for a developer (or anyone, for that matter) to advocate effectively for the user, the business, and the technology all at the same time."

## UX design

#### Digital products - philosophy

- are rude
- require people to think like computers
- have sloppy habits (a 10-year old boy)
- require humans to do heavy lifting

#### WHY?

- Misplaced priorities
- Ignorance about real users
- Conflicts of interest (design and build the UX?)
- Lack of a design process (for collecting and analyzing user goals, needs, motivations)



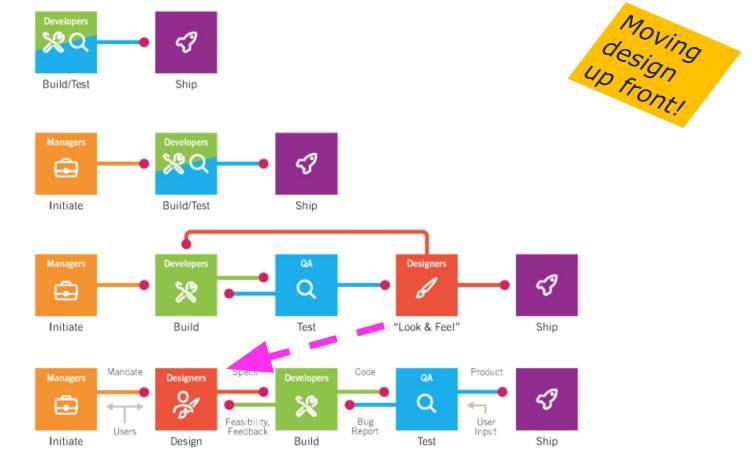
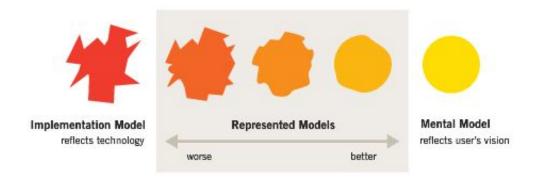


Figure 1-2: The evolution of the software development process. The first diagram depicts the early days of the software industry, when smart developers dreamed up products and then built and tested

# User focused (flipping the thought process)

**Computer Literacy**: a euphemism for forcing human beings to stretch their thinking to understand the inner workings of application logic, rather than having software enabled products stretch to meet people's usual ways of thinking.



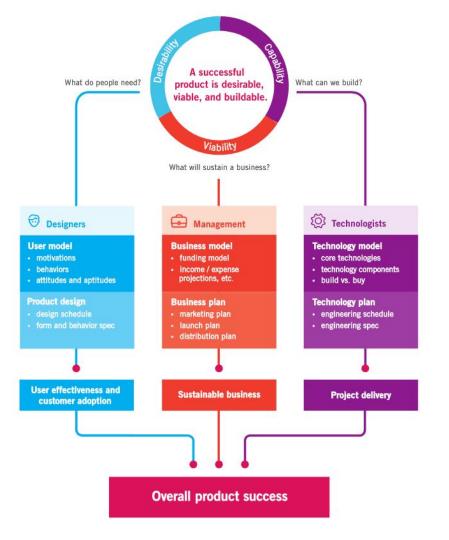
## Goal-driven development

# GOALS????

→ "an expectation of an end condition"

#### Goal-driven development:

• What is it?

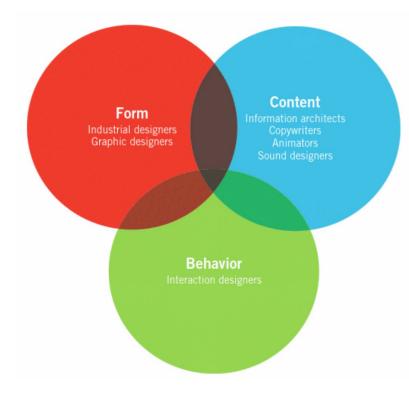


# design tour them.

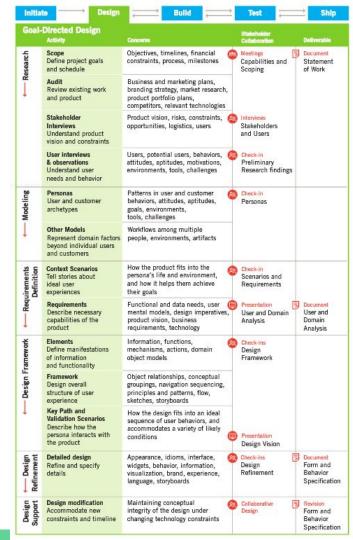
# UX → "Interaction design"

- Understanding the desires, needs, motivations, and contexts of people using products
- Understanding business, technical, and domain opportunities, requirements, and constraints
- Using this knowledge as a foundation for plans to create products whose form, content, and behavior are useful, usable, and desirable, as well as economically viable and technically feasible

Cooper, Alan, et al. About Face: The Essentials of Interaction Design, John Wiley & Sons, Incorporated, 2014. ProQuest Ebook Central, http://ebookcentral.proquest.com/lib/gvsu/detail.action?docID=1762072. Created from gvsu on 2019-11-13 13:41:41.



#### How do we understand the user?



1	nitiat	Design		Test	→ Ship
G	ioal-	Directed Design  Activity	Concerns	Stakeholder Collaboration	Deliverable
	00000	Scope Define project goals and schedule	Objectives, timelines, financial constraints, process, milestones	Meetings Capabilities and Scoping	Document Statement of Work
		Audit Review existing work and product	Business and marketing plans, branding strategy, market research, product portfolio plans, competitors, relevant technologies		
		Stakeholder Interviews Understand product vision and constraints	Product vision, risks, constraints, e opportunities, logistics, users	Stakeholders and Users	
		User interviews & observations Understand user needs and behavior	Users, potential users, behaviors, attitudes, aptitudes, motivations, environments, tools, challenges	Check-in Preliminary Research findings	
	9	Personas User and customer archetypes	Patterns in user and customer behaviors, attitudes, aptitudes, goals, environments, tools, challenges	Check-in Personas	
		Other Models Represent domain factors beyond individual users and customers	Workflows among multiple people, environments, artifacts		

Requirements Definition	Context Scenarios Tell stories about ideal user experiences	How the product fits into the persona's life and environment, and how it helps them achieve their goals	Check-in Scenarios and Requirements		
Req	Requirements Describe necessary capabilities of the product	Functional and data needs, user mental models, design imperatives, product vision, business requirements, technology	Presentation User and Domain Analysis	3	User and Domain Analysis
Design Framework	Elements Define manifestations of information and functionality	Information, functions, mechanisms, actions, domain object models	Check-ins Design Framework	Ī	
- Design F	Framework Design overall structure of user experience	Object relationships, conceptual groupings, navigation sequencing, principles and patterns, flow, sketches, storyboards			
1	Key Path and Validation Scenarios Describe how the persona interacts with the product	How the design fits into an ideal sequence of user behaviors, and accommodates a variety of likely conditions	Presentation Design Vision		
Pesign Refinement	Detailed design Refine and specify details	Appearance, idioms, interface, widgets, behavior, information, visualization, brand, experience, language, storyboards	Check-ins Design Refinement	1	Document Form and Behavior Specification
Design Support	Design modification Accommodate new constraints and timeline	Maintaining conceptual integrity of the design under changing technology constraints	Collaborative Design	7	Revision Form and Behavior Specification

# Interaction design is **not guesswork**

Who are my users?

What are my users trying to accomplish?

How do my users think about what they're trying to accomplish?

What kind of experiences do my users find appealing and rewarding?

How should my product behave?

What form should my product take?

# Interaction design is **not guesswork**

How will users interact with my product?

How can my product's functions be most effectively organized?

How will my product introduce itself to first-time users?

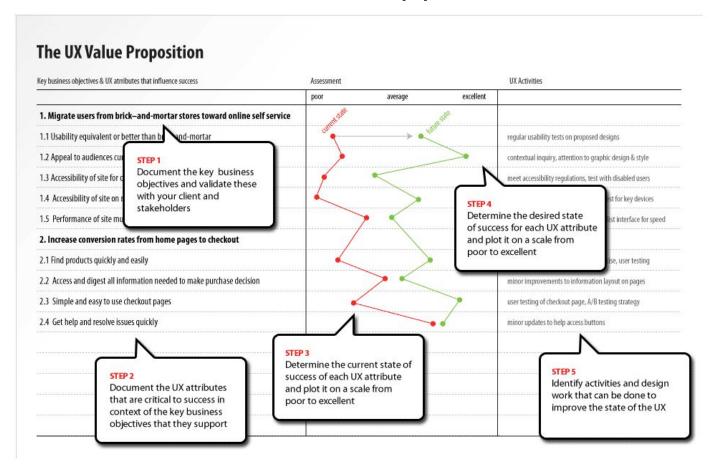
How can my product put an understandable, appealing, and controllable face on technology?

How can my product deal with problems that users encounter?

How will my product help infrequent and inexperienced users understand how to accomplish their goals?

How can my product provide sufficient depth and power for expert users?

# Another Value-Driven Approach?



# Value proposition canvas

### Customer profile

- Jobs (customer is trying to get done)
  - Functional/Social/Emotional
- Pains (negative outcomes to avoid)
- Gains (positive outcomes to achieve)

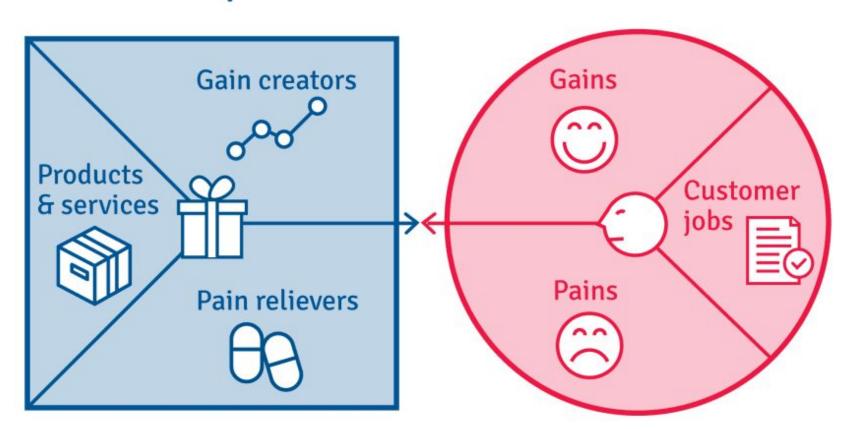
### Value Profile

- Gain Creators (how do they produce/increase/maximize outcomes/benefits)
- Products and Services
- Pain Relievers (how do they eliminate reduce customer pain?)

### Highlight areas of focus

# **Value Proposition**

# **Customer Profile**



# Canvas andout) /alue

### Customer profile

- Jobs (customer is trying to get done)
  - Functional/Social/Emotional
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### Value Profile

- Gain Creators (how do they produce/increase/maximize outcomes/benefits)
- Products and Services
- Pain Relievers (how do they eliminate reduce customer pain?)

Highlight areas of focus.

# One List of UX Deliverables

### **User Research**:

- Personas
- User Flow
- Experience Maps
- Use Cases
- Storyboards

### Market Research:

Competitive Analysis Reports

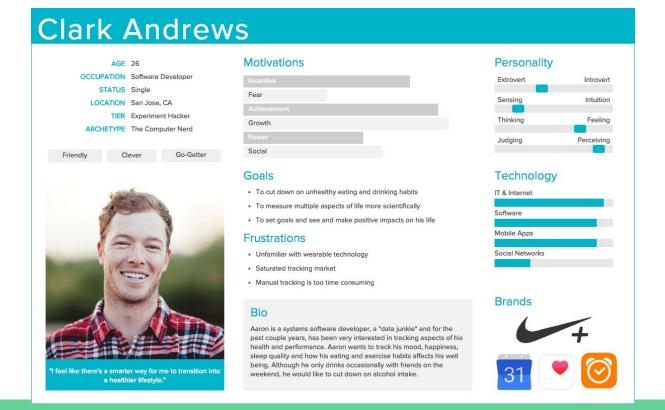
### Design:

- Moodboards
- Sketches
- Wireframes
- Prototypes

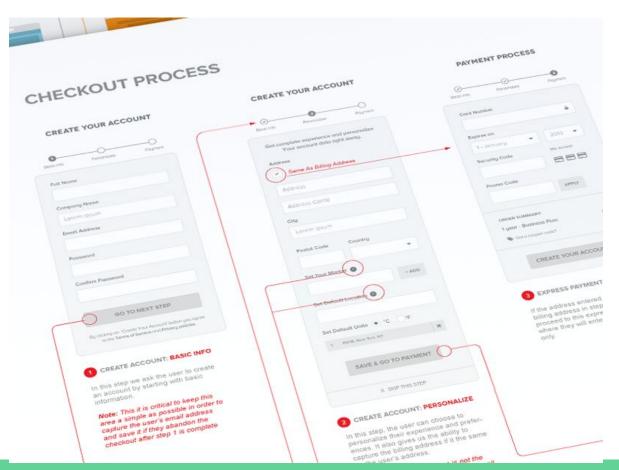
### Testing:

- Surveys
- Usability report
- Analytics reports

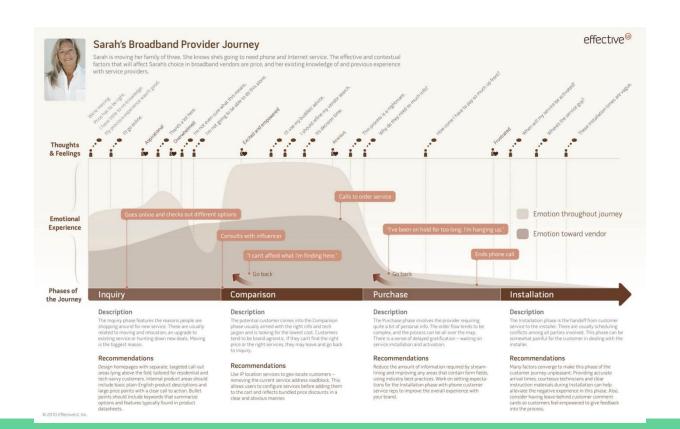
## Personas



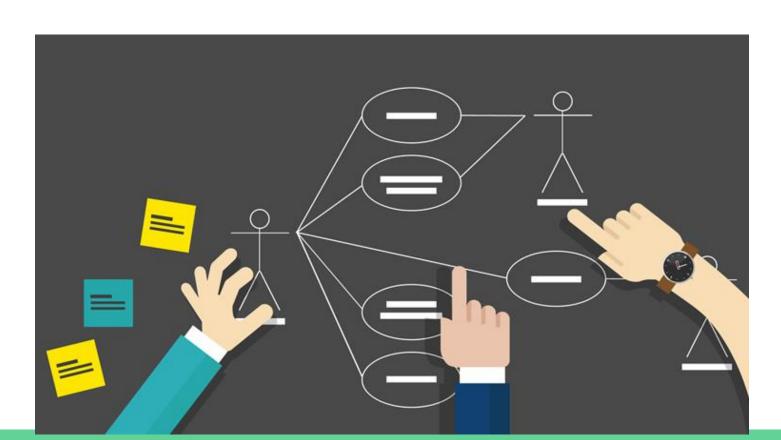
# User flow



# User experience maps



# User cases



# Storyboards



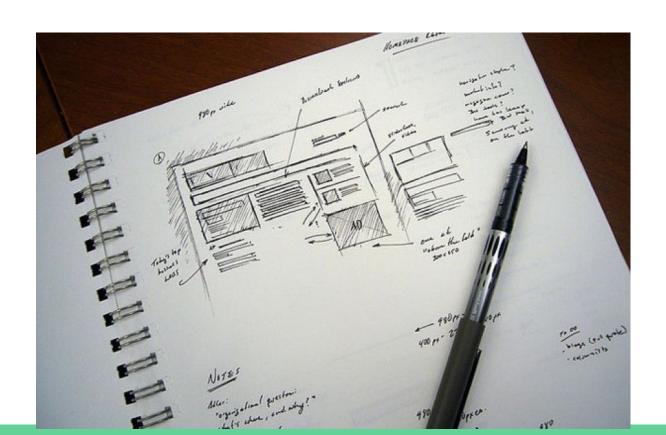
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# Moodboards

(Trying to define a style)



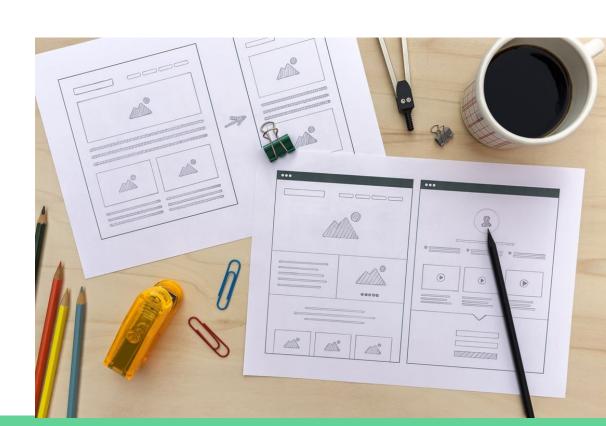
# Sketches (quick visuals)



# Wireframes

Page structures Hierarchies Key elements

https://youtu.be/8-vTd7GRk-w



### This one is done in Adobe XD

