

DIGITAL ASSIGNMENT – 3

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Pick up 5 examples from your daily experience where you think that it is a case of bad design thinking. Give your inputs how it can be improved. Using pictures and drawings are encouraged.

1. Switch Boards without marking the functionality of switches. This is a day to day problem faced by us where we don't know which switch does what. This might be very small in nature but at times can be troublesome. For example, if you want to repair a faulty bulb or tube-light and the correct switch is not turned off, the person repairing can get terribly shocked. Also, due to the lack of demarcations on the switch board people of old age have terrible difficulty in turning on a desired appliance. The solution to this would be that one can easily write a single letter or a particular symbol for the switch connected to the particular appliance. For example, we can write F under the switch which is connected to the fan of the room. This can easily solve all the above mentioned problems. Also, various designs can be added to beautify the looks of the switch board which can increase the goodness of the ambiance of the room.
2. Smart Watches with no on screen display option. There are numerous smart watches which have made the cut in the market. These watches are

tacky and give a run for your money. They are well equipped and suitable for everyone from college students to adults. However, certain watches have a few faults which gives us the opportunity to think that the old analogue and digital time clocks on our wrists were better. The major design default in these smart watches(particular ones) are that we have to press a button to see our time. The basic utility of a watch to turn your wrist and have the time written straight away, however every time one needs to press a button to see it which becomes annoying. A simple solution to it would be to keep an always on display feature so that the time can always be seen without pressing the button. This might cost up more battery but can sure attract more customers and reduce the agony.

3. Laptops with vents and speakers on their underside/backside. The purpose of a vent or a fan in a laptop is to release the heat generated in the CPU while various processing is taking place. However, there are certain laptops that design their vents and speakers on the underside. So, if you lay a laptop on your table, the vent and speaker get somewhat blocked and it fails the purpose. The cooling and heat expulsion is very less and the voice of the speaker is muffled. The solution to this problem is that laptops should be given speaker and vents on the side rims and designed in such a way that it is not blocked or the functions efficiency is reduced. Also, one can try cooling pads or a raised angular laptop stand for overcoming this difficulty related to faulty design.
4. Restroom confusion. Often it is seen that restrooms are marked with a fancy sticker at many a place. This occurs a majority of times at boujee restaurants and hotels. This confuses a lot of people and at times they have to undergo embarrassing moments entering the wrong door. Therefore, I feel it's a basic design fault. The high creativity leads to the failure of the purpose of the sticker or mark. The solution to this would be to make the sticker such that it is understood by majority of the people and they do not have to fall into such embarrassing moments.

5. High shelves in a library with no ladder or stool. This might not be a problem for tall people however for the ones that are not gifted with height have a certain dependency on others to reach the top shelf. Although the design could be made to increase the storage of the library but if a desired book is not in access to a person, it is of no use. Therefore, the simple way to overcome this problem is to have a stool or a ladder to reach all the shelves easily.