Tools & Techniques

Not-necessarily trivial tools for UXA, either sought or found. Updated infrequently, not to be complete nor completed.

Needed

Tools seemingly missing for recurring tasks.

AI linter

Fed by `Communication Guidelines` et al; doing QA on write-ups and design files.

Update: hack with Chat GPT or Claude

AI conversation prototyper

How to visually sketch conversational flows (including branching, conditionality, parameterization etc). Then how to have it interactive. Then live, hooked to a real service.

Ideally x-raying intents, who provides what data/services etc.

Allocation table builder

Visualize what's been moved, merged, split, renamed, added or deleted between 2 lists of 10–100 items.

Color System

Proper color generation/compliance tool etc eg P1 and OKlab. Color space transformations. Derivation with constant S, L or contrast ratios, uniform steps, predictable interpolations etc.

Decision tree builder/navigator

Karnaugh table solver

Gif maker

Most illos should actually be gifs or videos; let's make it easy to make them.

Progressive disclosure

In many ways, e.g:

– Click word in a sentence to expand it. The expanded version provides more details, but still works within

the initial sentence.

– Hover to instantly reveal (even for multimedia, cf **https://www.twohydesign.works/**)
– Mind mapping?

n-tables

Tables/matrixes with more than 2 dimensions.
Actually, even 2-tables in design tools (i.e. real tables with row/column management etc not just rectangles faking it).

Interactive lecturer

"Magic paper" where figures/tables/prototypes:

– Are easily embeddable
– Remain in the viewport as long as needed, while accompanying text can ~scroll as needed
– "React" in context of the reading
– Can turn into interactive playgrounds

E.g:

– **https://www.nan.fyi/**
– **https://www.nathanmanousos.com/posts/chonky-menu**

KJ / Affinity Diagrams

Wouldn't mind a good starting template + time per step f(# of participants.)

State Charts

state-diagrams + depth + orthogonality + broadcast-communication (+ automatic resolution thereof)

Structured screenshots gallery

Being able to capture quickly a full page (static or short vid) + name + URL of any web/app. Then have it tagged or matrixed for easy comparison/retrieval.

Flows gallery

Extension of the previous tool, into whole flows.

AI/Conversational Flowcharts

How to quickly depict probabilistic, branching convo flows. Ideally with clear markings from inputs & context, eg user utterance, LLM response, RAG response, sensor input etc.

Misc charts

Nothing crazy, just a handy list of usually useful visual formalisms. Otherwise it's easy to miss a really convenient chart type in the heat of the moment.

– 2×2 matrices
– Euler charts
– Sequential diagrams (grafcet-like)

A font specimen

Since Tim Brown's webfont specimen doesn't seem to be available anymore.

Recommended

Changelogs

– **Keep a Changelog**
– **Semantic Versioning**