NetEase Music   vs.   **XiaMi Music**

NetEase Music		XiaMi Music
Search Bar		Search Bar
		Ads
Ads		
	Recommendation	
		Ads
Recom. Playlists		Recom. Playlists
Bottom Bar		Bottom Bar

Not Primary Function
Ambiguous icon

Columns corresponding to each other	Clear section division	Too many repeatative horizontal sections	Columns not centered
Simple Command/ Function			
Easy recognized icons			

Here are the two popular music player apps in the Chinese market. On the left is the NetEase Music, on the right is XiaMi Music. At first glance, the one on the left has horizontal bigger divisions which will be more user-friendly, while on the right, not only there are more sections and even some repetitive ones. Vertically, the one on the left is divided into three columns and four columns, and they are aligned with the center. On the right, the columns are divided into three and five, not only again more than NetEase Music will cause chaos, but also they are not aligned. This confusion becomes visually uncomfortable. The icons of XiaMi are ambiguous, for example, it uses headphone for the library.

NetEase Music keeps functions on the feature page simple and straightforward. First is the search bar, then three big categories: Music, Music Video, and Radio. It has clear Hierarchical Structures. Under the music category, it has Personal FM, Daily Recommendation, Playlists and latest Rankings. XiaMi Music leaves some subsequent commands with the primary ones. It also has unnecessary functions on the feature page, such as moments.

NetEase Music play page   vs.   **XiaMi Music play page**

Album picture overlaps the top bar

Skeuomorphism

Additional division

Skeuomorphism

Additional element

On the play pages, the two Apps take the different path. NetEase Music has the concept of Skeuomorphism. The Album cover becomes a vinyl record, and when you swipe the record, that is like changing records. The interface keeps minimal and emphasizes the album cover. On the other hand, XiaMi Music emphasizes the album cover by enlarging the portion. However, it overlaps the top bar where shows time, battery percentage, etc. which could be a little bit annoying sometimes. It also has a lot more function buttons on the screen, and some of them are not necessary. It uses a black bar to show what time it is in the song, and when you try to change the duration by dragging the black bar, another bar with length information pops up above your finger which adds another additional element on the interface.

XiaMi Music puts too much information on one page and needs to polish some details. I would prefer NetEase Music because it has minimal style, keeps everything straightforward, uses Skeuomorphism technique which is fun, and organize the element in order.