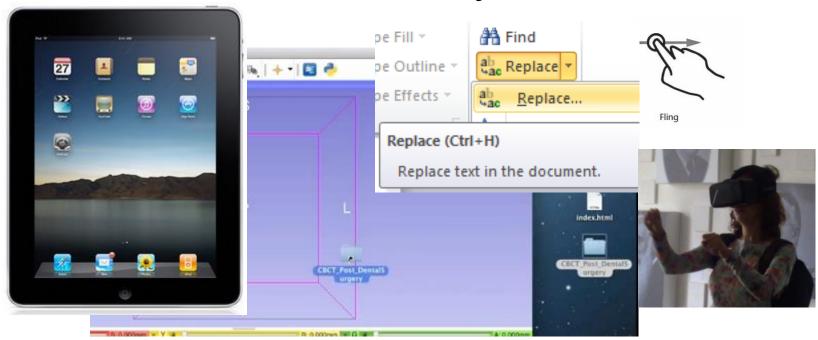


## Interaction styles



**Beatriz Sousa Santos, 2023** 

## **Interaction Styles**

"The concept of Interaction Styles refers to all the ways the user can communicate or otherwise interact with the computer system."

Soegaard, Mads. Interaction Styles (Retrieved March 2020) <a href="http://www.interactiondesign.org/encyclopedia/interaction\_styles.html">http://www.interactiondesign.org/encyclopedia/interaction\_styles.html</a>

There are a lot of studies and design guidelines

# Shneiderman's Eight Golden Rules of Dialogue Design

- 1. Strive for consistency
- 2. Enable frequent users to use shortcuts
- 3. Offer informative feedback
- 4. Design dialogues to yield closure
- 5. Offer simple error handling
- 6. Permit easy reversal of actions
- 7. Support internal locus of control
- 8. Reduce short-term memory load

## These golden rules are paramount in the design process

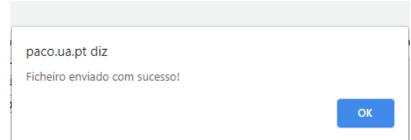
https://www.interaction-design.org/literature/article/shneiderman-s-eight-golden-rules-will-help-you-design-better-interfaces

## Support internal locus of control

- Allow users to be the initiators of actions
- Give users the sense that they are in control of events

## Design dialogue to yield closure

Don't keep users guessing.



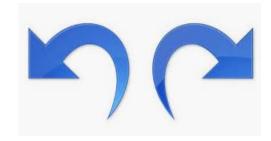
Tell them what their action has led them to



## Allow easy reversal of actions



encouraging exploration of unfamiliar options



## Allow frequent users to use shortcuts

Common examples:

save - CTRL s

copy - CTRL c

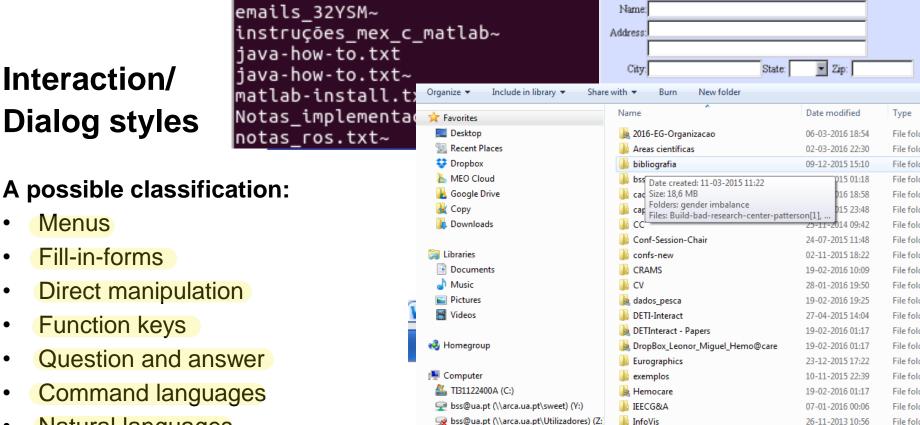


## Interaction/ Dialog styles

Fill-in-forms

Function keys

Menus



Natural languages

Often two or more styles are used simultaneously

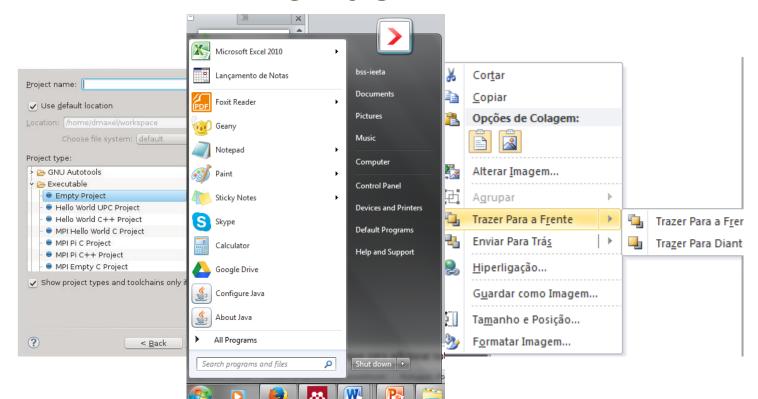
Less traditional user interfaces (UIs):

- 3D user interfaces
- Tangible user interfaces
- etc....





## Menus





- The concept existed long before computers
- Selection of options
- There are **several types**

```
Welcone to the Viridian Finance System

1. Payroll

2. Accounts Payable

3. Accounts Receivable

4. General Ledger

5. Reports

6. Write Checks

Enter Selection: ____
```

#### **Iconic**





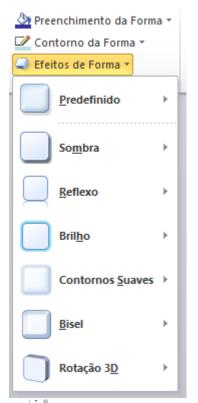


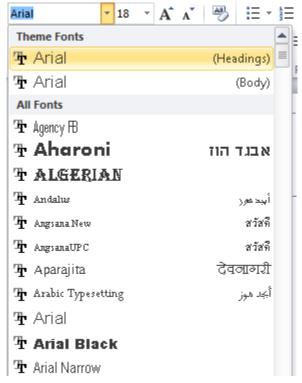


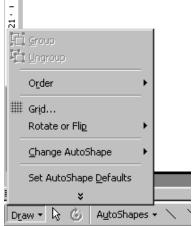




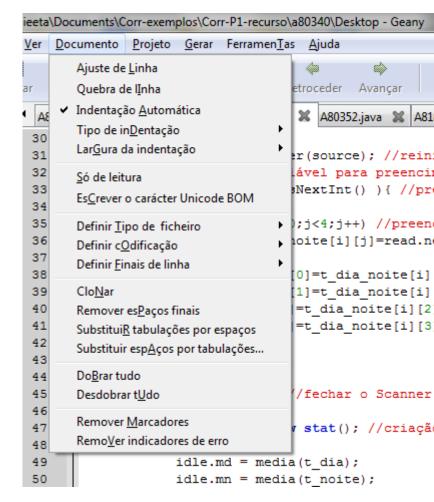
#### **Textual**





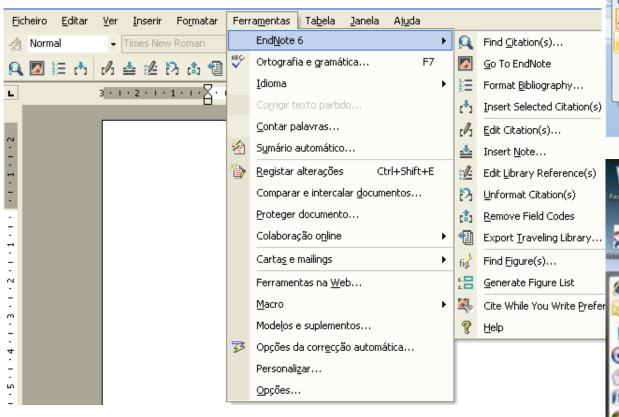


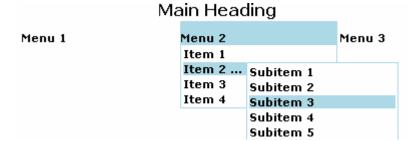




# Pull-down/ pull-up menus

#### **Cascading menus**



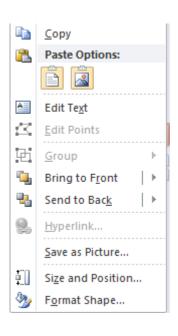




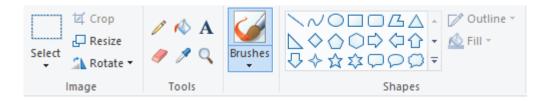
#### Always visible / Pop-ups

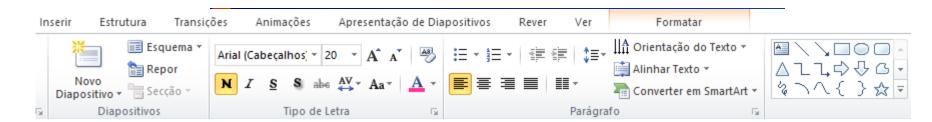












## Menus: main advantages and disadvantages

## Advantages (potential, i.e. if properly designed)

- Auto-explanatory
- Do not load memory (recognition rather than recall)
- Recognition >> Recall
  Reconhecer >> Decoror

- Prevent syntactic errors
- Visible improvements

#### Disadvantages

- Not efficient
- Not flexible
- Not practical for many options

## **User profile** to whom menus are adequate:

#### Knowledge and experience:

- Low system and task experience
- Frequent usage of other systems
- Low computational literacy

#### Work and task:

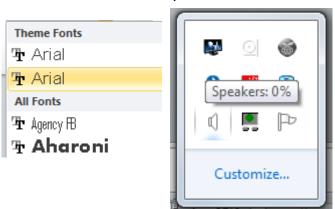
- Low frequency of use
- No training
- Optional usage
- Highly structured tasks

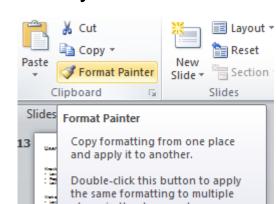
## Menu design: relevant aspects

- Menu structure
- Option ordering
- Option selection
- Menu invocation
- Navigation

## Menu design: guidelines

- Adequate the menu structure to the task structure
- Minimize depth increasing breadth (within reasonable limits)
- Use an adequate ordering method
- Be coherent (design, option names, etc.)
- Give selection feedback to the user
- Include tooltips if names or icons are not auto-explanatory
- Indicate currently unavailable options
- ...
- Etc. etc.





## Menu design: guidelines

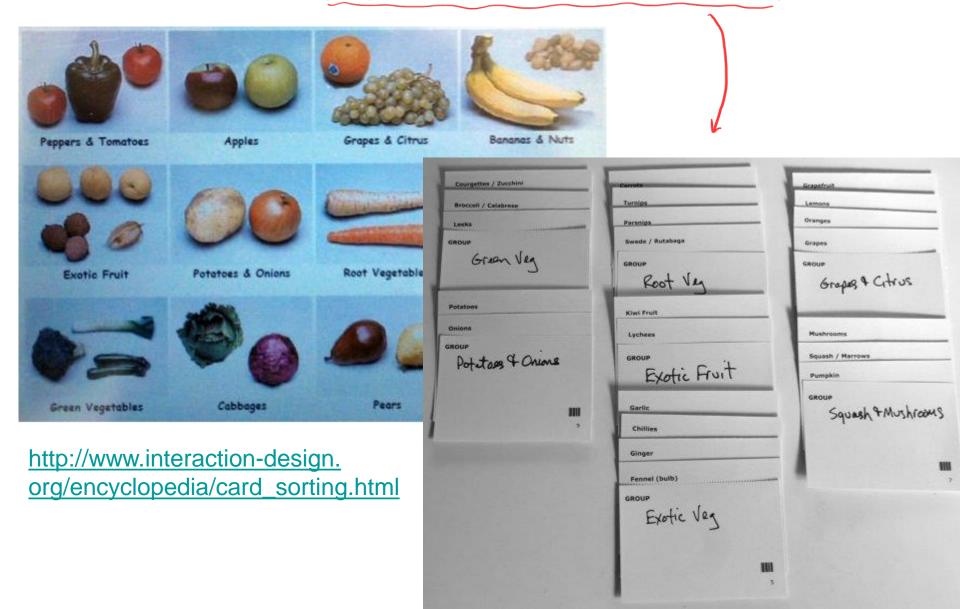
Find the adequate structure using card sorting:

 a low-cost method that helps understanding how users expect to find content or functionality



- Card sorting (usually performed by potential users of an interactive solution) provides information on:
  - Terminology (what people call things)
  - Relationships (proximity, similarity)
  - Categories (groups and their names)
- that can be used to decide upon:
  - which items should be grouped together in displays
  - how menu contents should be organized and labeled
  - what words should be employed to describe the objects of our users' attention

Card sorting example: think about how to sort the fruits and vegetables sold in a supermarket (may be it is not as easy as it seems...)



## Select adequate option ordering

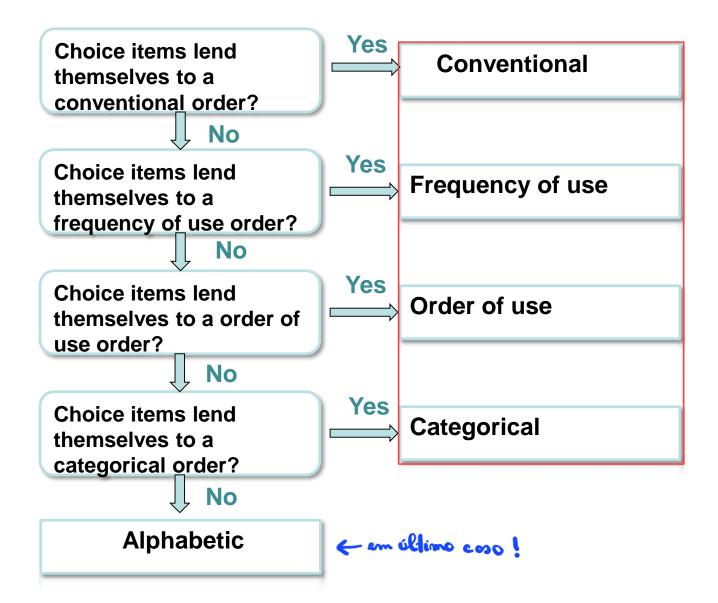
## Which ordering scheme would you select?





Why?

## Select adequate option ordering

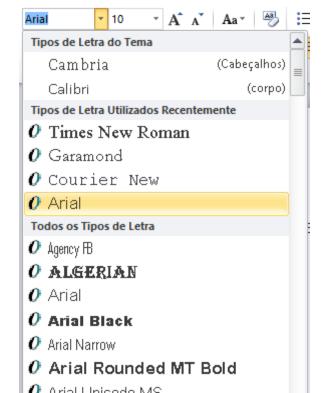


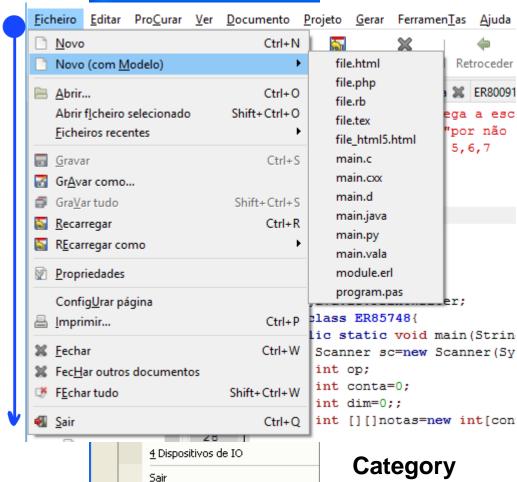
## **Option ordering**

#### Order of use

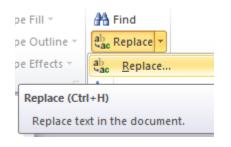


## Alphabetic + frequency

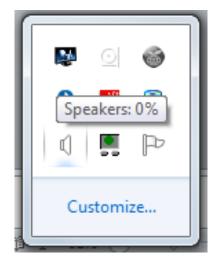


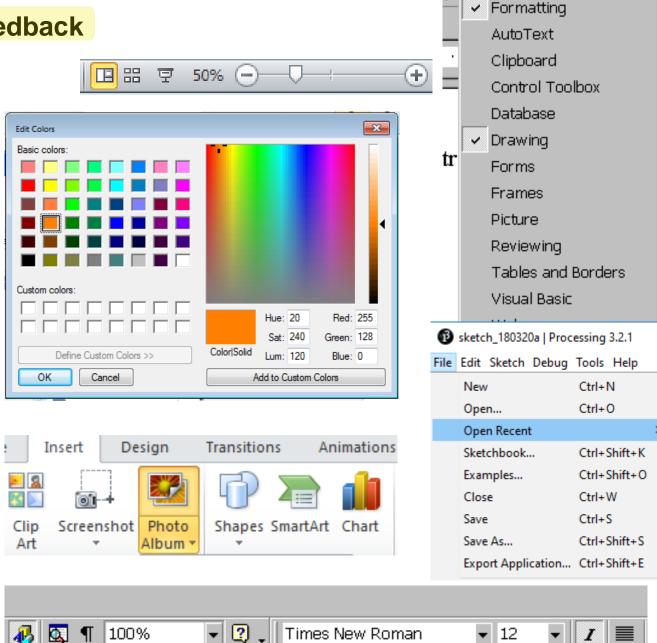


#### **Give selection feedback**







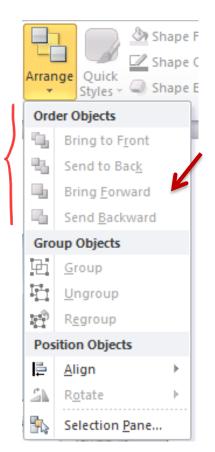


Standard

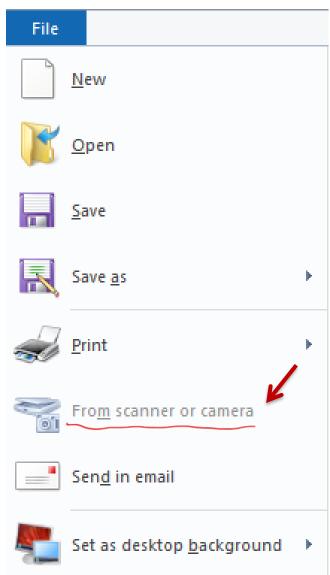
## Indicate currently unavailable options

In grey to let users know they exist, but are unavailable

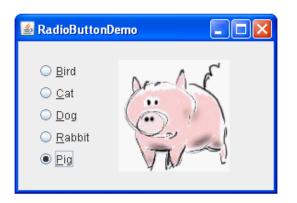
- Preventing errors
- And showing existing options (functionality)







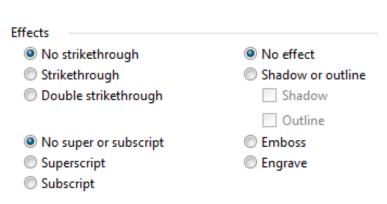
## Make clear the difference between choices of only one or several





"Radio button":
Only a single option can be selected from several mutually exclusive options

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Radio\_button



#### "Check box":

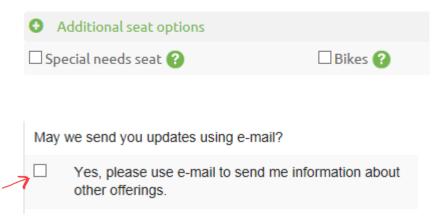
Permits to make a binary choice.
A series of checkboxes may be presented
The user may select several of the choices



#### Select only one alternative:

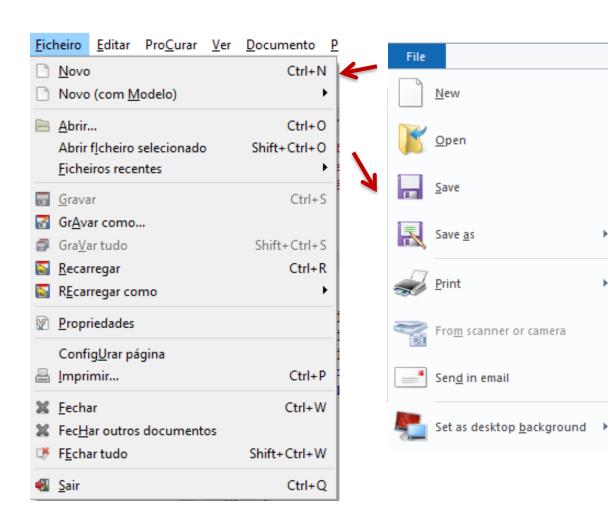
	Service	From	То
0	AP No. 180	06:21	08:22
•	AP No. 130	07:21	09:22
0	IC No. 520	07:31	09:52

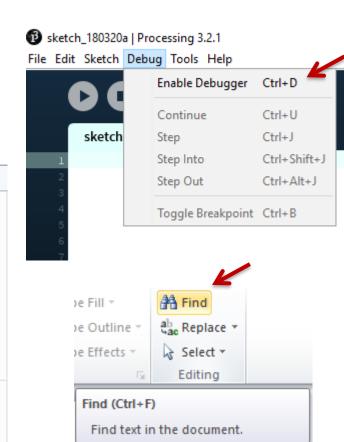
#### Possible to select more than one alternative:



https://www.nngroup.com/articles/checkboxes-vs-radio-buttons/

# Show alternative ways of accessing the same functionality

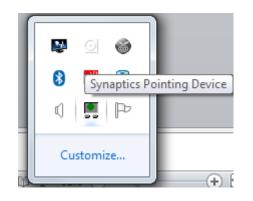


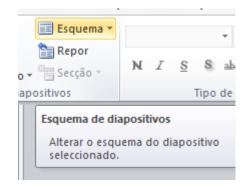


#### **Use accelerators**

(Flexibility and efficiency of use)

# Include tooltips describing options if the names or icons are not clear

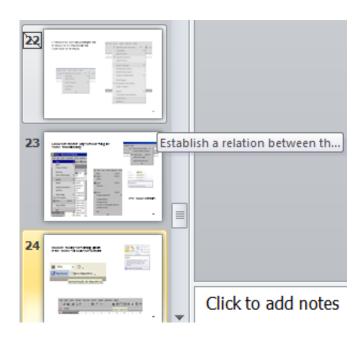


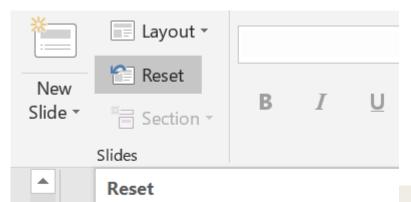


N230 Eixo

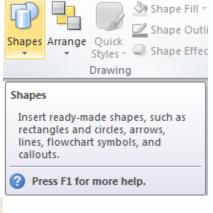
N230-1

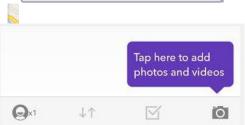
Show imagery



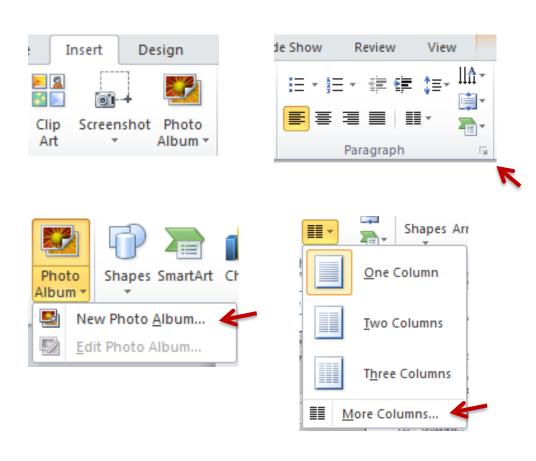


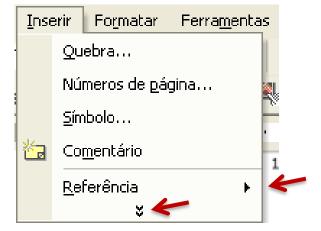
Reset the position, size, and formatting of the slide placeholders to their default settings.

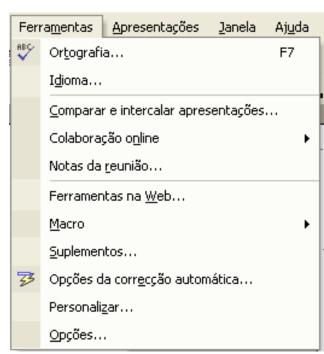


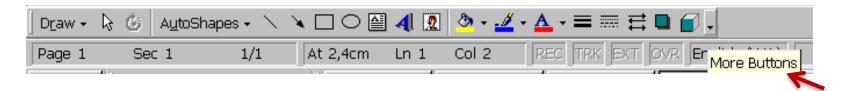


# Make clear that there are more options

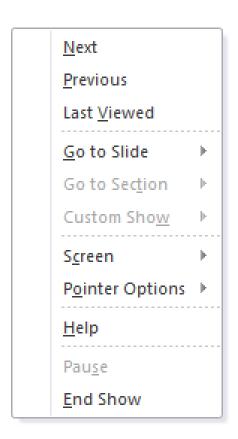




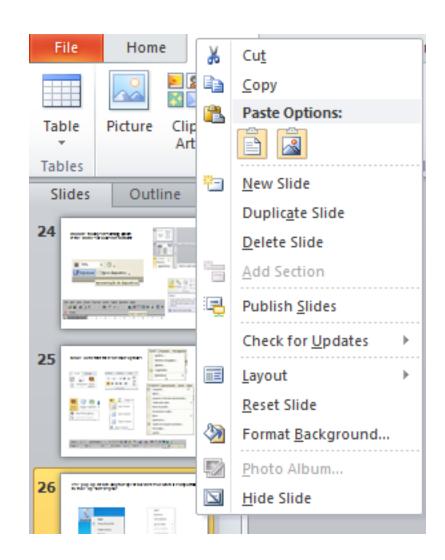




# Use pop-up menus (context menus) only for experienced users or when it is very important not to take up screen space



(e.g.: during a Power Point presentation)



## **Main Bibliography**

- Ben Shneiderman, C. Plaisant, M. Cohen, et al., *Designing the User Interface-Strategies for Effective Human–Computer Interaction*, Pearson, 6<sup>th</sup> edition, 2016
- Mads Soegaard, Interaction Styles, In: Soegaard, Mads and Dam, Rikke Friis (eds.). The Encyclopedia of Human-Computer Interaction, 2nd Ed. Aarhus, Denmark: The Interaction Design Foundation <a href="http://www.interactiondesign.org/encyclopedia/interaction\_styles.html">http://www.interactiondesign.org/encyclopedia/interaction\_styles.html</a>
- William Hudson, Card Sorting. In: Soegaard, Mads and Dam, Rikke Friis (eds.). The Encyclopedia of Human-Computer Interaction, 2nd Ed.". Aarhus, Denmark: The Interaction Design Foundation <a href="http://www.interaction-design.org/encyclopedia/card\_sorting.html">http://www.interaction-design.org/encyclopedia/card\_sorting.html</a>