# Week Four: Exploring Familiar and Unfamiliar Navigation

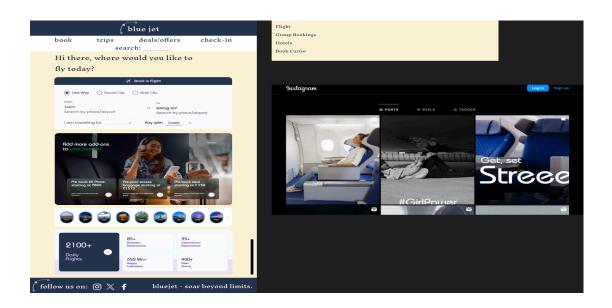
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#### Introduction

Navigation is a key element in shaping user experience on a website. A well-designed interface allows users to move through the site effortlessly, while a confusing one can cause frustration. In this study, we explore familiar and unfamiliar navigation by analyzing the BlueJet flight booking website prototype. The design includes elements that users expect, such as a search bar and footer, ensuring easy access to essential functions. At the same time, interactive features like a hover menu for deals and an infinite scrolling destination selection provide a modern yet unconventional browsing experience, requiring users to adapt to new patterns.

### **Prototype**

The BlueJet flight booking website prototype is designed to provide a seamless and user-friendly experience. It features a clean layout with well-structured sections, ensuring easy access to key functionalities. The homepage includes a prominent flight search module, interactive elements for exploring travel deals, and visually engaging components that enhance usability. The prototype aims to balance aesthetics and functionality, making flight booking efficient and engaging for users.

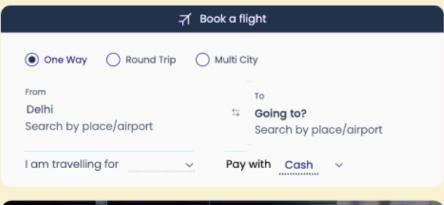


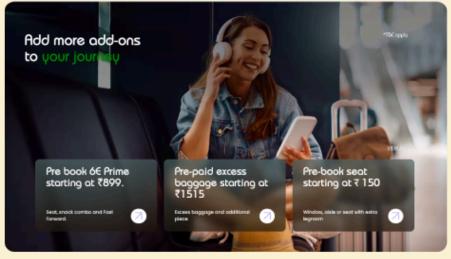
# (ື blue jet

check-in

book deals/offers trips search:

Hi there, where would you like to fly today?





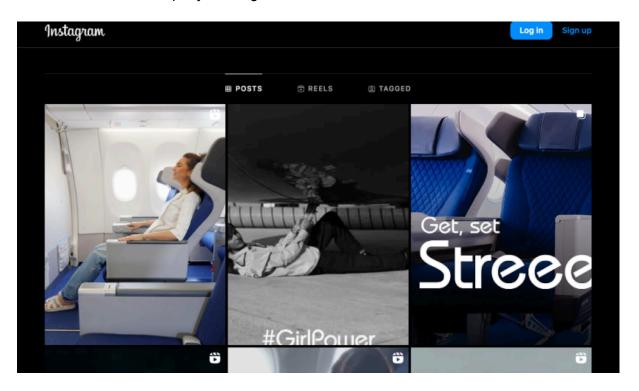






### **Familiar Navigation**

Familiar navigation elements are those users expect based on prior experience. In a flight booking website, the **search bar** is an essential component. Users instinctively enter their departure and destination details, knowing this is the primary way to search for flights. Similarly, the **footer** provides quick access to important links, such as customer service, FAQs, and terms & conditions. These elements follow established design patterns, making them easy to use without additional effort. For example, clicking on the Instagram icon in the footer directs to the company's Instagram account.



## **Unfamiliar Navigation**

Unfamiliar navigation elements require learning or adaptation. On a flight booking website, a **hover menu** displaying additional options, such as exclusive flight deals or recommendations, may not be immediately obvious to users unfamiliar with hover-based interactions. Another example is **infinite scrolling**, often used when browsing flight options or travel destinations. Unlike traditional pagination, this design continuously loads content as users scroll, which might not be intuitive for everyone. Here, hovering over the **"Book"** option in the menu opens a submenu.



### Conclusion

This study shows how familiar and unfamiliar navigation elements impact user experience. Features like the search bar and footer are instantly recognizable, allowing users to navigate the site with ease. On the other hand, elements like the hover menu and infinite scrolling introduce new ways to interact but may require users to adjust their browsing habits. While familiar navigation ensures efficiency and accessibility, unfamiliar features can make the experience more dynamic and engaging. The key is to strike a balance—maintaining intuitive design while incorporating interactive elements that enhance usability without overwhelming the user.