User Experience Design

UX, UI, User-friendliness, and User Journeys

UX = User Experience

- UX is how people interact with a product
 - Ex. When turning on a light, we
 interact with a light switch. The
 design of the switch—including the
 color, material, and physical
 appearance—may impact how we
 feel about the interaction.
- Term was coined in the 1990s buy Don Norman

Related reading: What Is UX Design



What makes a "good" UX

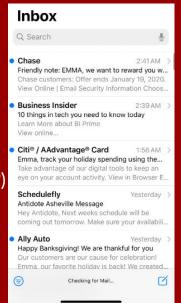
- **Usable**: A product needs to be simple, easy to use, and familiar.
- **Useful**: A product must fill a need. If the product isn't filling a perceived gap in the users' lives, then there is no real reason for them to use it.
- **Desirable**: The visual aesthetics of the product need to be attractive and evoke positive emotions.
- **Findable**: If the user has a problem with a product, they should be able to quickly find a solution.
- Accessible: The product or service needs to be accessible to everyone, including those with disabilities.
- **Credible**: The company and its products need to be trustworthy.

Peter Morville's UX honeycomb



Keys to "good" UX

- Understanding user ...
 - Needs (What are users trying to accomplish?)
 - Behaviors (What are they expecting based on their behaviors?)
- Balancing those considerations with ...
 - Business goals (How can make money off product or service?)



What will happen when I swipe left on a message?

What will happen when I pull down?

Ξο The Washington Post
Democracy Dies in Darkness

Seashell collectors came to scour Sanibel's beaches, renowned for their diverse bounty. Birdwatchers frequented its nature preserves; golfers its resorts. They built multimillion-dollar mansions or bought mobile homes, then rubbed shoulders at businesses on Periwinkle Way, at the Sandbar, Tipsy Turtle and Jerry's Foods.

Story continues below advertisement



More Terms to Know

Good vs. Bad UI

User Interface

 The visual design that complements the UX, including colors, buttons, typography, layout, imagery, etc.

User Friendly

 Easy to learn, use, understand, or deal with; intuitive

Mobile Friendly

• Works well on a mobile device; achieves the key elements of "good" UX even on a small screen.

User Journey

 The path a user may take to reach their goal when using a particular product. It's often useful to map this out early in the design process.

