

## **Prime Palette's Review of Soundscape**

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## **1. Visibility of System Status**

3 of the 4 views pass visibility of system status. The one that does not pass is desktopparagraphview.pdf's second view. The reason for this is that there is no navigation bar or any indication of how to easily leave the page or what page you are currently on. This could run into problems in the future as more technically illiterate people may have issues navigating through here.

## **2. Match between System and the real world**

In my opinion all 4 of the views pass the heuristic test of match between system and real world. Overall the language is very direct and factual and even the newest of users should easily be able to understand what connects to what and how to use the application. They did a very good job on this front.

## **3. User Control and Freedom**

As stated in the visibility of system status section desktopparagraphview.pdf's second view has this issue there is no immediate get me out button and seems to currently be incomplete outside of this however all of the other views are very well shown and directed to allow for a user to easily exit the page with a simple glance

## **4. Consistency and Standards**

All the views have a UI similar to a standard music-playing application or a website. All the expected features like music control, queue, playlist, etc look pretty standard. The "genre generator" feature also looks pretty easy to use. The UI and color palette also feel consistent and aesthetically pleasing. Overall pretty impressed with the UI but there's a lot of empty space which could have been replaced with a lot of stuff in Kevin's UI.

## **5. Error prevention**

At first glance, I can't find any noteworthy errors in the UI. Both look pretty mature and standard for music-playing apps. We don't know if the owner intended for hover with mouse function but that would be good as I don't understand a few of the icons on the music player. There is not a navbar to go back or leave the page to a different page in Benny's UI. Other than that, anybody who has used a music-playing app should be safe from any potential errors.

## **6. Recognition Rather than Recall**

All the actions are either on the page or function automatically. Users won't have to remember or learn much and basically, anybody with no experience can pretty much start using the app and select their genres and get recommendations. There's no learning curve for the application I feel and it's well made.

## **7. Flexibility and Efficiency of Use:**

The design of all 4 views looks very flexible and pretty intuitive to use if you compare it to any other music apps like spotify or apple music. The inclusion of the playlists to the left side of the screen is quite good in terms of position as you can add songs to a certain playlist then just scroll through your playlists to see if it got added to the intended playlist.

The only other thing I could think of in terms of making it easy to use is trying to stay original with your design so you can split yourself apart from the competition and attract more users to your app solely based on your design and its ease of use.

The design can be similar to other music apps but people have things they dislike about spotify and apple music and if you can find solutions to those problems and even implement features that set you apart and make users gravitate to your app just because it's intuitive and offers features that users requested but can't find on other applications

#### **8. Aesthetic and Minimalist Design:**

The first 2 views fit the heuristic in terms of the aesthetic and minimalism in the design, the colors used are suitable, fit the purpose of the application and aren't overly conflicting with the overall layout of the page. There's certain aspects of it that can be improved upon like the genre selection being bubbles that you can select.

However the other 2 views that show the lyrics and the current playing song are a bit too generic, they aren't very unique in terms of the design, I also think that having a universal color for the entire background would potentially look a bit better, rather than color coding each genre of music and having a wide range of colors that don't really match.

The other option that could fix the color coding genre problem could be deciding on a set of colors that flow better when used in conjunction with each other so it looks a bit more aesthetically pleasing.

#### **9. Recognize, Diagnose and Recover from Errors:**

When it comes to diagnosing and error recovery in this kind of music application, there's only a couple things that come to mind.

Prompting the user to confirm whether or not they are sure they would like to remove a song from their playlist. However even if the user does delete a song from their playlist accidentally implementing a recently viewed or a deleted song/playlist, that way there's always a method to retrieve something that could be deleted or otherwise lost.

#### **10. Help and Documentation -**

There is no help or FAQ section on the website in both views so some documentation would have been appreciated. To be honest the app doesn't require much documentation or a help section of sort but a very basic section to tell the users its primary features or some basic functions for tech-illiterate people will be good.

