6.813/6.831 • User Interface Design and Implementation

Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science
Spring Semester, 2011

GR2: Designs

Due: Session 14

In this group assignment, you will start designing your term project.

Designs

Scenario. Write a scenario that involves all three of the tasks you identified in GR1. Where your task descriptions in task analysis were abstract, your scenario should be concrete, complete with imaginary users' names and imaginary details.

Storyboard designs. Generate **three different** preliminary designs for your user interface. Explain each design and include a storyboard showing how it works for your scenario. The storyboard should combine words with sketches showing how the interface would look over the course of the scenario. After the storyboard, you should have an analysis that considers the design's good and bad points for learnability, visibility, efficiency, and error prevention.

Your designs will be judged on how well you've described them, how well you analyze them, and how diverse they are. Three designs that differ only in small ways will not receive much credit.

Take time to brainstorm a variety of different interface designs, sketching them by hand on paper or a whiteboard. You should play with many more than three designs, but we only require you to record three

When you draw your sketches, don't get bogged down in details like wording, graphical appearance, or layout. Keep things simple. Focus on the conceptual model you're trying to communicate to the user, and think about your task analysis: what the user needs to do and how they can do it. Putting too much time into designing low-level details is pointless if big things have to change on the next design iteration.

Hand-drawn sketches are preferred. There are a number of ways to get hand-drawn sketches into your web page. You can draw on paper and use a scanner to convert it to electronic form. Make sure your sketches are readable, and crop them and size them appropriately so presentation has good usability.

What to Hand In

Update your group's web page so that it contains a section **GR2 Designs**, with subsections for:

- **Scenario**
- **Designs**

Put your GR2 as a new page on the site, with a link to it from your main project page.

We will grade the version that exists at the moment of the deadline.

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