

Information Design

In-Class/Homework: *Wireframes*

Paper or Digital Wireframe Prototypes Ready for Discussion on Week 6

Overview

Based on your task analyses, create wireframes that all of the steps involved in completing one of the tasks.

Start with simple thumbnail sketches based on the task. Discuss your sketches with colleagues and create a larger version once you have worked out what project pages/elements you need to create wireframes for.

Keep in mind: Next week, you will take these wireframes and have them tested by the instructor and your fellow classmates. Make sure the wireframes are clear, large enough to look and interact with, and major items have their own separate page or are cut-outs.

Submission Requirements

Prepare your wireframes by hand or in your graphics program of choice. If done by hand, the wireframes should be neat and outlined in pen (after you've done it in pencil). Alternatively, you can scan your wireframes onto the computer and refine digitally. Have hardcopies/printouts of your wireframes ready to use for testing next week (time will be available at the start of class to finalize the wireframes).

Wireframe Resources (Tip: Download the digital copy of this prompt for clickable links.)

Paper Wireframes

Six-Page Template (<http://nunile.110mb.com/sketching.pdf>) – Good for initial sketching out ideas.

Paper Browser (<http://www.raincreativelab.com/paperbrowser/>) – Printable wireframes for a 1024x768 browser.

iPad Application Sketch Template (<http://www.flickr.com/photos/owaters/4501918517/>) – Comes with a grid.

(A Simple) Wireframe Template (<http://www.flickr.com/photos/alfonsobozzelli/3949828341/>) – Has space for notes.

Digital Wireframes

Blank Photoshop Browser Templates (<http://www.webdesignerstoolkit.com/index.php>) – Various browsers and sizes.

Vector Browser Screens and Website Elements (<http://vector.tutsplus.com/articles/news/vectortuts-freebie-vector-pack-browser-screens-and-website-elements/>), find the link to download the ZIP file) – Firefox and Safari.

(The following resources you'll need to experiment with on your own)

Gliffy (<http://www.gliffy.com/uses/wireframe-software/>) – No sign-up required, basic website wireframe templates available to work from. Drag and drop functionality.

Cacoo (<https://cacoo.com/>) – Free sign-up, basic templates available. Drag and drop functionality.

50 Free UI and Web Design Wireframing Kits, Resources and Source Files

(<http://www.smashingmagazine.com/2010/02/05/50-free-ui-and-web-design-wireframing-kits-resources-and-source-files/>) – A plethora of useful items. Browse at your own risk – you may get sidetracked into browsing other cool stuff.

Recommended Inspirational Reading

40 Brilliant Examples of Sketched UI Wireframes and Mockups (<http://www.onextrapixel.com/2010/09/29/40-brilliant-examples-of-sketched-ui-wireframes-and-mock-ups/>) – Additional examples of wireframes for real-world companies. Includes wireframes for mobile apps.

Pwireframing: Paper Wireframing (http://www.mstoner.com/index.php/blog/pwireframing_paper_wireframing) – A blog post explaining a real-world example of the paper wireframe process.

Wireframe Examples of a Poll (<http://www.mixedwaves.com/2010/03/wireframe-samples-for-poll/>) – A series of wireframes showing how to create an online poll.

Reading Assignment

Read Chapter 7 in the textbook (Interactive Case Studies)

Evaluative Criteria / Grading Rubric

Adherence and Resonance: Did the student understand the assignment and reach the goals?	5PTS
Wireframes: Did each student start off with thumbnail sketches? Were the final wireframes neatly rendered and easy to follow? Were there enough wireframes created to address the step-by-step actions of one of the task analyses?	25PTS
Total	30PTS