

User Interface Design for Software Engineers

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Why UI is important



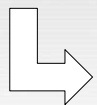
#1 Factor: Aesthetics

An application is
only as good as its
interface

Three Lessons About Users

- 1 Users are stupid.
- 2 Users are scared.
- 3 Users don't read.

Predict how the user will act



Design accordingly

Program Model

what actually happens

=

User Model

what the user thinks
will happen

Define The Application

Who is the **target audience?**

What is their **usage scenario?**



What are the **similar applications?**



Draw It!

Habituation

- What apps have they used?
- What apps are similar?



Habituation



Stick to Standards



A word about...

Options & Preferences

Using Text

Options & Preferences



+ Lets the user configure the app to their liking

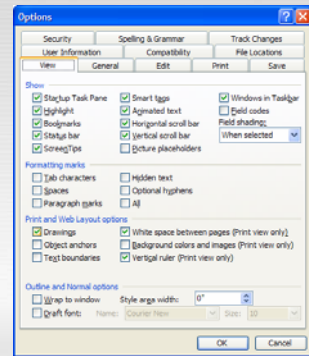
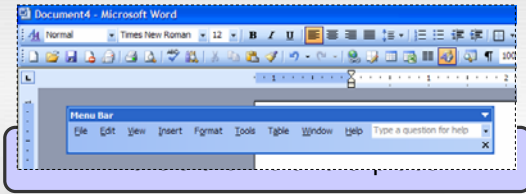
+ Can help the user be more productive



- Can confuse users
- More to test, more to fail

There's a time and a place

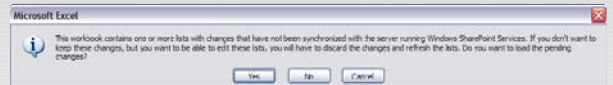
This is neither...



Using Text

Shorter = Better

Using Text



This workbook contains one or more lists with changes that have not been synchronized with the server running Windows SharePoint Services. If you don't want to keep these changes, but you want to be able to edit these lists, you will have to discard the changes and refresh the lists. Do you want to load the pending changes?
Yes No Cancel

Stick to Standards



Knowtion Net - Brandon & Wesley Rosenblum

