HEURISTIC EVALUATION

CS 77 + CS 147

Scott Klemmer and Michael Bernstein

Heuristic evaluation is a hill-climbing technique

Heuristic evaluation gives you terms for intuitive ideas

it is a suite of unit tests for user interfaces

Multiple ways to evaluate

Empirical Assess with real users

Formal Models and formulas to calculate measures

Automated Software measures

Critique Expertise and heuristic feedback

When to get design critique?

- Before user testing. Don't waste users on the small stuff. Critique can identify minor issues that can be resolved before testing, allowing users to focus on the big issues.
- Before redesigning. Don't throw out the baby with the bathwater. Critique can help you learn what works and what should change.
- When you know there are problems, but you need evidence. Perhaps you've received complaints from customers or found yourself stumbling around your own site. Critique can help you articulate problems and provide you with ammunition for redesign.
- Before release. Smooth off the rough edges.

Begin Review with a Clear Goal

Heuristic Evaluation

- Developed by Jakob Nielsen
- Helps find usability problems in a design
- Small set (3-5) of evaluators examine UI
 - independently check for compliance with usability principles ("heuristics")
 - different evaluators will find different problems
 - evaluators only communicate afterwards
 - findings are then aggregated
- Can perform on working UI or sketches

Ten Design Heuristics

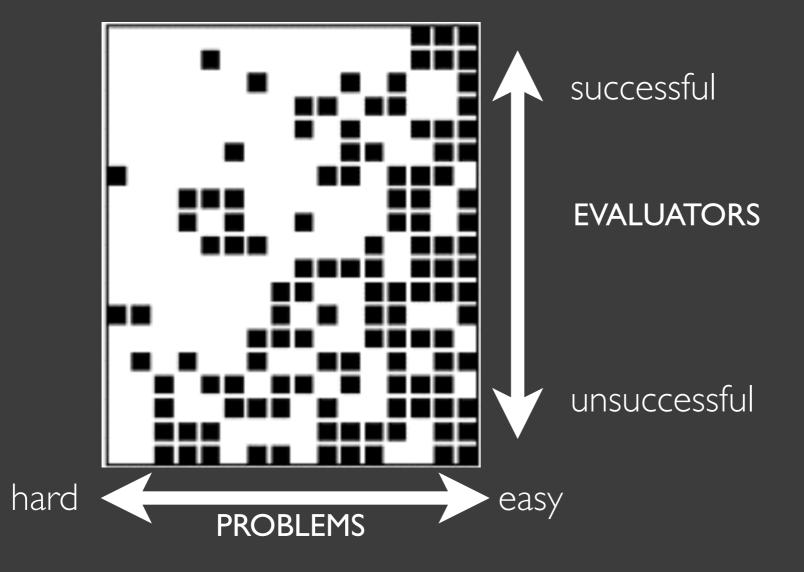
- Show system status
- Familiar metaphors & language
- Control & freedom
- Consistency
- Error prevention
- Recognition over recall
- Flexibility & efficiency
- Aesthetic & minimalist design
- Recognize, diagnose, & recover from errors
- Help

Evaluators' Process

- Step through design several times
 - Examine details, flow, and architecture
 - Consult list of usability principles
 - ..and anything else that comes to mind
- Which principles?
 - Nielsen's "heuristics"
 - Category-specific heuristics from e.g., design goals, competitive analysis, existing designs
- Use violations to redesign/fix problems

Why Multiple Evaluators?

- No evaluator finds everything
- Some find more than others



Decreasing Returns

• Caveat: graphs for a specific example

problems found

benefits / cost

Heuristic Eval: Cost-effective

- In one case: benefit-cost ratio of 48
 - estimated benefit \$500,000; cost \$10,500
 - value of each problem ~\$15K
 - how might we calculate this value?
 - in-house -> productivity; open market -> sales
- Severe problems found more often
- Single evaluator achieves poor results
 - only finds 35% of usability problems
 - 5 evaluators find ~ 75% of problems

Heuristics vs. User Testing

- Heuristic Evaluation often faster
 - I-2 hours each evaluator
- HE results come pre-interpreted
- User testing is more accurate (by def.)
 - takes into account actual users and tasks
 - HE may miss problems & find "false positives"
- Valuable to alternate methods
 - find different problems
 - don't waste participants

Phases of Heuristic Evaluation

- I. Pre-evaluation training: give evaluators needed domain knowledge and information on the scenario
- 2. Evaluation: individuals evaluate and then aggregate results
- 3. Severity rating: determine how severe each problem is (priority). Can do first individually and then as a group
- 4. Debriefing: review with design team

How-to: Heuristic Evaluation

- At least two passes for each evaluator
 - first to get feel for flow and scope of system
 - second to focus on specific elements
- If system is walk-up-and-use or evaluators are domain experts, no assistance needed
 - otherwise might supply evaluators with scenarios
- Each evaluator produces list of problems
 - explain why with reference to heuristic or other information
 - be specific and list each problem separately

How-to: Heuristic Evaluation

- Why separate listings for each violation?
 - risk of repeating problematic aspect
 - may not be possible to fix all problems
- Where problems may be found
 - single location in Ul
 - two or more locations that need to be compared
 - problem with overall structure of UI
 - something is missing
 - ambiguous with early prototypes; clarify in advance
 - sometimes features are implied by design docs and just haven't been "implemented" – relax on those

Severity Rating

- Independently estimate after review
- Allocate resources to fix problems
- Estimate need for more usability efforts
- Severity combines
 - frequency
 - impact
 - persistence

Severity Ratings

- 0 don't agree that this is a usability problem
- l cosmetic problem
- 2 minor usability problem
- 3 major usability problem; important to fix
- 4 usability catastrophe; imperative to fix

Severity Ratings Example

- Issue: Unable to edit one's weight
- Severity: 2
- Heuristics violated: User control and freedom
- Description: when you open the app for the first time, you have to enter your weight, but you cannot update it. It could be useful if you mistyped your weight, or if one year or two after the first use of the app, your weight has changed.

Debriefing

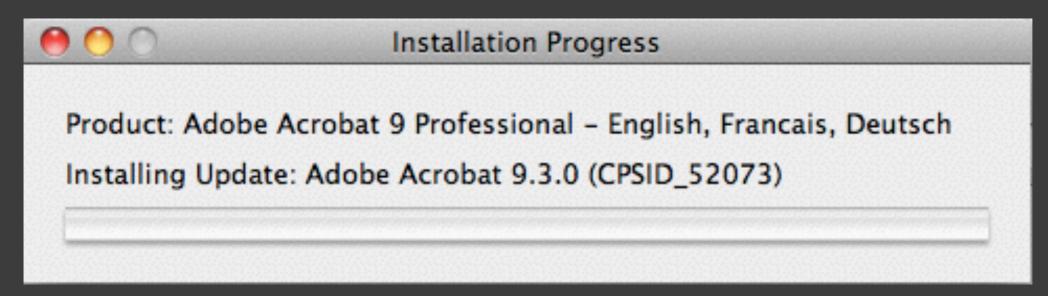
- Conduct with evaluators, observers, and development team members
- Discuss general characteristics of Ul
- Suggest potential improvements to address major usability problems
- Dev. team rates effort to fix
- Brainstorm solutions

The Heuristics

Show System Status

1/10

Show: Time



- Feedback depends on response time
 - < ls: just show outcome</p>
 - ~ Is: feedback that activity is underway
 - >> Is: Show fractional progress; time

Adobe Acrobat

Show: Space

You are currently using 7488 MB (99%) of your 7498 MB.

Last account activity: 0 minutes ago at this IP (75.210.243.152). <u>Details</u>

Stanford University HCl Group Mail view: standard | <u>turn on chat</u> | <u>older version</u> | <u>basic HTML</u> <u>Learn more</u>

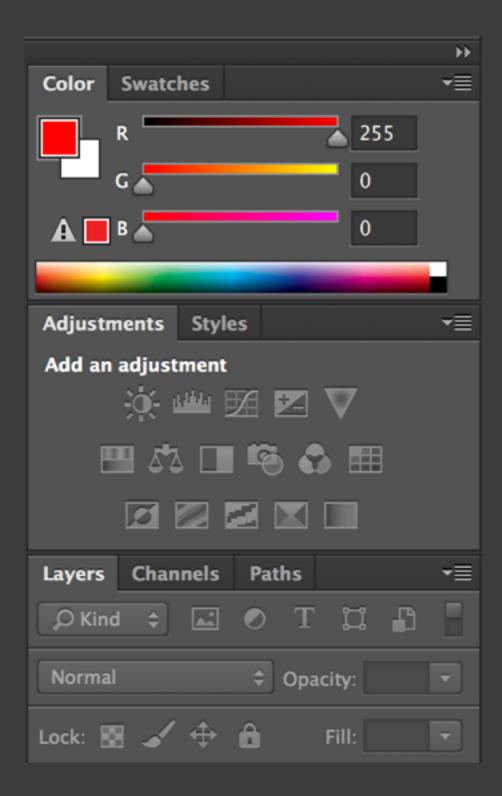
©2010 Google - Terms of Service - Privacy Policy - Program Policies - Google Home

Powered by Google

Show: Change



Show: Action



Show: Next steps

Important Message

Thank you! Your message was sent to the seller and a copy was sent to the e-mail address on your account. The seller will respond to you directly via e-mail.

Back to Member Profile

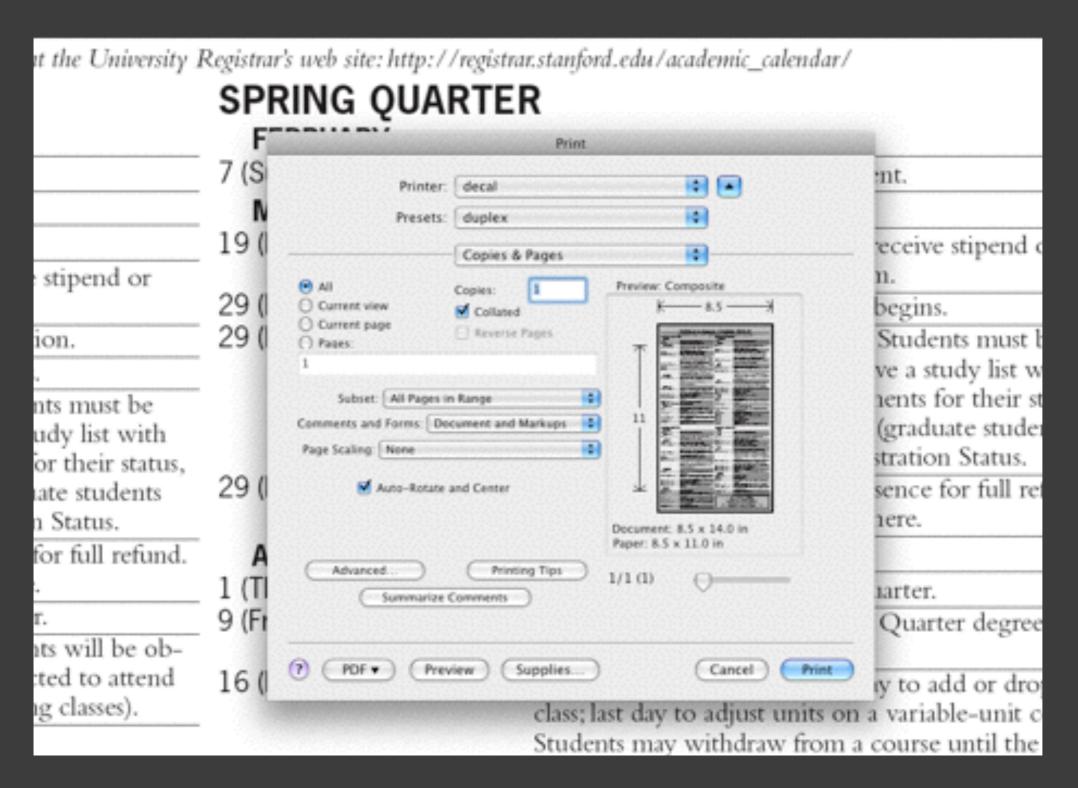
Show: Completion



Familiar Metaphors & Language

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Familiar Metaphors



Familiar Language

Direct Loan Servicing

OUNT QUESTION CENTER | FORMS

Electronic Bill Presentment and Electronic Correspondence for the William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan (Direct Loan) Program

Services you are already enrolled in:

Electronic Correspondence

You already are enrolled in this service that enables you to receive your Direct Loan correspondence electronically. If you wish to cancel enrollment for this service, click here.

Services you are not eligible for:

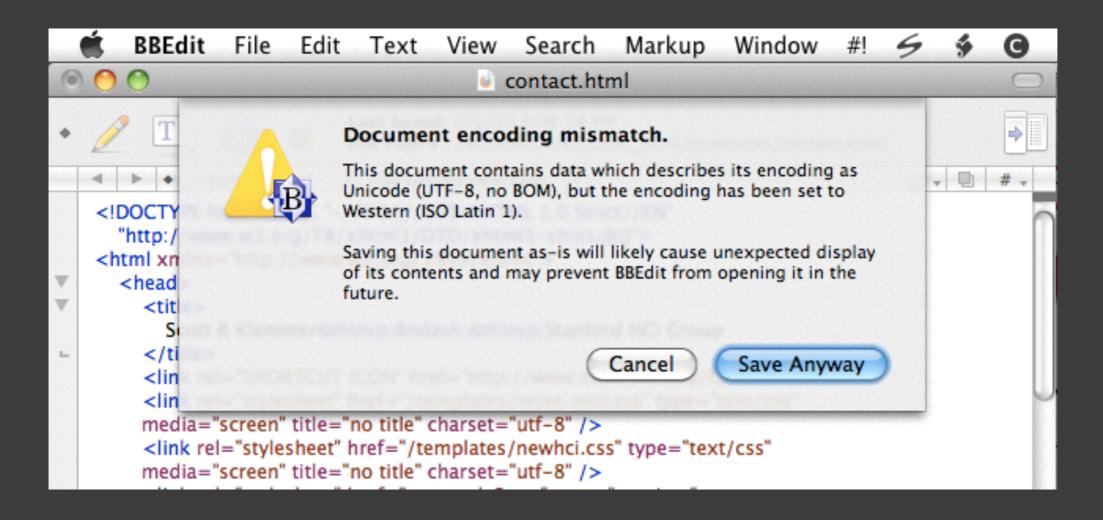
Electronic Bill Presentment

Your account is not eligible for participation in Electronic Bill Presentment because either you already are enrolled in our Electronic Debit Account, your account is in an inactive status such as paid in full, or your account is greater than 210 days delinquent.

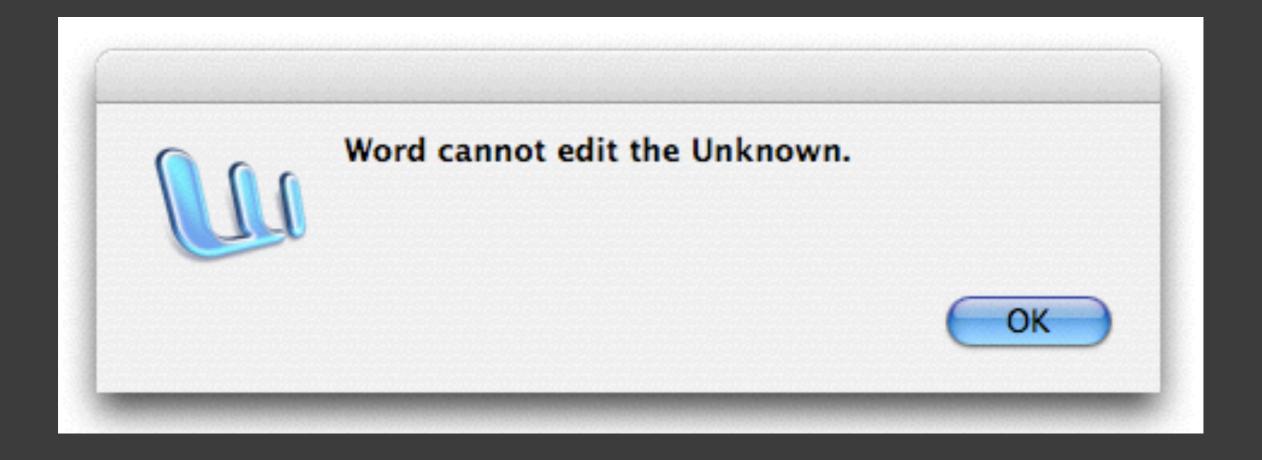
Familiar Categories

Visas	Passpo
Need a Vis	Alaska
Citizenship: Not a U.S. Citizen? State of Residence: Destination:	Arizona Arkansas ✓ California, Northern California, Southern Colorado
Purpose of Travel: Multiple Destinations Account #:	Connecticut Delaware District of Columbia Florida
	Georgia Guam Hawaii Idaho Illinois Indiana Iowa Kansas Kentucky Louisiana
IBT®	Maine Maryland Massachusetts
Privacy Policy: Terms of U	Michigan

Familiar Choices



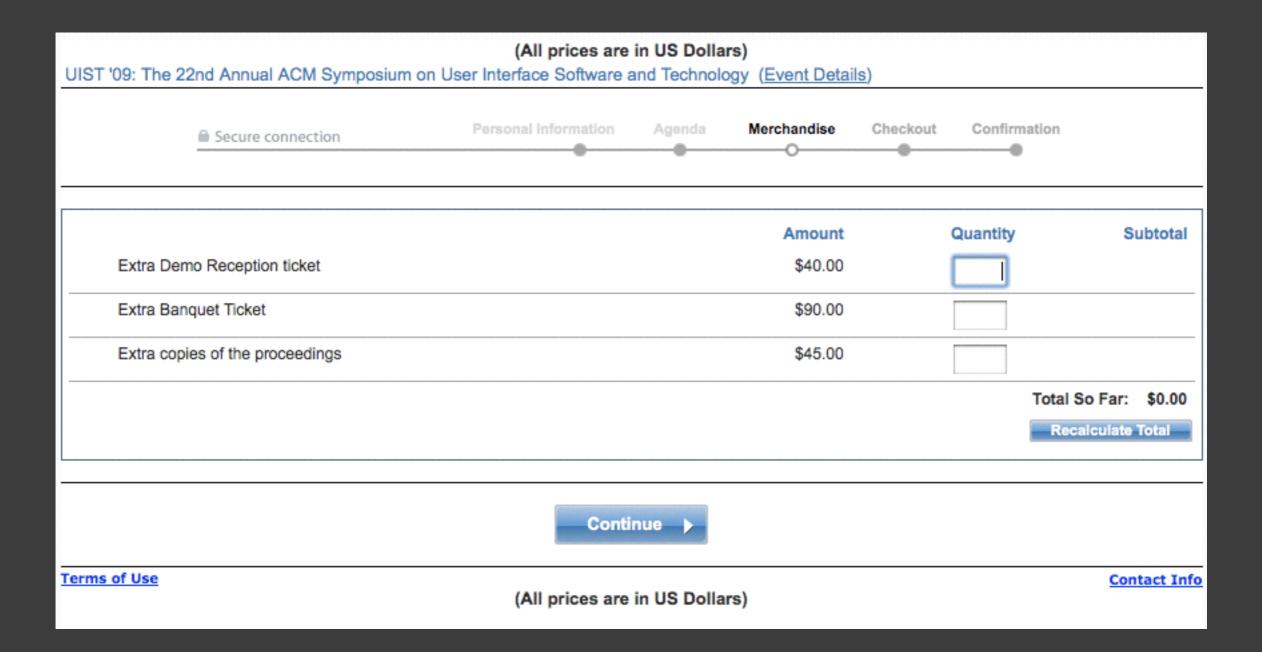
Consider corner cases



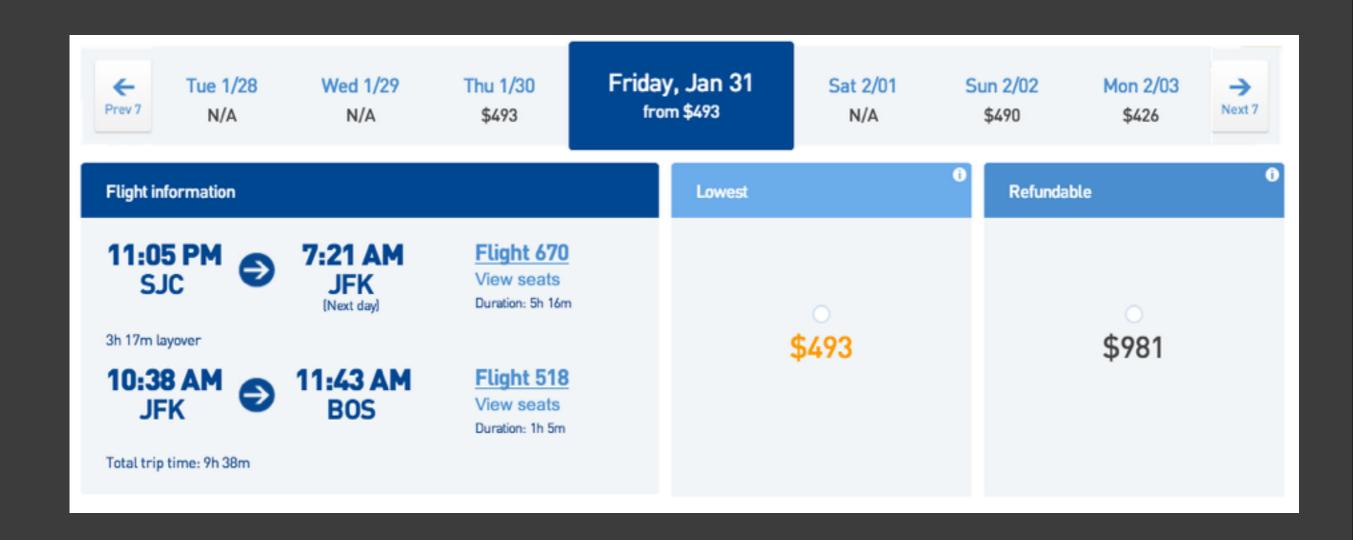
User Control & Freedom

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Freedom to Undo



Freedom to Explore



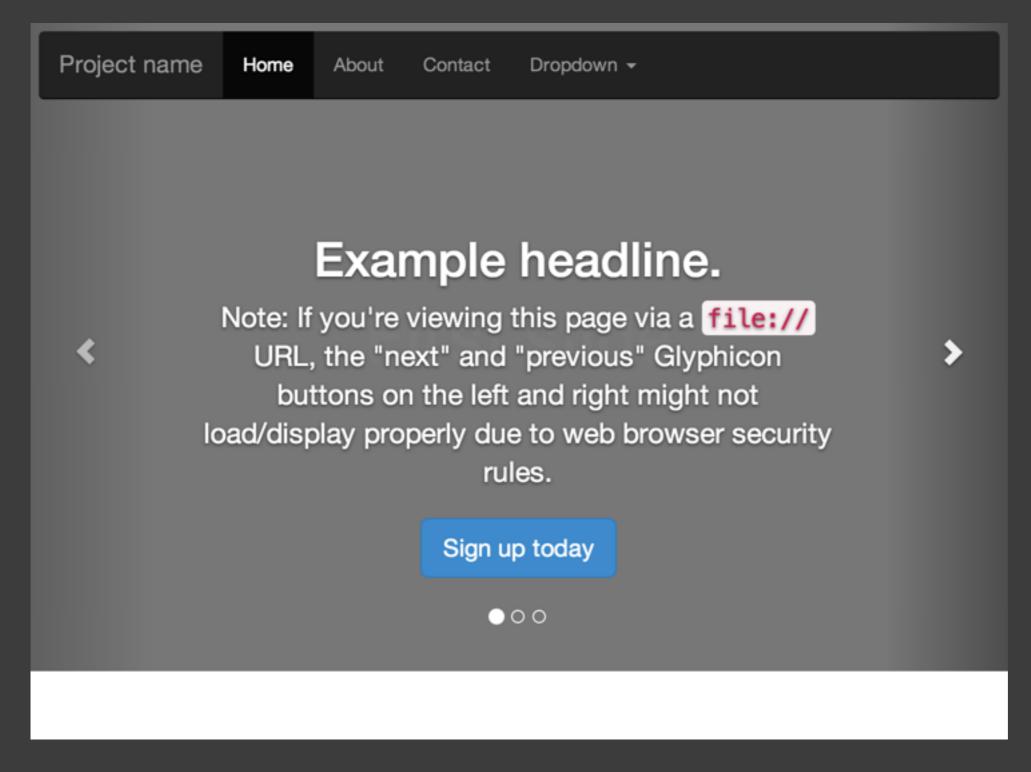
Consistency & Standards

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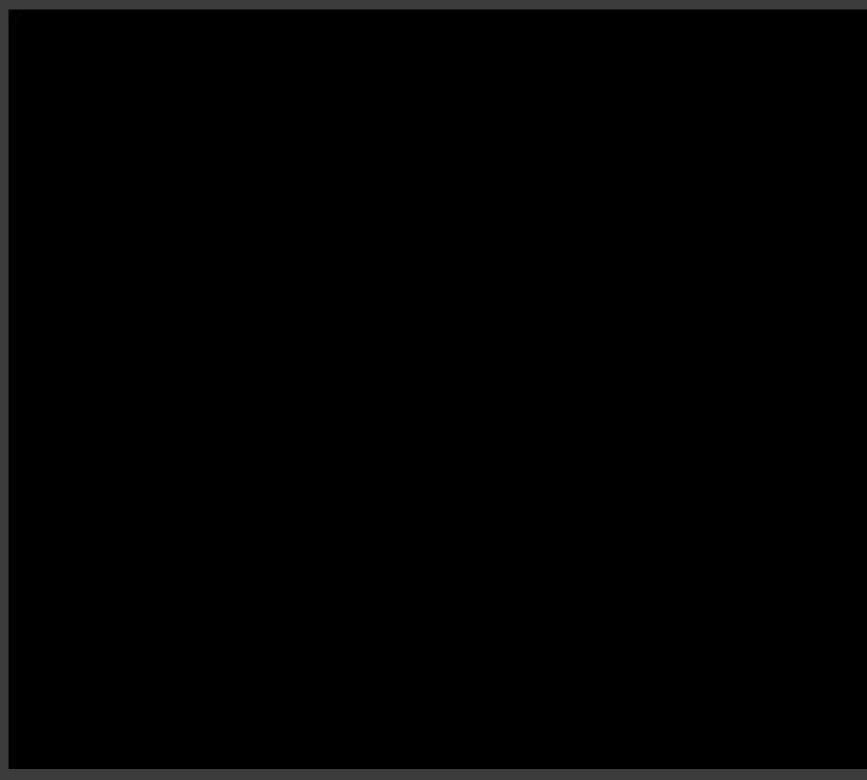
Consistent Layout



Consistent Layout



Consistent Layout



Consistent Names

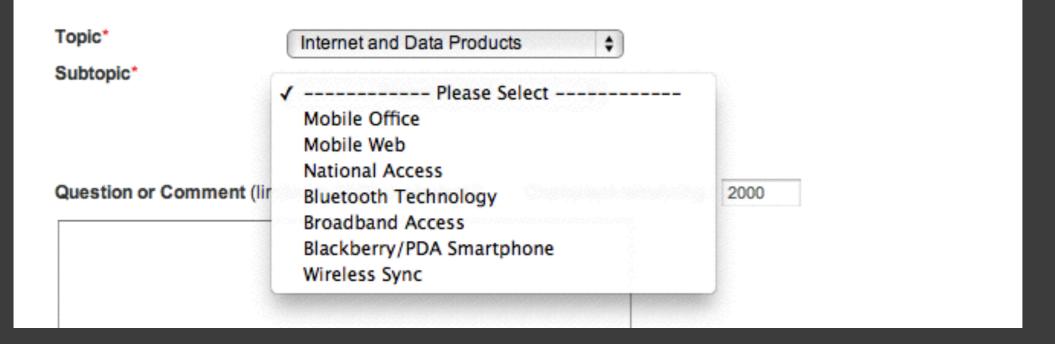
Send an email

Please provide the requested information below to contact us by email. Your inquiry will be forwarded to our Customer Service Team for resolution. Our goal is to respond and resolve your inquiry within 24 hours.

Privacy and Security

Verizon Wireless considers your personal information completely private and will not disclose to any outside organization for its use in marketing or solicitation. View our Privacy Principles

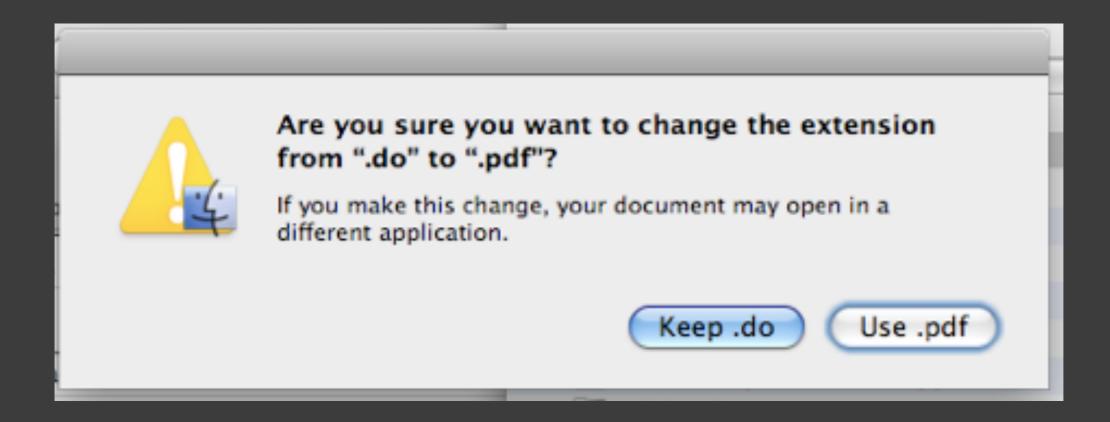
Indicates required fields.



Consistent Choices

```
Terminal — sudo — 80×53
Trusted Storage Recovery Script v1.0.9
_____
Please choose a language:
       e: English
       j: Japanese (日本整)
>: e
DISCLAIMER:
WARNING: Run at your own risk and make sure that ALL Adobe
products are closed and not running before you proceed further.
This tool has been developed to upgrade the licensing service
and repair a license file for Adobe Acrobat 8 and 9, and
Creative Suite 3 and 4 products.
Do you wish to c
open applications? [y/n]:
```

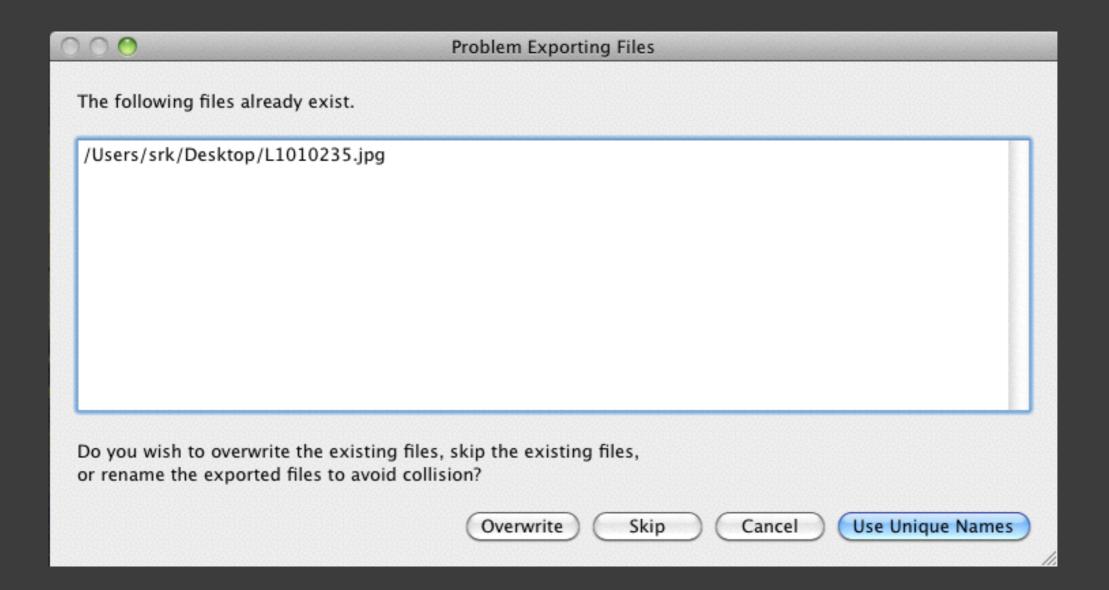
Clearer Choices...



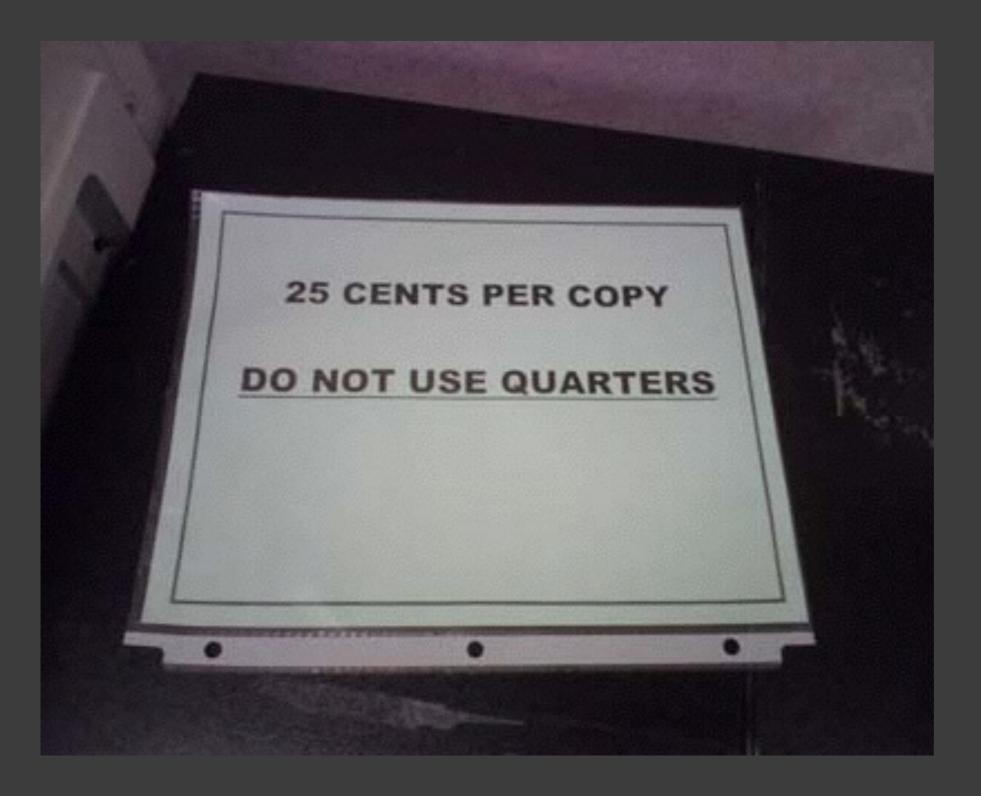
Error Prevention

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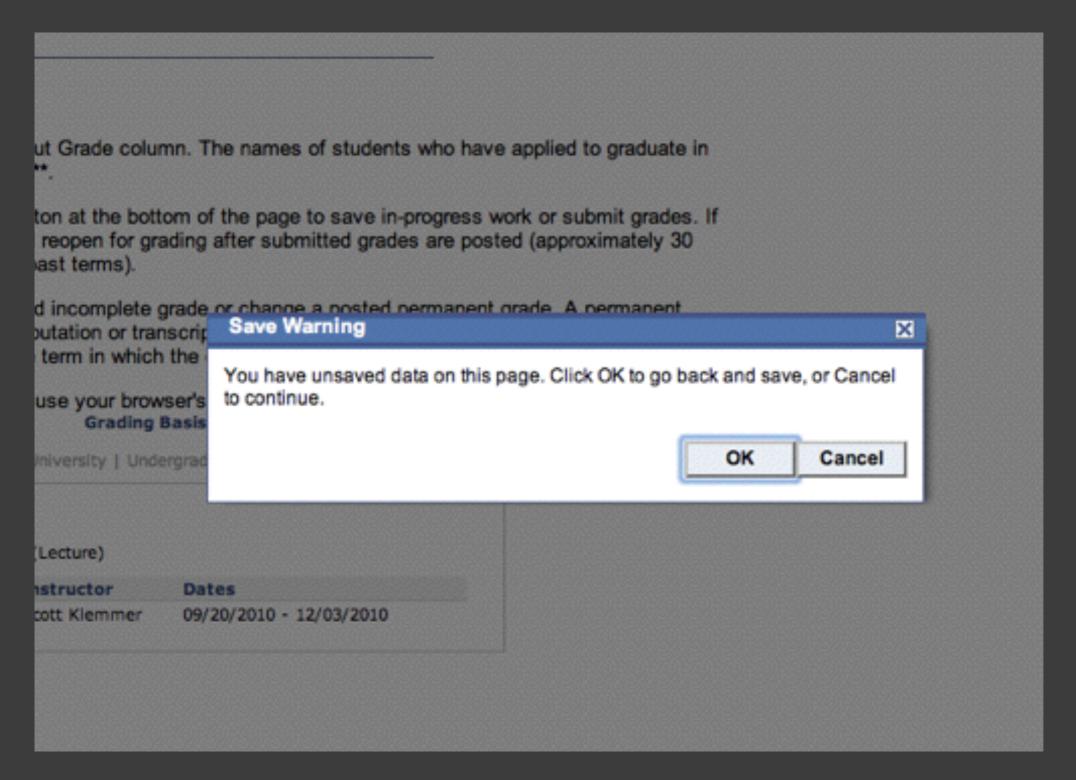
Prevent Data Loss



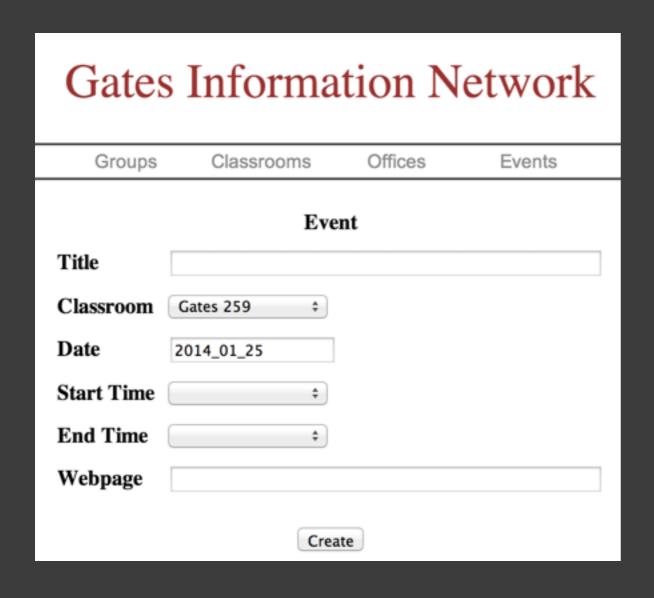
Prevent Painful Paths

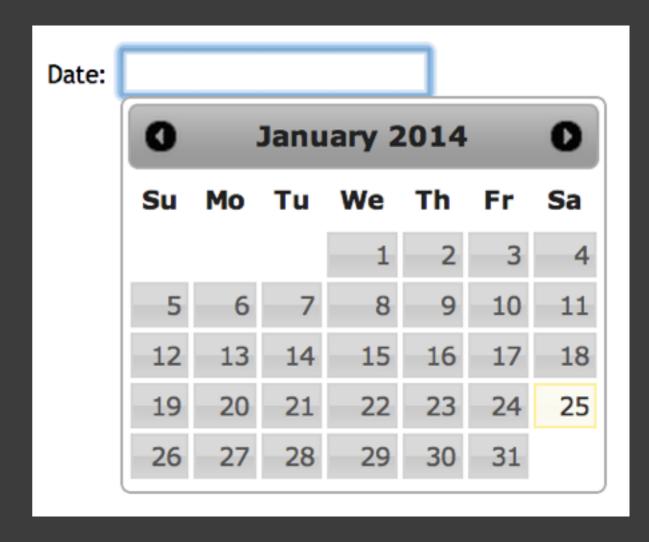


Prevent Misinterpretation



Prevent Bad input





Prevent Unnecessary Constraints

Olsen on Select Catalog... Search

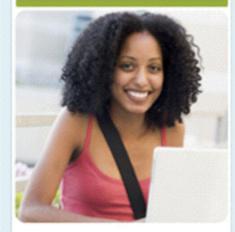
You must select a catalog to begin your search.

Room | Careers

United States | Change Your Country

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Creates and maintains more than 600 databases of accurate and authoritative reference content from magazine, newspaper articles, and other print resources. Gale is the world leader in e-research and educational publishing for libraries, schools, and business.

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Publishes under the venerable brands of Brooks/Cole, Course Technology, Delmar, Heinle, South-Western, and Wadsworth to deliver highly customizable learning materials, textbooks, and digital products in the secondary, post-secondary, higher education, career school, technical trades, and professional markets.

Global



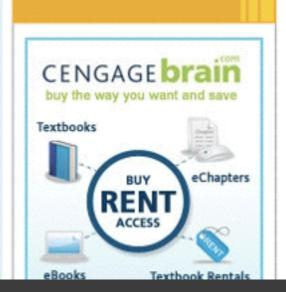
Focuses on global publishing opportunities, including localized content, English language teaching, and original and custom publishing for international markets. The product mix is a powerful blend of established U.S. imprints and rapidly expanding indigenous programs.

Investor Relations

Notice of Webcast and Conference Call for Cengage Learning

Cengage Learning will host a webcast and conference call to discuss the results for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2010 on:

Monday, September 13, 2010 9:00 A.M. (Eastern Time)



Recognition Over Recall

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Recognition: Avoid codes

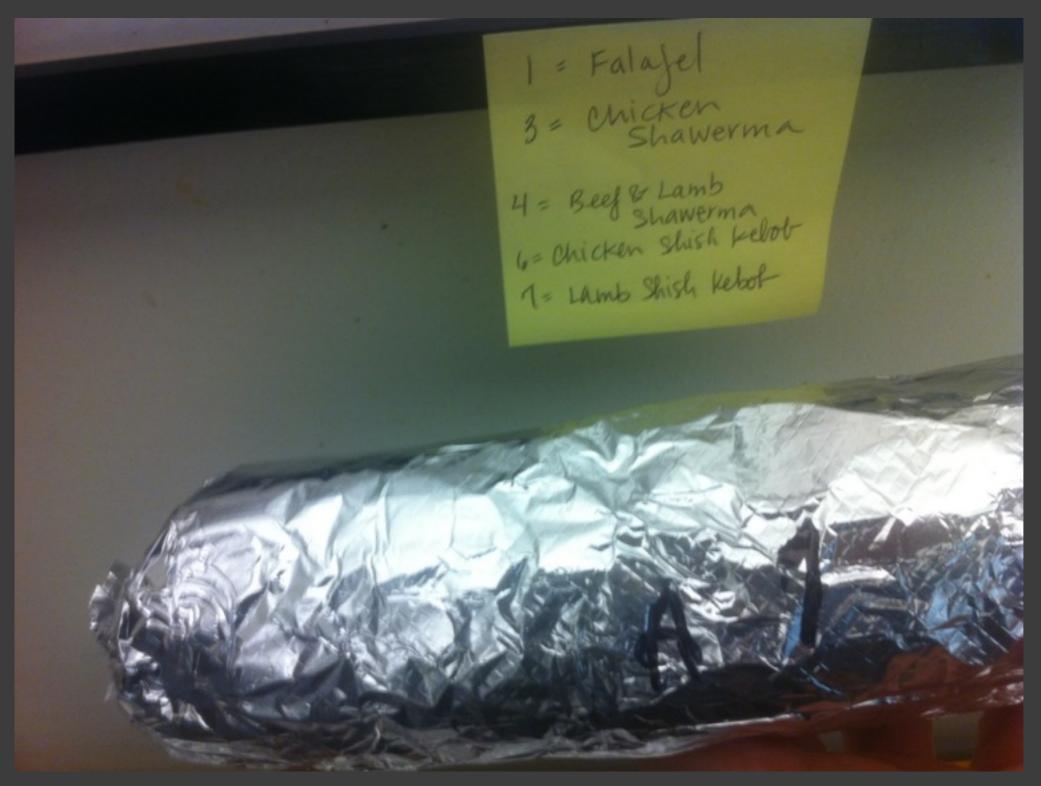
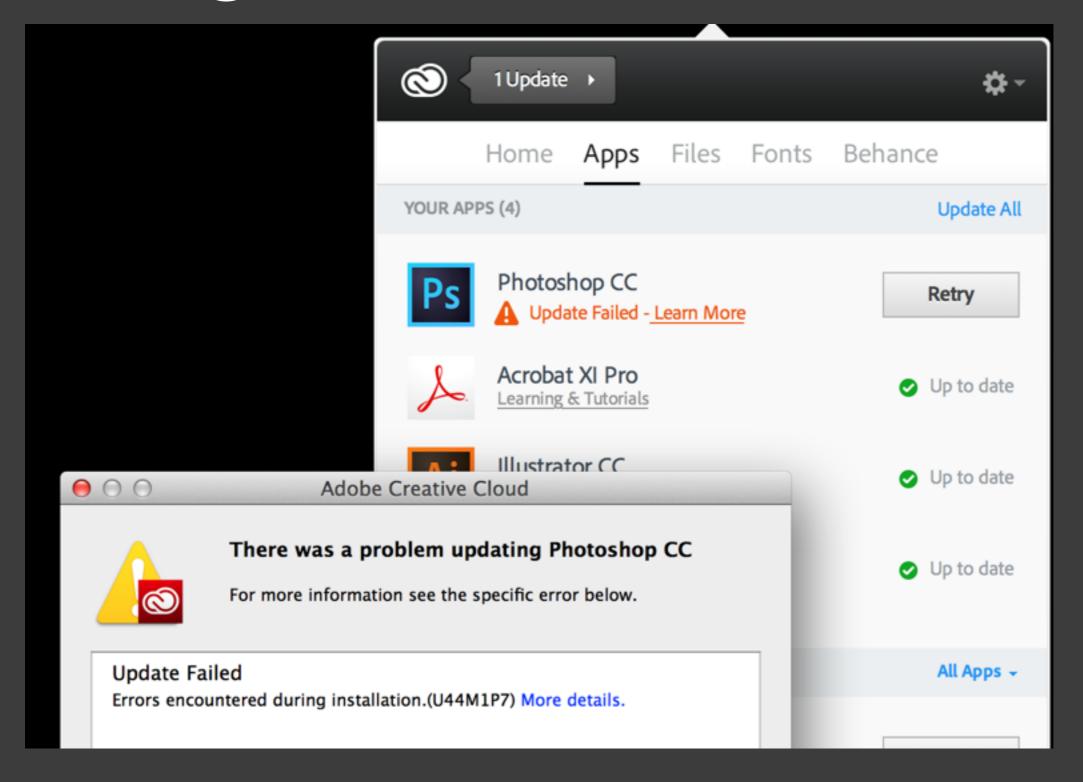
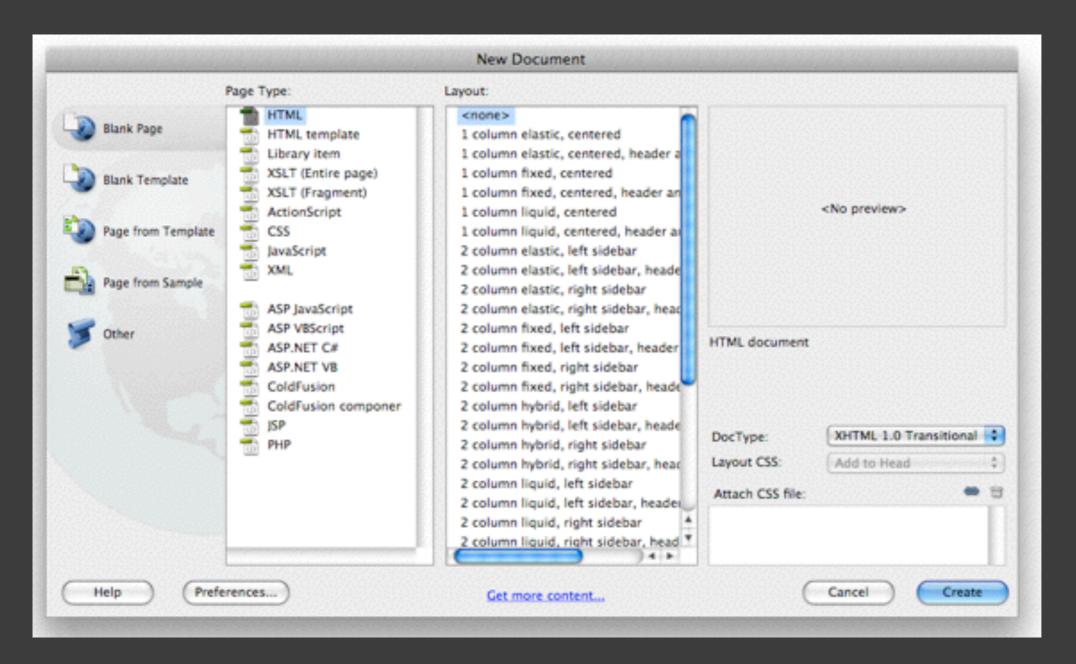


Photo by Scott Klemmer; taken at Stanford HCI lunch

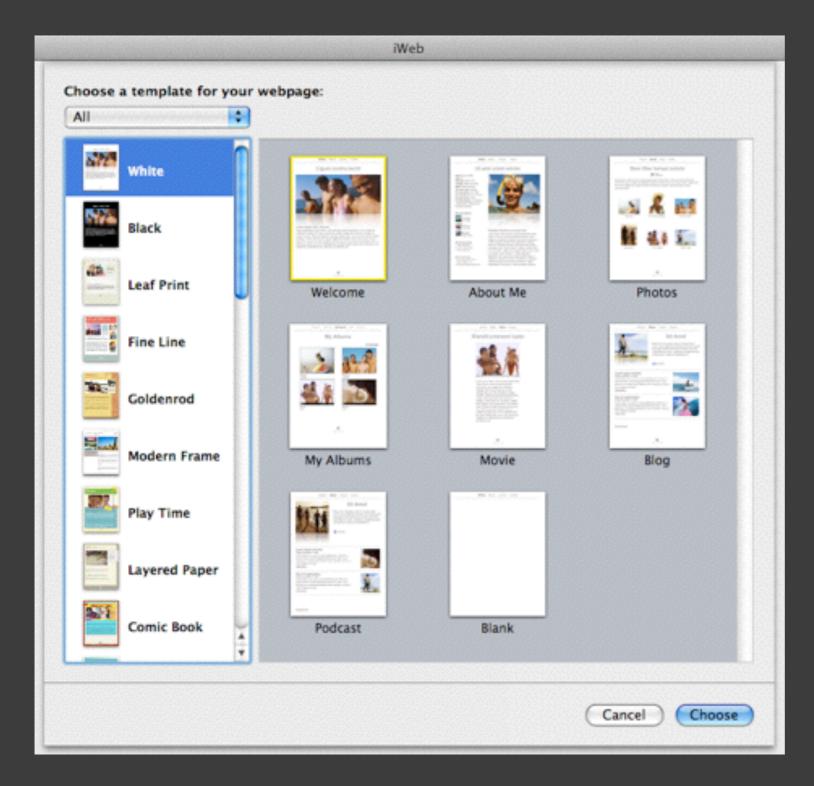
Recognition: Avoid codes



Recognition with previews



Recognition with previews



Flexibility & Efficiency

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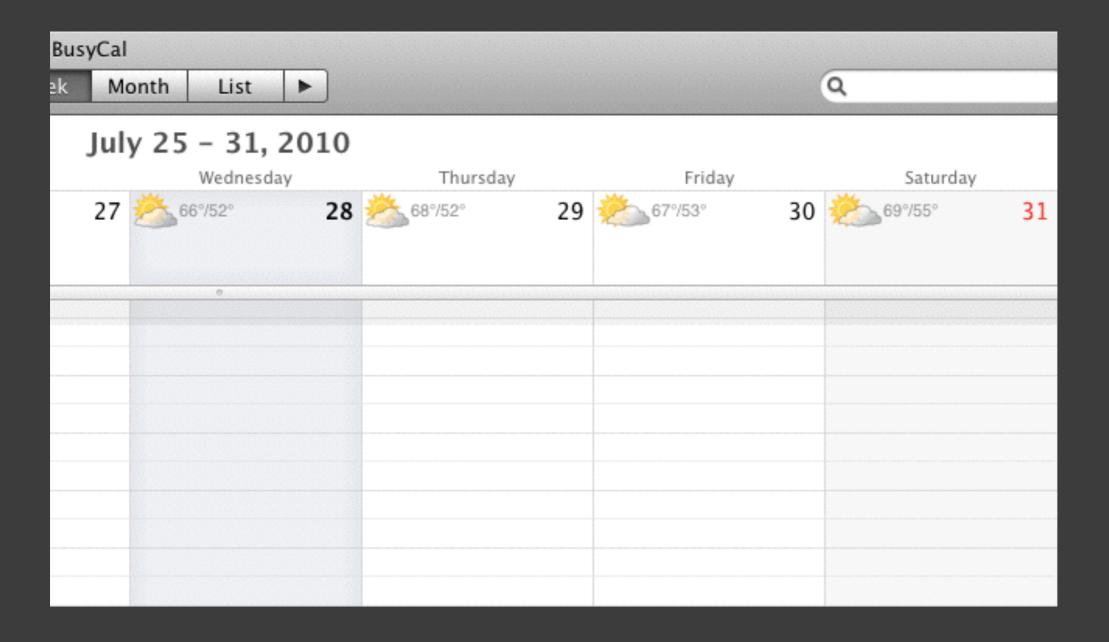
Flexible shortcuts

View	History	Bookmarks
Tool	bars	•
Firel	oug	
✓ Stati	us Bar	
Side	bar	
Stop		₩.
Relo	ad	₩R
Zoor	m	•
Page	Style	•
Chai	racter Enc	oding •
Page	Source	₩U
Full	Screen	δ₩F

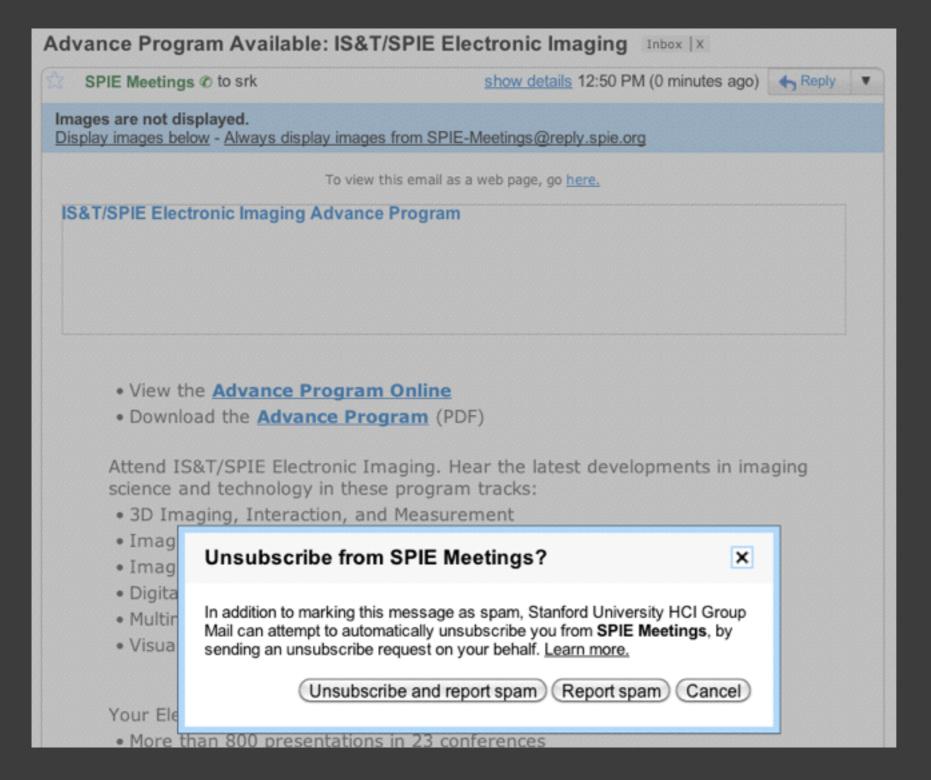
Flexible defaults with options

```
// Getter/Setter functions for all properties in the
class
function get_name() {
     return $this->
                       ducation (variable)
function set_name($r experience (variable)
     $this->name
                      get_education (function)
function get_experie qet_experience (function)
     return $this->e
                      get_lang (function)
function set_experie get_name (function)
     $this->experier |ang (variable)
                      name (variable)
function get_lang()
     return $this->1 output (function)
                      Programmer (function)
function set_lang($r
     $this->lang = < set_education (function)</pre>
```

Flexible: ambient information



Flexible proactivity



Flexibility: Recommendations

Customers Who Bought This Item Also Bought





Don't Make Me Think, Revisited: A Common ...

> Steve Krug

Kindle Edition

\$27.89



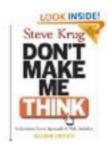
Emotional Design: Why We Love (or Hate) ...

Don Norman

******** (38)

Kindle Edition

\$10.49



Don't Make Me Think: A Common Sense Approach

...

Steve Krug

******* (406)

Kindle Edition

\$16.00



Universal Principles of Design, Revised and ...

William Lidwell

★★★★ (56)

Kindle Edition

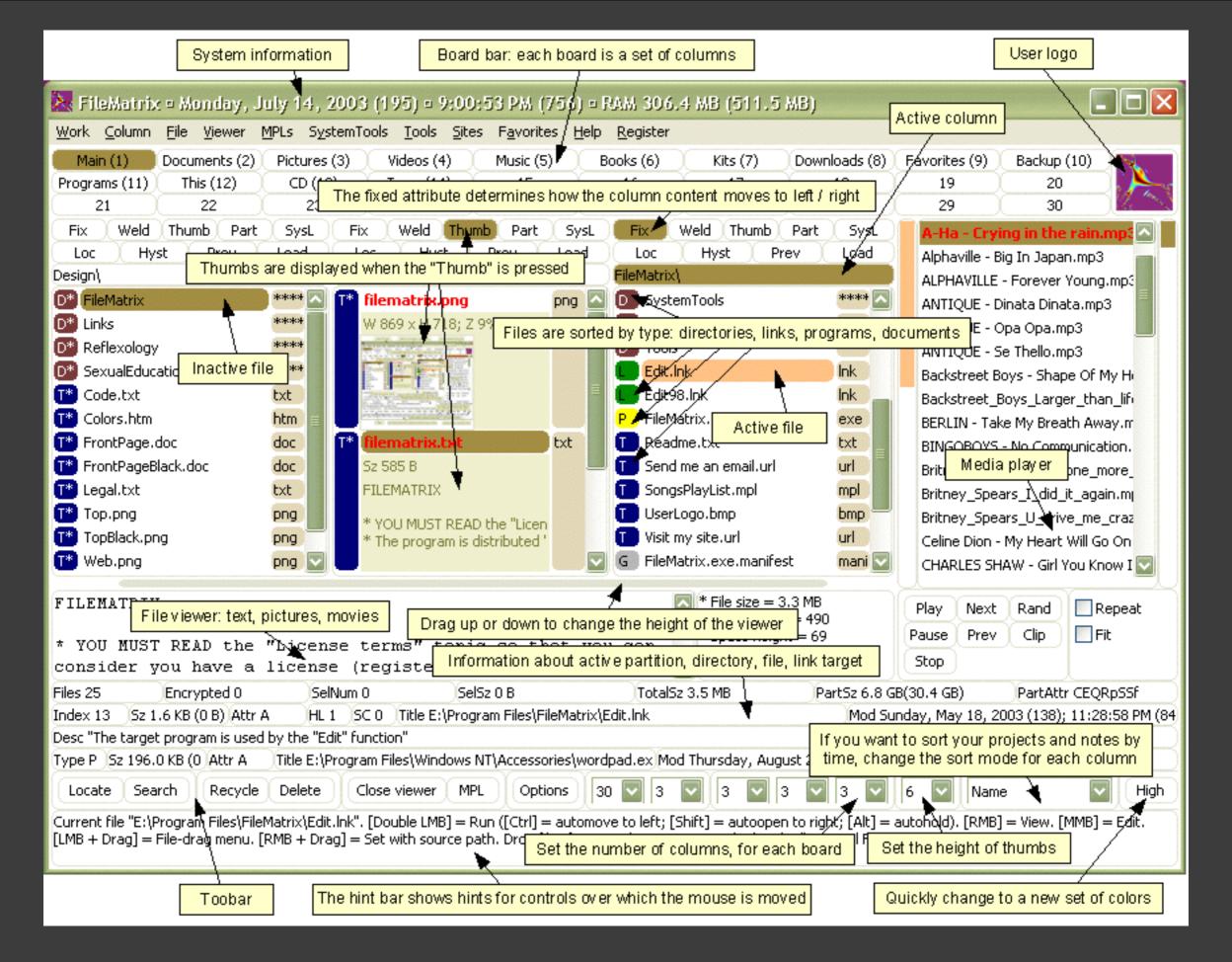
\$16.50

Flexibility: keep it relevant

stomer Dis	cussions	
This product's	s forum	Rela
Discussion	Replies Latest Post	he
No discussion	ons yet	
Ask questio	ns, Share opinions, Gain insight	
Start a nev	Active discussions in related forums	
Topic:	Discussion	
	USPS Carriers smoke in their trucks	
Active discus	NO harm in second hand smoke	
► health Male circ	bome improvement BEST PERFORMING REPLACEMENT TOILET??	
health fat and s	Will these resellers now honor returns on the Zhu Zhus?	
health Does che	bome improvement Several Sunset and Lowes Home Improvement Books RECALLED	
health Do you th	lollipop haters are disgusting	
health Phrases t	• Nome Improvement Quiet Bedroom Fan	
	Americans still struggling with obesity? 1901 3 hours ago	
► health Why do y	ou read or post to these forums? Honestly. 260 20 hours ago	

Flexibility: keep it relevant





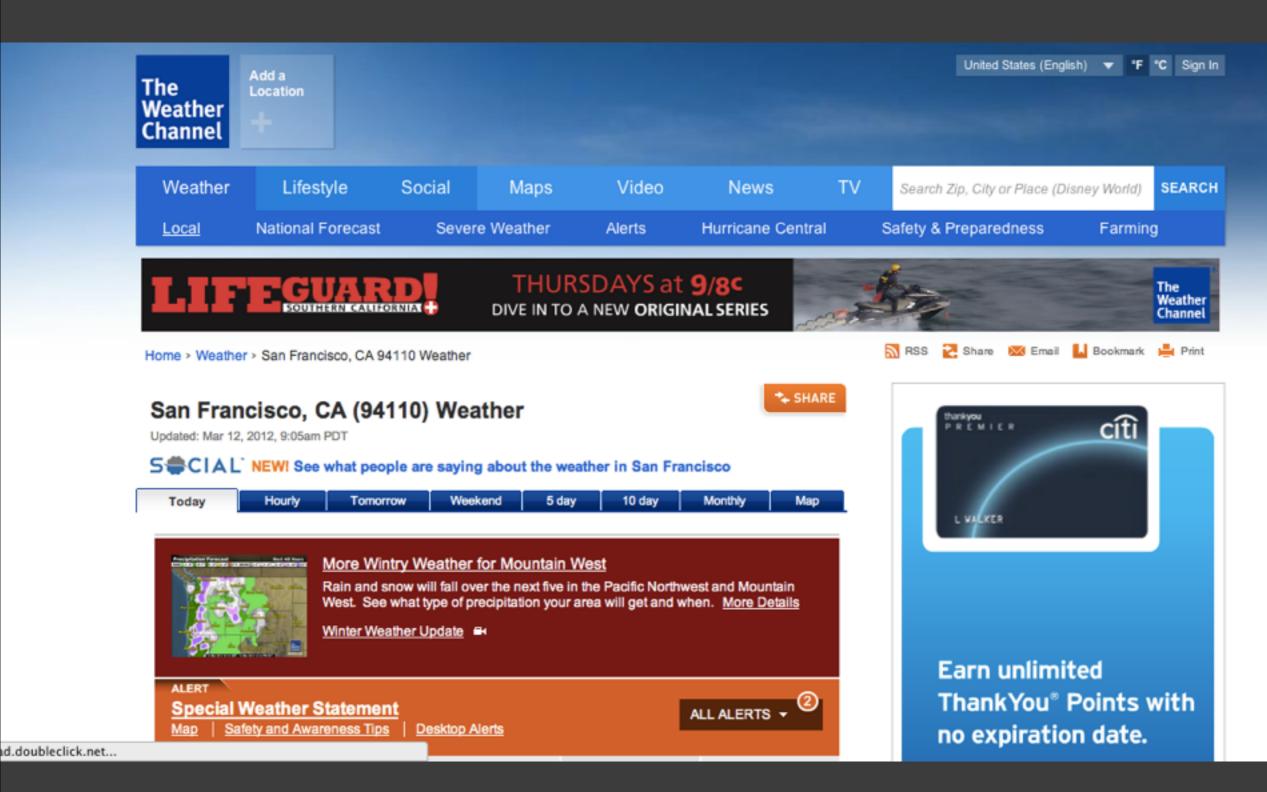
Aesthetic & Minimalist Design

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Our ancestors



Minimalism: above the fold



Minimalism: signal-to-noise

	RELIA	BLE COPIE	R SERVICE plies Other Items Checkout Accoun	Search Store Front F	roduct List Basket Contents		
	Reliable accepts Vis	a, Mastercard, Amer	ican Express and Discover Card			Basket Contents Qty Product Price	
	International C	rders Shipped	via U.S.P.S. Only !			1 Brother 3/ 4" \$13.95 Extra Strength	
	Code Product			Quant	ity Price/Ea. Total	Super Adhesive White on	
	TZS145 Brother 3/4" I	Extra Strength Super A	Adhesive White on Clear Industrial Tape TZS1	45 TZ-S145	1 \$13.95 \$13.95	Tana T76146	
1	Bold=Required Italic=Optional				Total: \$13.95	Subtotal \$13.95 Shipping Options?	
ı	Ship To:		Bill To (If Different):		Chedkout	
ı	First Name:		First Name:			Recently Visited Items	
ı	Last Name:		Last Name:				
ı	Email Address:		Email Address:				
ı	Phone Number:		Phone Number:				
П	Fax Number:		Fax Number:				
П	Company:		Company:				
п	Address:		Address:				
ı	City:		City:				
ı	State/Province:	Outside US	State/Province:	Outside US			
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ı	Please complete the for Comments How did you find us?	Please Select One	ons				
	Rate our server speed:						
					Continue		

Minimalism: signal-to-noise

How to get started						
Billing or payment Account settings Campaign manag Ad performance h Google Analytics	policy help t contact information help help ement help	ing help				
Did you find the info	rmation you were	looking for?—				
No, I found none of	it I found par	t of it Yes	, I found all of it			
0	•		0			
		how helpful was	s the information			you saw, for the purpose of your visit? :
0	0	0		0	0	
How clear was the in	nformation on this	page (https://ac	dwords.google.co	m/support	/aw/bin/answe	r.py?hl=en&answer=177673)?
	nformation on this	page (https://ac	dwords.google.co	m/support	/aw/bin/answe	r.py?hl=en&answer=177673)?
How clear was the in	nformation on this	page (https://ac	dwords.google.co	m/support	/aw/bin/answe	r.py?hl=en&answer=177673)?
Not at all clear	Not very clear	page (https://ac	dwords.google.co	em/support	/aw/bin/answe tremely clear	r.py?hl=en&answer=177673)? /answer.py?hl=en&answer=177673):
Not at all clear	Not very clear	page (https://ac	dwords.google.co	em/support	/aw/bin/answe tremely clear	/answer.py?hl=en&answer=177673):

Minimalist Login

Your personal domain management dashboard is only a few seconds away!

Ordering a domain is fast and easy!

Sign in with your email address and iWantMyName password or enter a new one if you are not a customer yet:

What is your email address?

My email address is: yourname@example.com

Do you have an iWantMyName password?

- Yes, I'm a returning customer and have a password.
- No, I'm a new customer.

Enter password:

Type it again:

I accept the <u>Terms and Conditions</u>

With an iWantMyName account

- Register domains in 90+ extensions
- Set up the best web services in one click
- · Use free email with Google Apps & Gma
- · Purchase domains from your iPhone
- · Manage DNS records in real-time









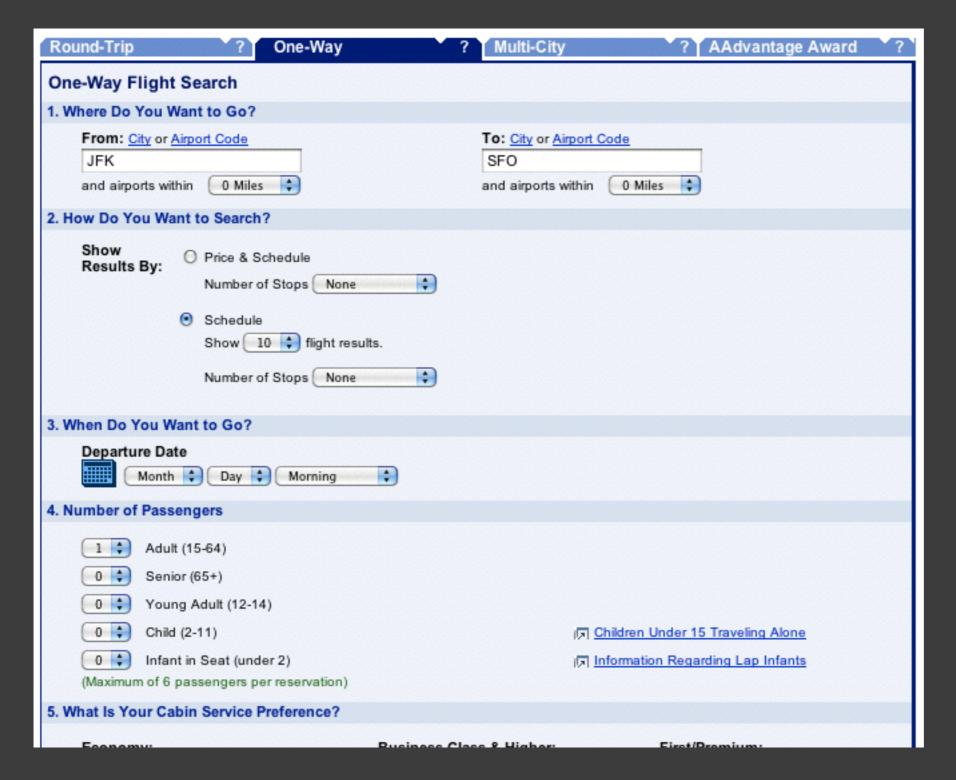
We accept Visa and MasterCard cre an email invoice for every order. Plea

only process your order after successful payment. You iWantMyName is fully PCI standard compliant.

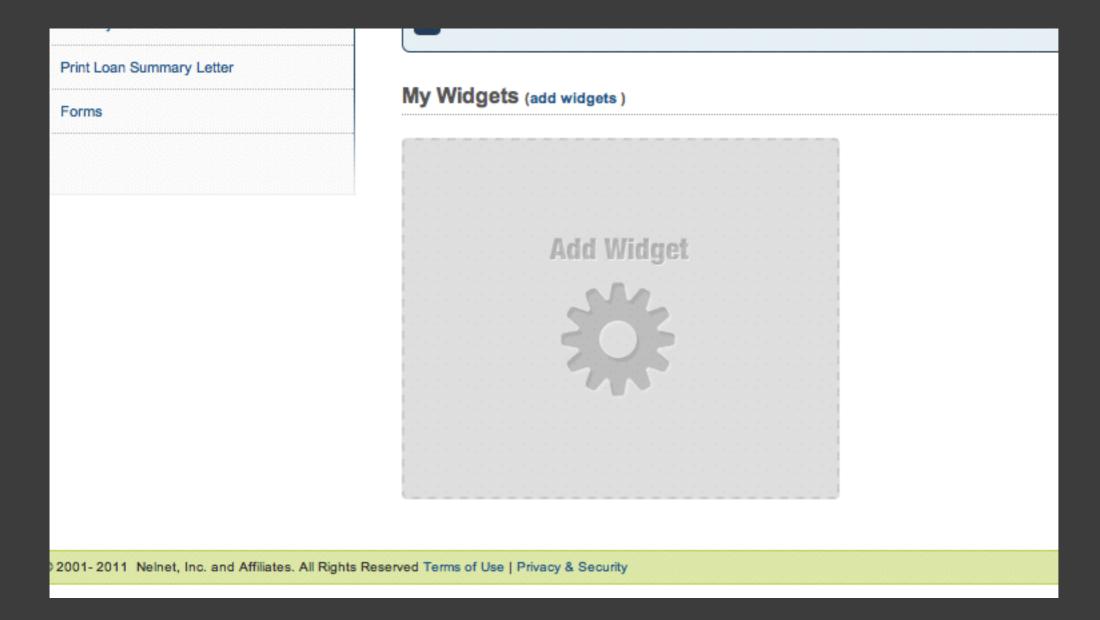
Continue (secure connection) »

Forgot your password?

Minimalism: Redundancy



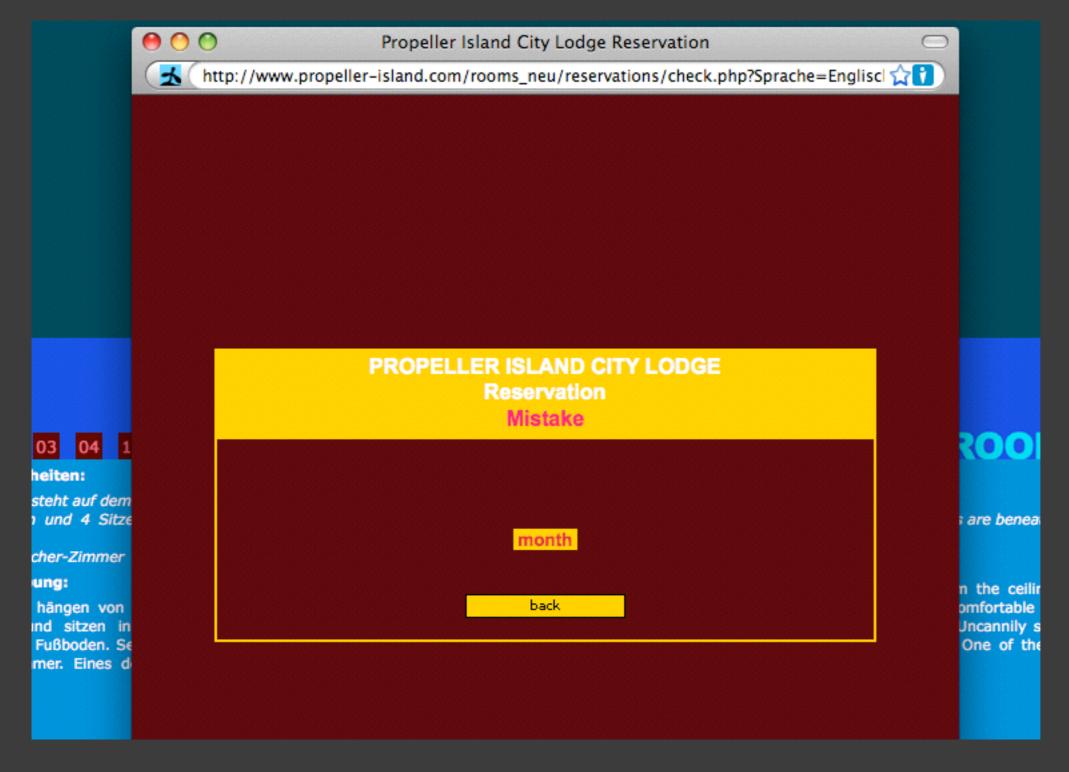
Minimalism: functionality



Recognize, Diagnose, & Recover from Errors

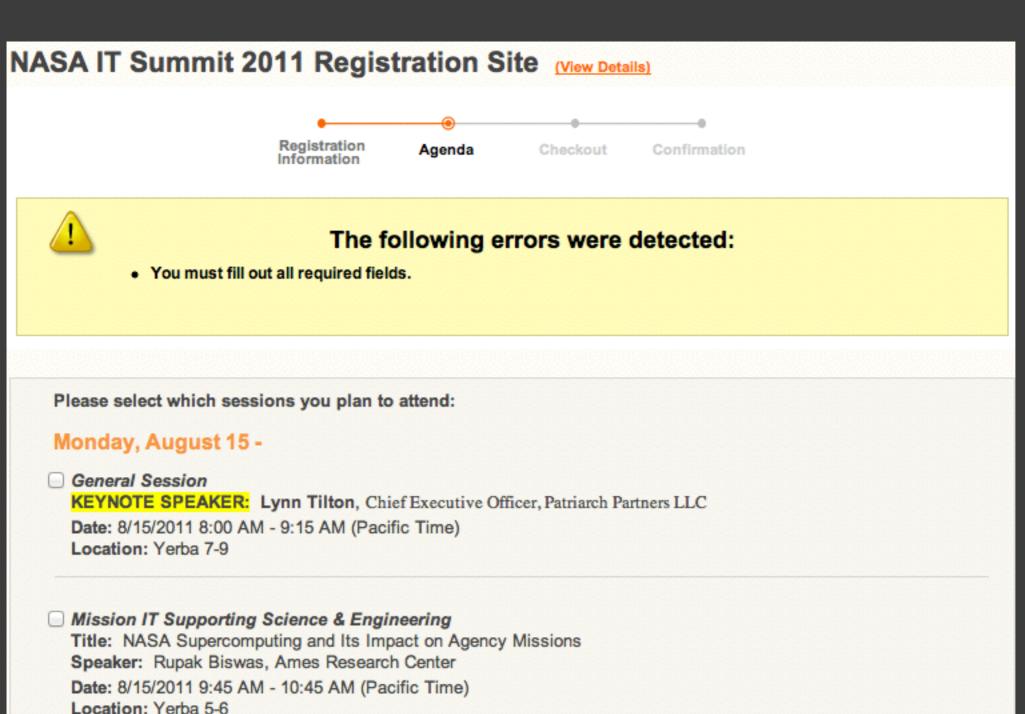
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Errors: make problem clear



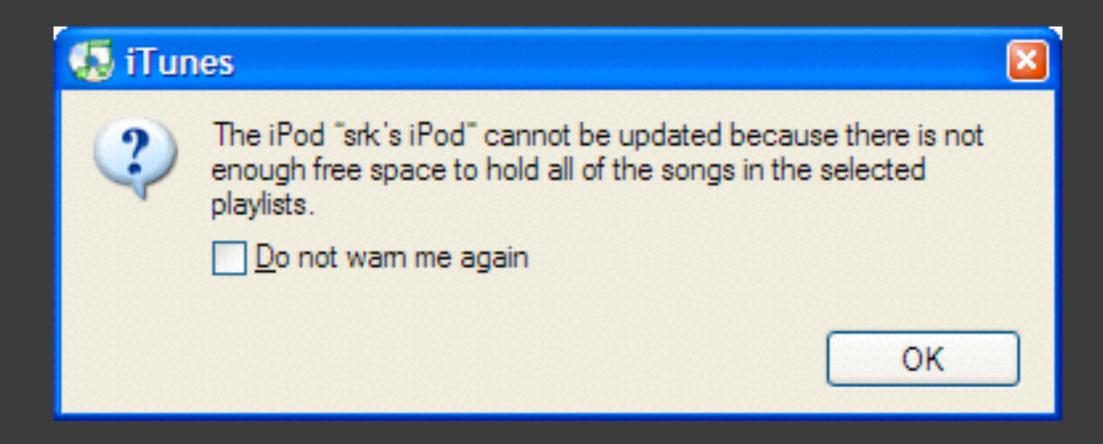
Propeller Island 74

Errors: make problem clear

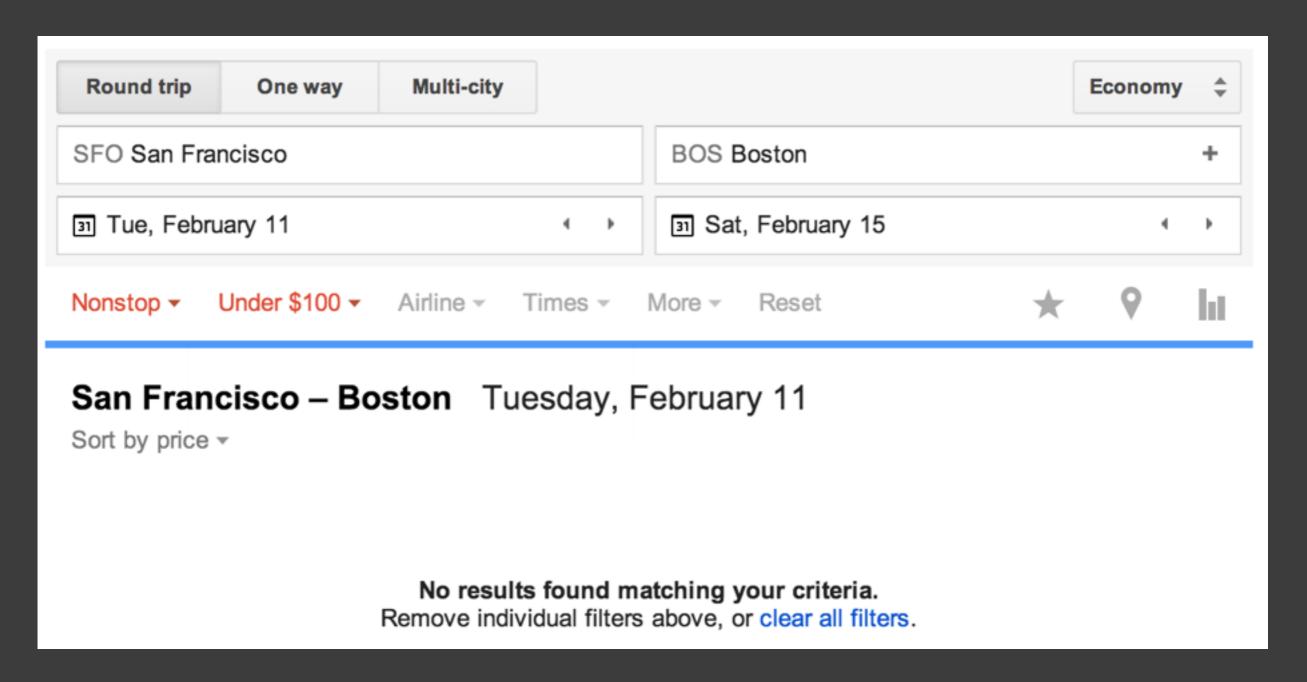


Waves of the Future

Errors: Provide a solution



Errors: propose an alternative



Recognize Errors



Reported Attack Page!

This web page at batmazgumruk.com.tr has been reported as an attack page and has been blocked based on your security preferences.

Attack pages try to install programs that steal private information, use your computer to attack others, or damage your system.

Some attack pages intentionally distribute harmful software, but many are compromised without the knowledge or permission of their owners.

Get me out of here!

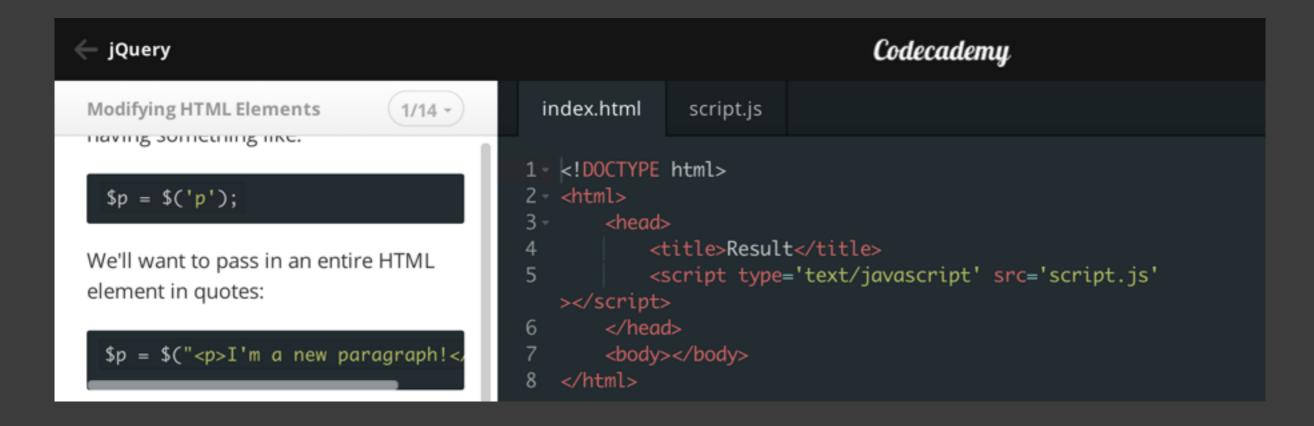
Why was this page blocked?

Ignore this warning

Help (I need somebody)

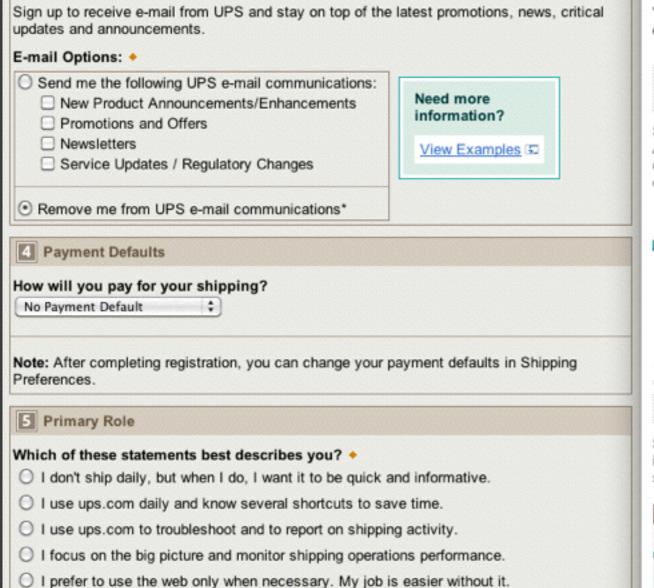
10 / 10

Help learning with examples



Codeacademy (jQuery) 80

Help choices with examples



You can manage the e-mail communications you receive from UPS. To receive the types of communications that are of interest to you, choose any of the following options:

New Product Announcements/Enhancements

Select New Product

Announcements/Enhancements to keep up to date with new product announcements and enhancements to existing products.



Newsletters

Select **Newsletters** to receive the latest information, exclusive news, and feature stories.



Promotions and Offers

Select Promotions and Offers to receive communications regarding available UPS promotions and special offers that best suit your business needs.



Service Updates/Regulatory Changes

Select Service Updates/Regulatory Changes to receive alerts about service changes or announcements of proposed regulatory changes.



Help show the steps

Adobe Photoshop Elements

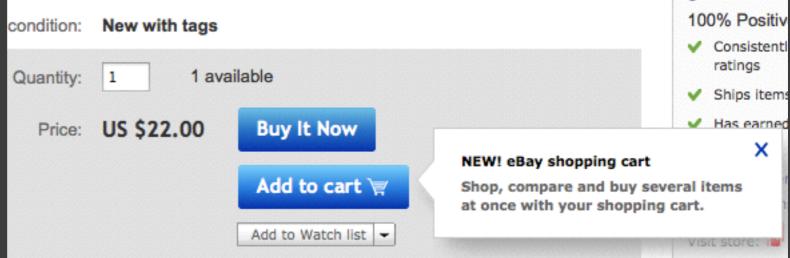


Please select (command-click) from 2 to 10 photos in the Project Bin and then choose Photomerge Scene Cleaner again.



Help point things out





Help provide more information





Your VSP insider to eye health, eyewear fashion & trends

Are you sure you want to unsubscribe from VSP's EnVision newsletter? You'll miss out on:

- Eye health and eyecare tips,
- The latest trends in eyewear fashion,
- Fun contests, promotions, and more!

To continue your subscription, click cancel:

Cancel

Just curious, why are you unsubscribing?

- OI receive too many e-mails.
- O I'm not interested in eye health and eyecare information.
- OI don't recall subscribing to this newsletter.

Enter your e-mail address to unsubscribe:

Help provide more information





Your VSP insider to eye health, eyewear fashion & trends

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To continue your subscription, click cancel:



Just curious, why are you unsubscribing?

● I receive too many e-mails.

Wait - You can change the frequency!

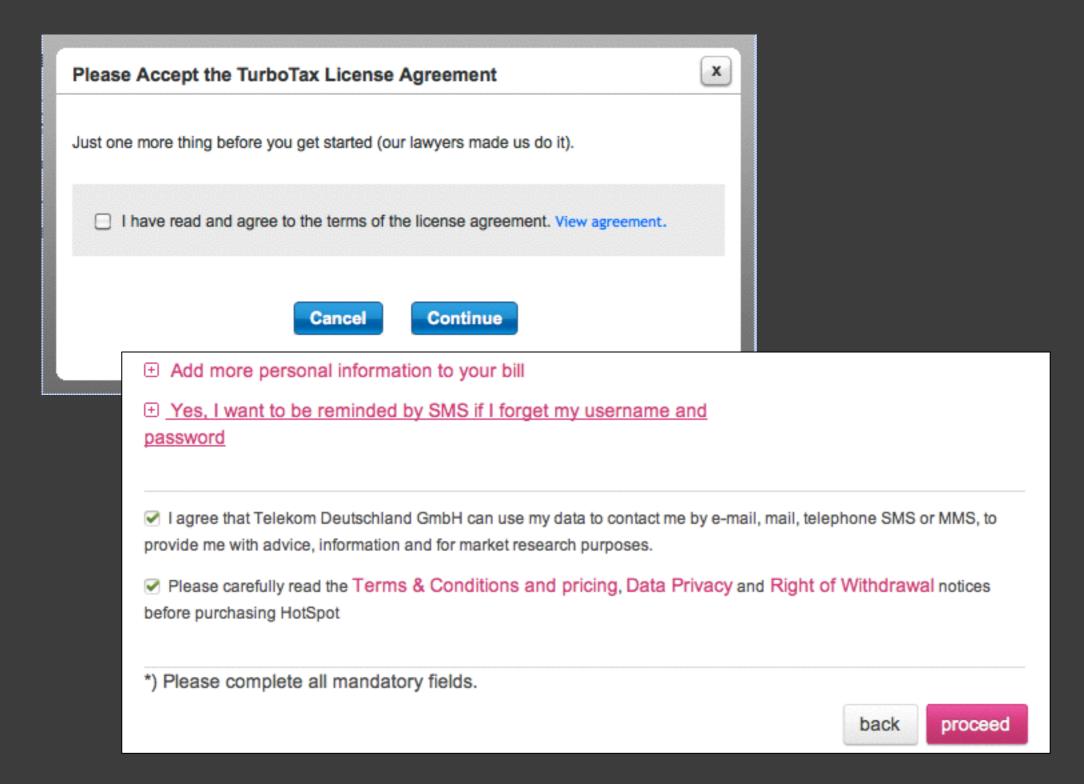
Monthly Every other month Quarterly

Update

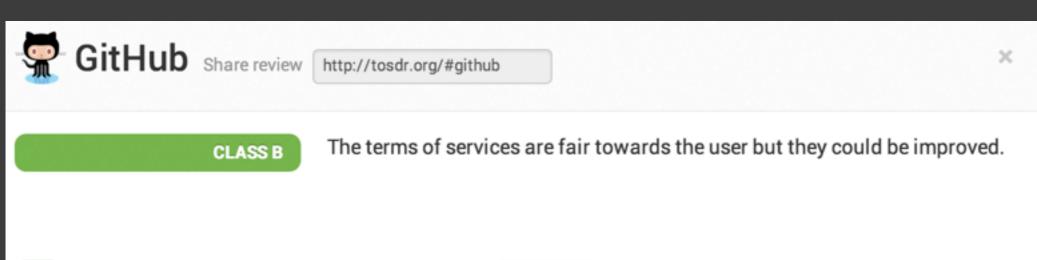
- OI'm not interested in eye health and eyecare information.
- OI don't recall subscribing to this newsletter.

Enter your e-mail address to unsubscribe:

Help clearly



Help clearly



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Help share what others know

```
# Annotations in the Codex IDE

# Creating a Nested Hash

Total Count 75 Project Count 17

new do |var0, var1|
var0[var1] = {}
end

Projects: cassandra fakeweb fog jruby
```

```
# "a string".split("\n").to_s

5
6
7
```

Function to_s has appeared 12 times and split has appeared 29 times, and they've appeared 0 times together.

Heuristic evaluation is a hill-climbing technique

Heuristic evaluation gives you terms for intuitive ideas

it is a suite of unit tests for user interfaces