

Unit 10.2 Designing User Interface

Allow me to start with a question. Tell me one factor that makes interactive multimedia very interesting? Anyone? raise your hands!

The answer for that question is that one beautiful aspect of multimedia is interactivity.

Nowadays, many multimedia authoring tools allow you to turn certain interface elements into clickable hot spot.

You may design a graphic image to look like a push button then set on that button as a hot spot.

Some lingo or script may be needed to do that using Adobe Director or Flash.

For an image that hot spot could be a button. Then for a bunch of text that hot spot could be a? guess! a? hyperlink!

Now, could you please list out other types of interface elements? Please?

Alright this is the list:

Here you go: checkboxes, radio buttons, dropdown lists, list boxes, text fields, breadcrumb, slider, search field, icons, tooltips, progress bar, notifications, and message boxes, among other.

Bear in mind that designing user interface element is not easy.
Let us take one user interface as an example. Let's pick icon.

To design an icon, first you have to make sure that the symbol you pick is easy to recognize. Then the user must easily link the meaning to your message.

Later you need to determine how your user will know that the button is active, or is being selected.

Alright! That was about user interface elements.

Now, let's move on the type of end users, basically there are two type of them:

First, those who are computer literate and second, guess?

Of course, second, are those who are not.

So, make sure to create a user interface that satisfies both types of users. How are you going to do that?

The answer is that you have to make sure that your user interface design is consistent. Both in terms of the look and the behavior

For your multimedia interface to be successful, this is vital.

Finally, I leave you with a list of advice on how to design the best user interface design for your user:

1. Design simple and clean screens.
2. Spare lots of white space and avoid busy screen.
3. Use less words and avoid lengthy paragraph.