

Anti-Patterns

Designing for the Poor Web Experience

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background



Rico

JavaScript for Rich Internet Applications

Home Features Demos Documentation Downloads About

An open-source JavaScript library for creating rich internet applications. Rico provides full Ajax support, DOM management and a cinematic effects library.

BACKGROUND

Rico is a Spanish word meaning *rich*. The goal of Rico is to provide a rich internet experience for web sites using Ajax technology.

Rico is just one small part of a larger effort at Sabre Airline Solutions to create a suite of rich internet components, behaviors and effects for the web application space.

The library is a fully object-oriented JavaScript library. Recently we refactored the library to extend the excellent [prototype.js](#) effort from the Ruby on Rails folks.

OPEN SOURCE

Rico is provided free and open-source (Apache 2.0 License) for either your personal or commercial use. Sabre Airline Solutions retains the copyright on the Rico code produced at Sabre.

BROWSER SUPPORT

Rico has been tested on IE 5.5, IE 6, Firefox 1.0x/Win, Camino/Mac, Firefox 1.0x/Mac. Currently there is no Safari or Mac IE 5.2 support. Support will be provided in a near future release for Safari.

AJAX SUPPORT

Ajax is the term that describes a set of techniques for creating interactive web interfaces to simplify user interaction. Rico provides a very simple interface for request handlers as well as HTML elements as Ajax response objects. Multiple objects may be updated as the result of a single Ajax request.

Want to get started learning? Check out our [Ajax tutorials](#) on the Rico website.

DRAG AND DROP

Desktop applications have long used drag and drop interfaces to simplify user interaction. Rico provides the simplest interfaces for enabling your web applications to support drag and drop. Just register any JavaScript object as a draggable and Rico handles the rest.

CINEMATIC EFFECTS

When actions are no longer occurring just a simple transition can communicate change in the user interface. Rico provides several cinematic effects to help with this.

BEHAVIORS

Take some raw HTML and sprinkle in some Rico and you can get an [Accordion](#) component. Just nest some DIVs and with one line of JavaScript you have an accordion. And the latest behavior is to connect an HTML table up to a stream of data. The result is now HTML tables can hold an unlimited amount of data scrolled into view on the fly as needed! More behaviors are planned!

Developer Network Home Help Site Search Search

YAHOO! DEVELOPER NETWORK

Design Pattern Library

Yahoo! Developer Network > Design Pattern Library

USER NEEDS TO

- NAVIGATE
 - Breadcrumbs
 - Faceted Navigation
 - Fly-out Menus
 - Horizontal Bar
 - Hub and Spoke
 - Left Navigation
 - Tabbed Navigation
 - Module Tabs
 - Navigation Tabs
- EXPLORE DATA
 - Auto Complete
 - Calendar Picker
 - Pagination
 - Item Pagination
 - Search Pagination
- ORGANIZE DATA
- GIVE FEEDBACK
 - Ratings & Reviews
 - Architecture Review
 - Rating an Object
 - Writing a Review
- PERFORM ACTION
- CUSTOMIZE
 - Drag and Drop
 - Drag and Drop Modules
 - Drag and Drop Objects
 - In Page Editing
 - Sliders

APPLICATION NEEDS TO

- CALL ATTENTION
- IMPROVE READABILITY
 - Ratings & Reviews
 - Review Architecture
- GROUP RELATED ITEMS
- ORGANIZE SCREEN/PAGE

Welcome

Welcome to the Yahoo! Design Pattern Library. We are very happy to be sharing our library with the design and development community. This is our first drop of what we hope to be a monthly release cycle for the publication of patterns. In many cases we have bundled the patterns with pointers to related code from the [Yahoo! User Interface Code Library](#). We hope this is a useful resource and look forward to your [feedback](#).

What's a Pattern?

A pattern describes an optimal solution to a common problem within a specific context.

Recent Patterns

- Auto-Complete**
The user needs to enter an item into a text box which could be ambiguous or hard to remember and therefore has the potential to be mis-typed.
- Breadcrumbs**
User needs to navigate potentially large quantities of information efficiently, without becoming lost.
- Drag and Drop Modules**
The user needs to re-arrange the layout of modules on a web page directly with the mouse.
- Object Pagination**
The user needs to view items from a potentially large set of sorted data that will not be easy to display within a single page.
- Rating an Object**
A user wants to quickly leave their opinion on an object, with minimal interruption to any other task flow they are involved in.
- Search Pagination**
The user needs to view a set of search results ranked by relevance that is too large to easily display within a single page.
- Results Page:**
1 2 3 4 Next
- Review Title** - e.g. Write your review - Y
- Writing a Review**
User wants to share their opinion with others about an object (place, person, thing) in greater detail than a simple rating.

See Rico in Action!

YAHOO! GOBBLER™

Scratchpad

Add Website to Scratchpad

Projects(3)

- National Mapping - Fab Facts, Landforms
<http://www.ga.gov.au/education/ifa>
Geography: Landfor...
- Civil War Battles

Create a new Project

Welcome to Yahoo! A place for educators to find

The Civil War Home Page

http://www.civil-war.net/

Gobbler Bookmark it! +Scuttle Linker Linker-Gallery naveenr thanix yperformance.yahoo....

The Civil War Home Page

Home | Email

Dedicated to the participants, both North and South, in the great American Civil War 1861 - 1865

Recommend A New Link

Do you have a Civil War related web site or a site to recommend?

[Submit Your Link](#)

Links Database

Our Links Database has thousands of Civil War related links. Enter your Search Term or Select from a Predefined Category.

Enter Search Term

[Abolition & Slavery](#)
[Associations](#)
[Battles](#)
[Documents](#)
[General Interest](#)
[Letters & Diaries](#)
[People](#)
[Photos](#)
[Reenacting](#)
[Shops & Dealers](#)
[Unit Information](#)

Photos Database

Our Photos Database has over 1,100 of Civil War related pictures, images and Cartes de Visite (CDV) photographs. Enter your Search Term or Select from a Predefined Category.

Welcome!

Welcome to the Civil War Home Page, one of the largest and most comprehensive collections of Civil War related material available on the Internet.

Click to view full size

View Civil War Battle Maps

- [1. Battle of Antietam](#) (large file 2,482k)
- [2. Battle of Gettysburg](#) (large file 2,130k)
- [3. Battle of Fredericksburg](#) (large file 1,776k)
- [4. Battle of Shiloh](#) (large file 638k)
- [5. Andersonville Prison](#) (large file 1,582k)

Most Requested Pages

- [1. Sullivan Ballou's Letter to his Wife](#)
- [2. The Gettysburg Address - Abraham Lincoln](#)
- [3. Timeline of Events Leading to the Civil War](#)
- [4. Women and the Civil War - Duke University](#)
- [5. Virginia Military Institute Archives](#)

Most Requested Research Pages

- [1. Union Troops Furnished and Deaths](#)
- [2. Official Records - Joshua Lawrence Chamberlain, Gettysburg Report](#)
- [3. North American Slave Narratives](#)
- [4. Results of 1860 Census](#)
- [5. Ordinances of Secession of the 13 Confederate States of America](#)

Interactive Pages

[Message Board](#)

Official Records

Battle Reports from the Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies written by the Commanding Generals

Fredericksburg
- [Ambrose Burnside](#)

Gettysburg
- [Joshua Lawrence Chamberlain](#)
- [Robert E. Lee](#)
- [James Longstreet](#)

Bull Run/Manassas
- [Thomas "Stonewall" Jackson](#)
- [Irvin McDowell](#)

Antietam / Sharpsburg
- [Robert E. Lee](#)
- [George McClellan](#)

Shiloh / Pittsburg Landing
- [Ulysses S. Grant](#)

Dyer's Compendium

State and Territory Detailed Union Regimental Histories

Regimental Histories

Featured Projects

California Mission Social Studies

★ 12 Teachers like

💬 9 Teachers copied

Discover educators like you

Anna Log
Grade 1, 2, 3
Generalist/Homeroom

🍎 24

Michael M
Grade 4
Science/Mathematics

🍎 20

Nancy P
Grade 4
Generalist/Homeroom

🍎 17

Arkyscience
Grade 4, 5, 6
Science

🍎 22

anti-patterns

what are anti-patterns?

“Anti-patterns, also called pitfalls, are classes of commonly-reinvented bad solutions to problems. They are studied as a category so they can be avoided in the future, and so instances of them may be recognized when investigating non-working systems. The term originates in computer science, apparently inspired by the Gang of Four's book Design Patterns, which displayed examples of high-quality programming methods.” - Wikipedia, Anti-Pattern.

interaction design anti-patterns

Like the software anti-pattern counterparts, the following anti-patterns are common pitfalls to avoid.

anti-patterns

big ball of mud. **meandering way.**

borg idiom. tiny targets. mystery meat.

buried treasure. **hover and cover.**

pogo stick navigation. novel notions.

against the flow. **metaphor mismatch.**

double duty. linkitus. blind type.

windows aplenty. animation gone wild.

misguided misdirections. unmarked hazards.

missed moments. missing scene.

one at a time. non-symmetrical actions.

*Note: anti-patterns denoted in **bold** are discussed in this talk.*

anti-pattern. **borg idiom**

summary

Not all idioms play well together. Some idioms are more powerful than others. For example, tree controls, drag and drop, selection mechanisms all set up an “interaction theme”.

Just like visual styles need to be consistent, interaction styles also need to be consistent throughout the entirety of the interface

Borg Idiom *is the phenomenon of an idiom (once adopted) assimilating the rest of the interface. Sometimes the assimilation is just the fact that one idiom dominates due to the way the interface clues the user to their presence.*

anti-pattern. borg idiom

Original design did not accurately reflect the hierarchical nature of projects containing documents.


The tab idiom incorrectly communicated that these objects were in parallel.

My Portfolio


Project Author: **Bill Scott**
🍎 21

[+ Create a new Project](#)


Scratchpad (1112)



Lady Bird Johns...
8 days ago



Projects (9)

Project name	Last update	Description	Topic
 Geography: Landforms Copy ★ 0	15 seconds ago	Introduces students to a variety of landforms in the United States. Location of the landforms is also explored.	Social studies, the arts
	5 days ago	Método de	Language

Documents (10)

anti-pattern. borg idiom

An initial redesign proposed using a tree control. It would communicate projects contain documents. It would also become a navigation that would naturally repeat itself to the “gobbler” as well

Tree controls are a “strong” idiom. They are not very friendly on the web. They require some dexterity to navigate. They play better on a desktop where “controls” are favored over “active content”.



anti-pattern. borg idiom

The final approach was to take a more content-driven approach rather than a “control-oriented” approach. This fit nicely with the rest of the interface, leaving all of the site to look like normal web pages.

The screenshot displays a web interface for a user's portfolio. At the top, there is a header section with the title "My Portfolio" and a yellow button labeled "Create a new project". To the right of the header, it shows "7 projects in my portfolio" and "10 documents in my portfolio". Below the header, there are sorting options: "SORT BY: Most recent | A - Z | Most points".

The main content area features a project card for "Project Name Here" (last updated 20 hours ago). The card includes a placeholder image, a "Subject area here" with a description, "CA, Grade 4, 5", a "View Standards" link, and an "edit project info" button. Below the project card, there is a "DOCUMENTS:" section listing two documents, each with a "preview | edit | delete" menu.

At the bottom, there is a list of other projects, each with a "view | delete" menu.

Project Name	Last Updated	Actions
Project Name Here	20 hours ago	view delete
Project Name Here	2 days ago	view delete
Project Name Here	4 days ago	view delete
Project Name Here	12 days ago	view delete

anti-pattern. **borg** idiom

Three idioms living in parallel with each other. The old style overwhelms the other two.

anti-pattern. borg idiom

Netflix recently added drag/drop to their movie queue.

Notice they were able to mix two idioms without one taking over from the other.

Next step? drag drop delete?

DVDs in Your Queue								Update Your Queue	
Priority	Movie Title	Star Rating	MPAA	Genre	Availability	Remove	Move to Top		
1	SCTV Network 90: Vol. 2: Disc 1	★★★★★	NR	Television	Now	<input type="checkbox"/>	▲		
2	SCTV Network 90: Vol. 2: Disc 3	★ Series Disc ★	NR	Television	Now	<input type="checkbox"/>	▲		
3	SCTV Network 90: Vol. 2: Disc 4	★ Series Disc ★	NR	Television	Now	<input type="checkbox"/>	▲		
4	The Truman Show	★★★★☆	PG	Comedy	Now	<input type="checkbox"/>	▲		
5	SCTV Network 90: Vol. 2: Disc 5	★ Series Disc ★	NR	Television	Now	<input type="checkbox"/>	▲		
6	Take the Money and Run	★★★★☆	R	Comedy	Now	<input type="checkbox"/>	▲		
7	The Gathering Storm	★★★★☆	NR	Drama	Now	<input type="checkbox"/>	▲		

anti-pattern. borg idiom

Two approaches. Object selection (highlight idiom). Item selection (checkbox idiom). Is it possible to marry the two?

View: [All Messages](#) Messages 1-25 of 2624 First | Previous | [Next](#) | [Last](#)

Delete Spam Mark Move...

<input type="checkbox"/>	Sender	Subject	Date	Size
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	THUNDER BALL PROMOTION 2006	congratulation	Wed Dec 20, 2006	2k
<input type="checkbox"/>	SketchUp	SketchUpdate December 20th	Wed Dec 20, 2006	31k
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Larry Mason	Can you recommend a position ?	Wed Dec 20, 2006	68k
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Brent Ashley	Tools and frameworks re YUI	Wed Dec 20, 2006	2k

Home **Inbox** 2622 messages

Reply Forward Print Spam Delete More Actions View

	From	Subject	Date	Size		
	PropertyValues@repl	It's A Home Buyer's Market, Learn Mor	Thu, 12/14/06 4:21 AM	14KB		
	announce@members	Your First Webshots Photo Album	Thu, 12/14/06 3:45 AM	6KB		
	Amazon.com Paymen	Your Amazon Marketplace Purchase	Thu, 12/14/06 1:04 AM	6KB		
	Amazon.com Paymen	Your Amazon Marketplace Purchase	Thu, 12/14/06 1:04 AM	6KB		
	Amazon.com Paymen	Your Amazon Marketplace Purchase	Thu, 12/14/06 1:03 AM	6KB		
	auto-confirm@amazt	Your Order with Amazon.com	Thu, 12/14/06 12:50 AM	16KB		
	auto-confirm@amazt	Your Order with Amazon.com	Thu, 12/14/06 12:38 AM	26KB		

anti-pattern. **borg idiom**

Current Yahoo! Mail successfully married the two interaction idioms. It did it in a way that you can use either idiom as both have their advantages.

anti-pattern. **borg idiom**

Here was an early attempt on Yahoo! Bookmarks to blend drag and drop with item selection (checkbox idiom). It has odd side effects during the interaction.

In Yahoo! Photos (soon to close it's doors) drag selection was implemented well. One issue was the page metaphor + drag selection + a tray idiom.

strategies. **borg idiom**

For content-oriented rich sites, avoid becoming control-heavy. Stay away from the tree control and other strong desktop style controls. Make your content interactive, thus making the content the control.

Before adding any interaction style, make sure it will scale across all known parts of your interface.

Either allow yourself to be assimilated (be consistently borg :-)) or eliminate the Borg from your site.

Watch out when mixing drag and drop with checkbox style selection.

Avoid mixing selection styles.

anti-pattern. **meandering way**

summary

Normal flow through the page takes the user on a meandering journey with the mouse.

alternate names

zig-zag interaction, scenic route

example

Actions hidden under hover (in context tools) that require the user to hover an area, then move the mouse to an area that would normally be outside the object's space (back and forth operation)

anti-pattern. **meandering way**

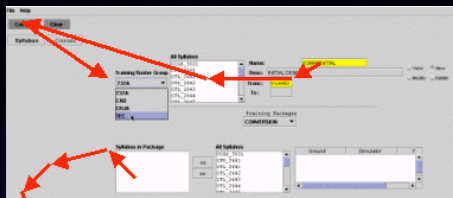
In our Y!Teachers product the first version of the hover caused a lot of mouse zig-zagging to do common operations.

anti-pattern. **meandering way**

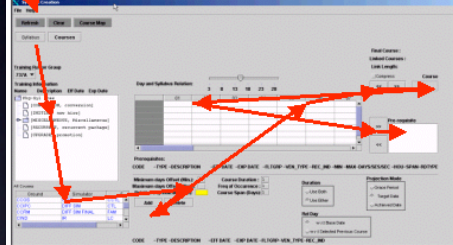
In the redesign, we avoid any popup, any page jitter and make it possible to just move the mouse to a predictable spot to do multiple operations.

anti-pattern. meandering way

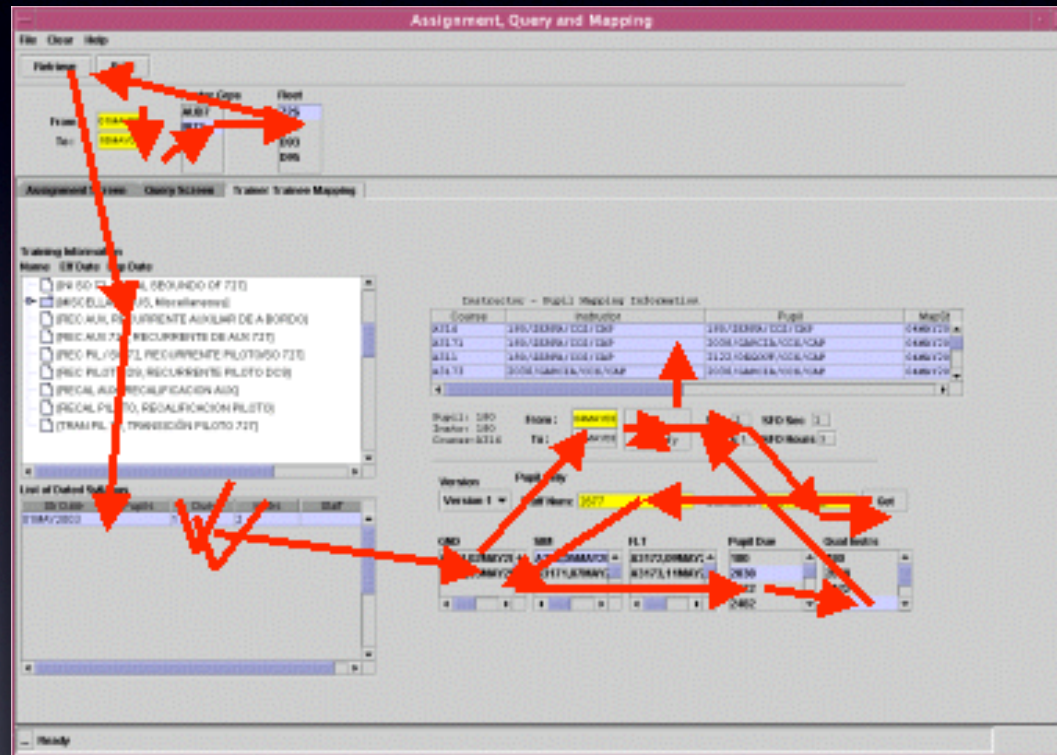
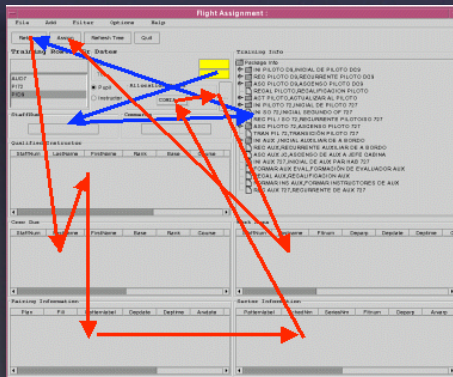
In previous company, I found this was a common occurrence in their suite of software application. By drawing red arrows indicating the user flow, it made the problem obvious and helped to refactor to a correct solution..



Syllabus Creation: Syllabus Tab



Syllabus Creation: Courses Tab



strategies. **meandering way**

Take a snapshot. Draw red arrows through the interface for each user scenarios. Use this information to simplify flows and eliminate zig-zag interaction.

During design refactoring, only display the elements needed for each interaction. This will allow you to focus on what is important for the interaction-- and what is actually the supporting information.

Find the flow and layout consistent with that.

Watch out for hovers. Make sure that all in-context tools that get revealed require no extra mouse move and are completely predicatable -- allowing the user to gain speed in using the interface.

anti-pattern. **tiny targets**

summary

Making key interaction points too small increases the likelihood that users will be frustrated with the interface.

fitts law

The time to acquire a target is a function of the distance to and size of the target.

examples

divots for expand/collapse

anti-pattern. tiny targets

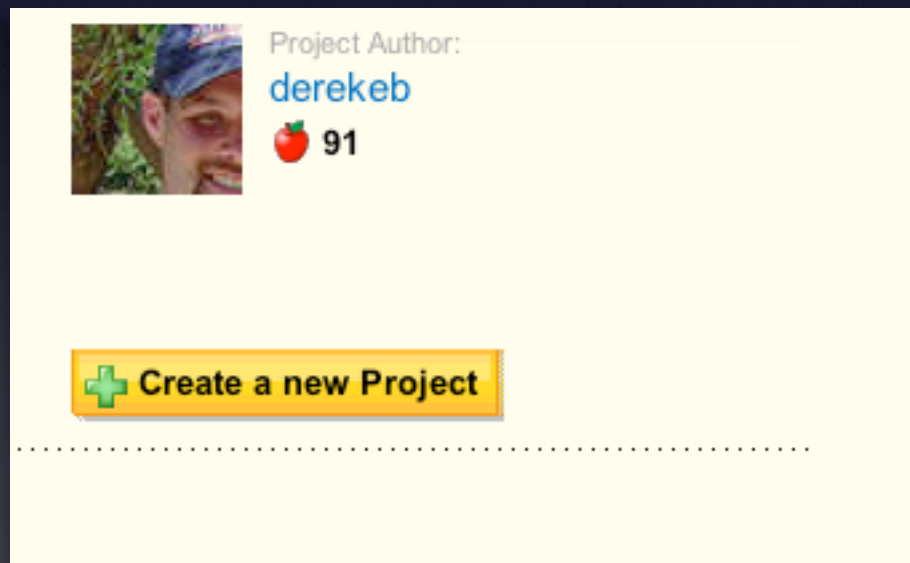
*The identity card area has a summary view and an expanded view.
The targeting is really small and caused lots of usability issues.*

Several problems exist:

The target for expand/collapse is hidden

The area that reveals the target area for our identity card is only the photo and not the complete summary view

The target is a very small divot that is hard to hit.



anti-pattern. tiny targets

The target for opening the vocabulary list is actually anywhere in the complete title. However, it looks like you can only click the little tiny divot (8x8 pixels)

Redesign will call out "Close" as bigger target, but also cause title to have link.

The image shows two overlapping UI elements. The top element is a yellow card titled "Vocabulary List" with a pencil icon and "0 teachers like it". The bottom element is a blue panel titled "PROJECT DOCUMENTS (3)" containing a document card for "Mitosis Lesson Plan" with a "close" button and a "Copy Document" button.

Vocabulary List
0 teachers like it

PROJECT DOCUMENTS (3)
Create a new Document (what is a document?)

Mitosis Lesson Plan
teachers.yahoo.com/dannys/mitosis_lesson_plan/
12 Teachers like it
Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit. Nam purus. Duis convallis est at erat. Vestibulum hendrerit aliquam sapien. Suspendisse lorem purus, pellentesque ac, facilisis vitae, imperdiet eu, velit.
edit document info

Copy Document Delete Document

anti-pattern. tiny targets

The Yahoo! Gobbler has done well in tests due to the larger nature of the project drop targets.

One issue that still needs to be addressed is the smaller target of the Text Drag button. Consistently causes problems-- too small.

Step 1. Selecting a Volcano

Topographic maps are available for all the volcanoes in the United States. Topographic maps and outdoor recreation stores also sell topographic maps. The model made by the National Geographic Society in 1975 about Mount St. Helens. [Click here](#) for a site with information on the major dome building episodes. Your model could

Step 2. Creating a Pattern.



YAHOO! GOBBLER™ [X]

Scratchpad

[Click here](#)
http://volcano.und.nodak.edu/vwdocs

+ Add Website

Projects(7)

“ r sites you will need to install a simple Gobbler Browser Button. Browse...” ”

[Landforms: Volcano...](#)

+ Add Website

anti-pattern. tiny targets

Apple iPhone keyboard



iPhone has revolutionary dynamic target sizing

apple web site has the play controls as an 8 x 8 pixel target!

Watch it: [Small](#) | [Medium](#) | [Large](#)

strategies. **tiny targets**

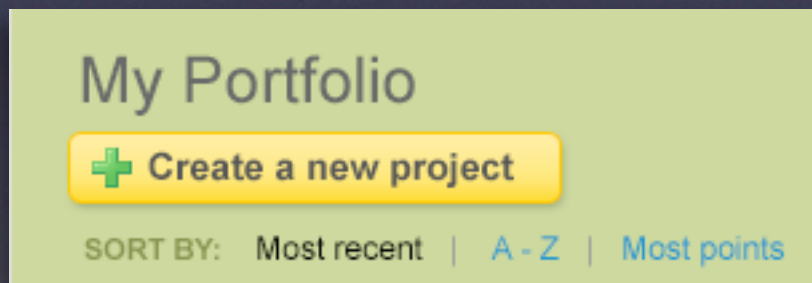
Activation targets and important commands need to be large enough, clearly visually distinct and in proximity to operation.

Use in-context tools to support proximity.

Use “Call to Action” style buttons for most important operations.

If titles will expand/collapse, at least use hyperlink underline when hover happens to provide a bigger target.

Never use 8x8 for targeting :-)



anti-pattern. **hover & cover**

summary

Hover reveal of information and actions has become more and more popular. Hover & Cover is when the hover actually hides important contextual information around the object or gets in the way of other actions.

anti-pattern. hover & cover

Original hover was extremely annoying as it

Covered the item to the right (natural flow is move to right)

Occluded text edit area (hung open)

Geography: Landforms Copy

Websites (27 items)

- Landforms: Face of t...**
<http://www.edu.pe.ca...>
- Volcano Types Diagram...**
<http://flickr.com/ph...>
- Land Forms - Contine...**
<http://www.mcwdn.org...>
- Volcanism 01**
<http://geoimages.ber...>
- Volcanoes**
<http://pubs.usgs.gov...>

Documents:

- Vocabulary List**
0 teachers like it
- Landforms Vocabulary**
- Volcano**

anti-pattern. hover & cover

Example from plum.com

Drop down menu shows on hover and gets in the way. Too easy to accidentally turn it on.

▼ Click to filter by: [alternative](#), [alternative & punk](#), [art](#), [da vinci code](#), [example](#), [flowers](#), [flowers%2c%20plum%2c%20crocus](#), [introduction](#), [music](#), [norway](#), [plum](#), [restaurant](#), [rock](#), [san francisco](#), [summer](#), [sunset](#), [travel](#), [vacation](#), [video stamp](#), [youtube](#) [more...](#)

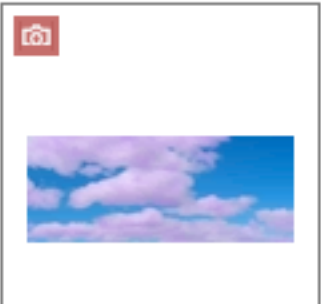
1 through 20 of 33,883 results 



[football](#)



[mm](#)



[CoolBlueClouds](#)



[i aint bowved](#)

anti-pattern. **hover & cover**

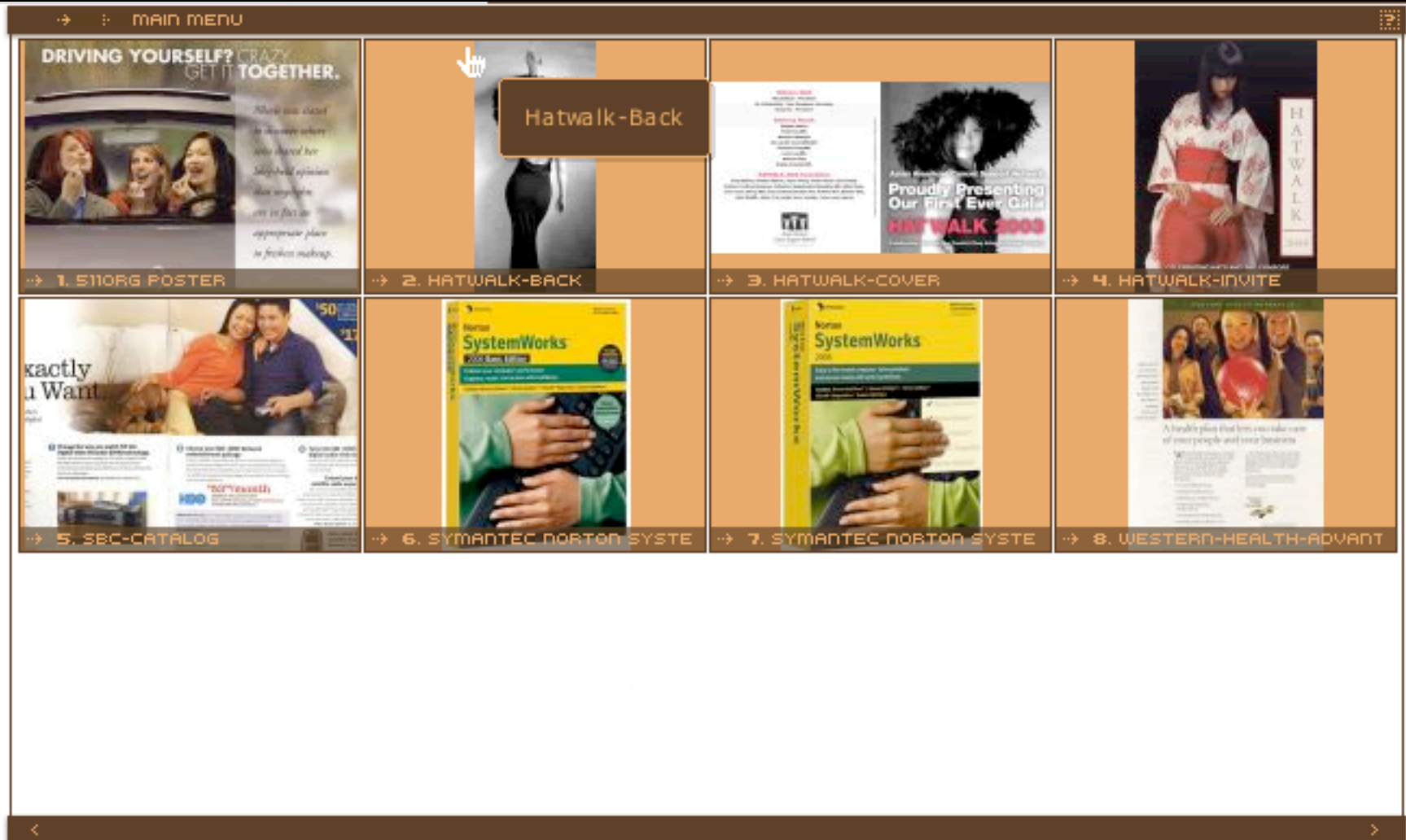
Yahoo! Local originally had this hover beast.

Thankfully it no longer functions this way :-)

anti-pattern. hover & cover

This one almosts leads to a new anti-pattern-- hover madness

Seriously what were they thinking?



strategies. hover & cover

For in-context tools, attempt to reserve same space for both hovered and non-hovered state

For hover details (information) place the hover in a manner that does not cover up important controls, will not cause accidental popup & down and is easy to deactivate.

For hover details, allow a 1/4 second delay before activating.

For in-context tools, show hover state immediately and provide consistent targeting for operations from object to object (allow user to get action item just in time)

Bill, the following movies were chosen based on your interest in:

- [Animal Crackers](#)
- [Something the Lord Made](#)
- [X2: X-Men United](#)

Monkey Business

One of the Marx Brothers' funniest movies, the title of the film says it all as Groucho, Harpo, Chico and Zeppo stow away on a luxury liner. Before ... [Read More](#)

Add

Lackawanna Blues

All Discs Guaranteed!

You loved it.

Now own it for just **\$5.99**

- FREE shipping
- original artwork
- hardcover case

[Shop now](#) for our previously viewed titles low as \$5.99

Rate Your

anti-pattern. **pogo stick navigation**

summary

Requiring the user to go down a level or two, perform an operation, come back to the top and then have to go back down again. Name comes from hopping up and down through the site.

credit

Jared Spool

anti-pattern. pogo stick navigation

Netflix faced the problem of users needing more information on a movie.

They would go down to the details of the movie, possibly adding to the queue.

Then they would go back to where they come from and repeat this

Their solution involved an overlay that can support an alternate navigation stream. Then the user can come back to the main flow anytime they desire.

NETFLIX Bill Scott | Your Account | Buy / Redeem Gift | Help

Browse Recommendations Friends Queue Buy DVDs Movies, actors, directors, genres Search

Get Recommendations (869) Rate Movies Movies You've Rated (234)

Recommendations

Movie suggestions based on your ratings

You have **869** Recommendations from 234 ratings.

NEW RECOMMENDATIONS

Samurai Champloo (7-Disc Series)

★★★★★

Director Shinichiro Watanabe mixes a maturity rarely found in anime with a historical Japanese setting and a funky hip-hop soundtrack. Fuu is a spacey waitress at a teahouse where a sword fight ... [Read More](#)

12 Angry Men

★★★★★

A guilty verdict means death -- but the jury's not about to let that spoil their day. Twelve men must decide the fate of an 18-year-old boy accused of fatally stabbing his father. Only one (Henry Fonda) wants to take the time to coolly deliberate ... [Read More](#)

You Have Recommendations!

Get more recommendations by rating more movies.

You've rated **234** movies.

Browse

All Recommendations

Favorite Genres: [Edit](#)

- Action & Adventure (89)
- Drama (123)
- Sci-Fi & Fantasy (5)
- Television (84)
- Thrillers (29)
- Comedy (38)
- Classics (223)
- Documentary (72)

Other Genres:

- Anime & Animation (19)
- Children & Family (33)
- Foreign (123)
- Independent (4)
- Music & Musicals (10)
- Romance (10)

Helpful Tip

◀ **Seen** any of these movies?

strategies. **pogo stick**

Draw flow arrows between pages to catch the zig-zag bouncing from page to page (see Meandering Way anti-pattern).

To avoid pogo effect:

- Use incontext tools to bring actions into the current page*
- Use hover details to reveal information in context*
- Use overlays for encapsulating an alternate navigation path to allow temporary exploration without losing the original context of navigation*
- All in page actions like inline editing, etc. to provide functionality inline.*
- Use incontext expands to reveal information on the page*

anti-pattern. **novel notion**

summary

Creating a new interface for a common idiom that is more confusing than the original. Sometimes it is just mis-using a component for a new purpose.

examples

Using drag and drop for simple attribute setting; using odd navigation schemes for some supposed effect

anti-pattern. novel notion

This is just bizarre. Especially the "Search Jobs" link. And it plays music ;-)



[Home](#)

[About us](#)

[Corporate Assistance](#)

[Candidate Assistance](#)

[Search Jobs](#)

[Contact Us](#)

anti-pattern. novel notion

This guy won an award! Look it's just marking stuff as 'favorite'.

And this is yet another novel approach to favorites

WatchThisNext
Drag n' Drop DVD Recommendations

Start Over Contact Us

Mean Creek [Find out more](#)

Prokofiev - Ivan the Terrible / Mukhamedov, Bessmertnova, Taranda, Zhuraitis, Bolshoi Ballet [Find out more](#)

City Heat [Find out more](#)

The Rainmaker [Find out more](#)

Drag the DVDs into the boxes below

When we suggest a DVD you like, click the "find out more" link to see more information or buy the DVD.

Loved It
Or show me more like this.

Haven't Seen It
Or I'm not interested in it.

Loathed It
Or don't show me DVDs like this.

Already solved.

Classics

Recommendations

High Plains Drifter
★★★★★
 Not Interested

Amid shoot-outs and existentialism, a mysterious stranger (Clint Eastwood, who also directs) is hired to protect a small town from outlaws. But his recipe for defense could be a deal with the devil, and soon, even the enigmatic gunslinger's ... [Read More](#)

The Great Escape
★★★★★
 Not Interested

Director John Sturges's Oscar-nominated adventure classic follows the true tale of a group-escape attempt from one of Germany's toughest prisoner-of-war camps. Hundreds of Allied POWs join Roger "Big X" Bartlett (Richard Attenborough), Danny "The ... [Read More](#)

[More Recommendations >](#)

Featured Subg
CLASSIC CO

DUCK-TALE

Add

Jane, two up-a
yuppies who ex
lifestyle before
name for it. But
his lucrative job
[Read More](#)

THE GREAT ESCAPE

Add

again -- this tim
the life and time
Perhaps the mo

anti-pattern. **novel notion**

Yahoo! Photos (going away) tried a novel approach to selection. It involved the new concept of a “tray” for holding temporarily selected items.

Technically perfect. But design-wise misguided. Created two targets for commands: selected items and items in the tray.

As a result the menu commands were duplicated for the tray and for the current selection. Confusing.

strategies. **novel notion**

Understand the purpose of each type of component

- Carousels do not replace scrolled lists*
- Drag and drop is not for single attribute setting*

Don't construct an artificial interface to support an idiom (don't create the house for the nail)

If you think you need something never created before, think twice about it

anti-pattern. **metaphor mismatch**

summary

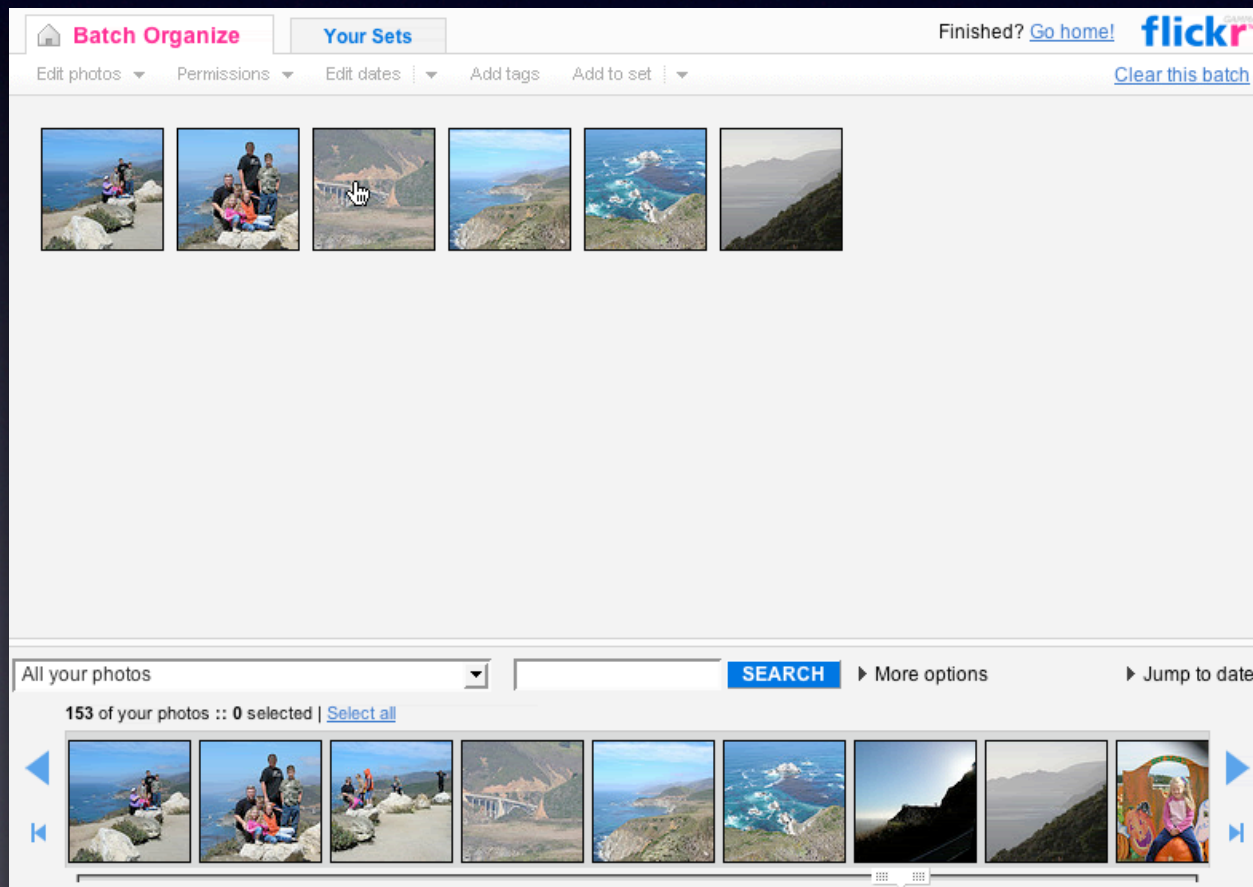
When an idiom is employed that creates the wrong mental model for the user.

anti-pattern. metaphor mismatch

Flickr allows you to have a temporary work area when organizing your photos.

When removing items from this work area, you

- drag and drop an item from work area back into your photo set*
- it shows a nuclear explosion when the item is put back into the set*



anti-pattern. metaphor mismatch

Yahoo! TV. Redesigned the home page. What was the typical user's mental model for Y!TV? TV Listings. Where did my mental model go?

The original Yahoo! TV home page (left) features a prominent banner for the TV show "My Boys" with the text "series premiere tonight 10/9c". Below the banner is a navigation bar with links for "Home", "TV Listings", "Today's Picks", "News & Gossip", "Ent. Preview", "Shows A-Z", and "Setup Services". The main content area is divided into several sections: "Watch 'with the Boys'", "Local TV Listings" (with a search bar and filters), "Yahoo! Advance Look" for "My Boys", "Daily TV Picks" featuring "Tonight, Veronica Mars, My Boys, 21st, more", and a "TV Tonight" section for Tuesday, Nov 28, 2006, which includes a grid of TV listings by time slot (8:00pm to 10:50pm) and channel (ABC, CBS, FOX, etc.).

The redesigned Yahoo! TV home page (right) features a more modern, cluttered layout. It includes a large "Office Politics" featured image at the top left. The navigation bar is more complex, with links for "Home", "TV Listings", "Today's Picks", "News & Gossip", "Ent. Preview", "Shows A-Z", and "Setup Services". The main content area is dominated by a "TV NEWS" section with a large image of Steve Jobs and a "JURY OOBIP" section. Below these are "10 TV PICKS: TONIGHT" featuring "SHARK", "SUPERHERO", "LULY BETTY", and "the office". The page also includes sections for "ADULT ANIMATION" (with "The Simpsons", "Family Guy", and "South Park"), "COMEDY WITH AN EDGE" (with "Sexual Encounters", "The Office", "Ali G", and "Mike & Molly"), "HOT GIRLS & FISH FIGHT" (with "MP", "Buffy", "The Mentalist", and "The Mindy Project"), and "I SEE DEAD PEOPLE" (with "The Mentalist", "CSI", and "The Mentalist"). The bottom of the page features a "MORE TV COLLECTIONS" section with various show categories.

anti-pattern. metaphor mismatch

yahoo underground gets it right with the carousel... timeline... starts at end

The screenshot shows the Yahoo! Underground website. At the top left is the 'Underground' logo in a stylized, bubbly font, with 'PRESENTED BY YAHOO! NEWS' underneath. To the right of the logo, it says 'Welcome, b.scott' and '[Sign Out, My Account]'. Further right are 'NEWS' and 'WEB' tabs, a search bar, and a 'SEARCH' button. Below the header is a yellow navigation bar with a left arrow, 'PREVIOUSLY', 'RIGHT NOW!', 'UP NEXT', and a right arrow. The main content area is divided into three columns. The left column has three sections: 'RECENT' with links like '+ TOPSY-TURVY BUS', '+ WIN FRIENDS AND INFLUENCE PEOPLE', '+ SHREDDING THE ENVELOPE', and '+ ROCKETEERS'; 'MOST POPULAR' with links like '+ WIN FRIENDS AND INFLUENCE PEOPLE', '+ THE FASTEST WALLS IN THE WEST', '+ PINK MONKEYS CREATE PARALLEL MAGIC KINGDOM', and '+ GAY RODEO AIN'T FOR SISSIES'; and 'ODD NEWS' with links like '+ RATS AND CATS WORK TO SNIFF OUT MINES (AP)', '+ ONCE, TWICE, THREE TIMES ARRESTED (AP)', and '+ ANGER COUNSELOR CHARGED IN DOMESTIC SPAT (AP)'. The middle column features a video player with a play button and a title 'Topsy-Turvy Bus' and 'BEN & JERRY'S LATEST FLAVOR?'. The right column has a poll titled 'Put it to a vote: Your art car esthetic?' with two options: 'Clutter' (represented by a car covered in trash) and 'Clean lines' (represented by a car with a clean, colorful design). Below the poll are buttons for 'Click to vote ...' and 'see results only'.

strategies. **metaphor mismatch**

Realize that something as subtle as a title to an area, an icon (even used transiently) can mislead the user into thinking something else is happening

Understand the mental model you are constructing with each page. Ask yourself about how consistently you re-enforce that model by your interactions.

anti-pattern. **double duty**

summary

When a single interface element is called upon to perform multiple functions

examples

Expand collapse header that also leads to details



anti-pattern. double duty




Most common example is when a header performs expand/collapse, but also is a link that leads to the item's detail. Will clicking the project name take you to the project page or expand/collapse the project area?

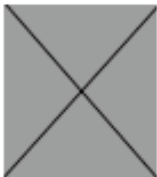
My Portfolio

[+ Create a new project](#)

SORT BY: [Most recent](#) | [A - Z](#) | [Most points](#)

 7 projects in my portfolio
 10 documents in my portfolio



  **Project Name Here** (last updated 20 hours ago) [view](#) | [delete](#) 



Subject area here



Project description lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit. Curabitur molestie sodales leo. Cras consequat elementum quam. Morbi lacus libero, interdum et, hendrerit eget, ultrices vitae, augue.



CA, Grade 4, 5




 [View Standards](#) 




[edit project info](#)

DOCUMENTS:

 **Document Name Here** (last updated 3 days ago) [preview](#) | [edit](#) | [delete](#) 
[sampledocumenturl.com](#)

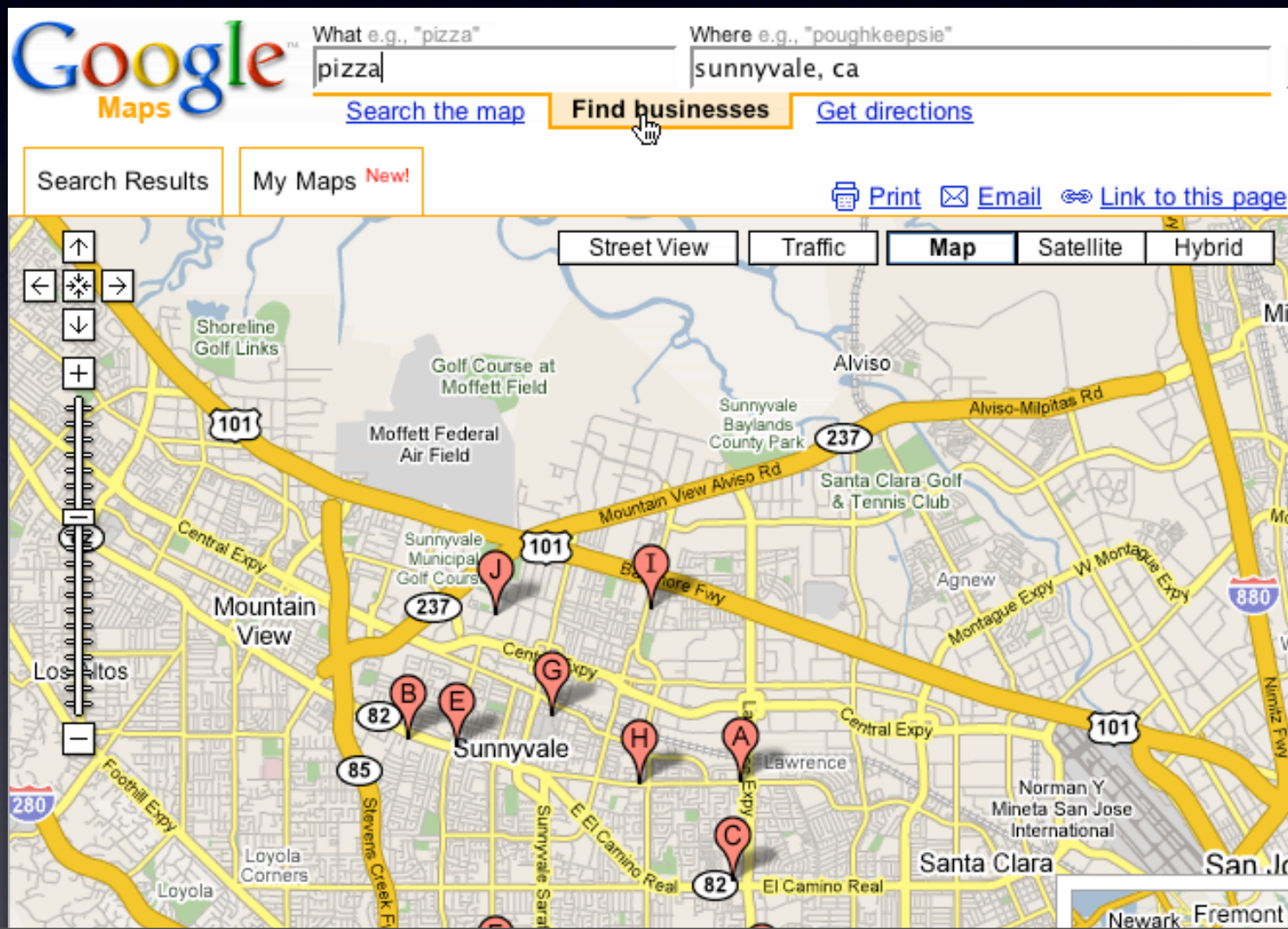
 **Document Name Here** (last updated 6 days ago) [preview](#) | [edit](#) | [delete](#) 
[sampledocumenturl.com](#)

  **Project Name Here** (last updated 2 days ago) [view](#) | [delete](#) 

  **Project Name Here** (last updated 4 days ago) [view](#) | [delete](#) 

anti-pattern. double duty

Here in Google Maps, the search can take us to a location and bring in pizza locations on the map. Dragging the map can take us to a location also. What happens when I drag? Will pizza locations update? The answer is no... but this does cause confusion.



anti-pattern. **linkitus**

summary

The syndrome of having no idea where a link will lead you. could be an in page action, could reveal information, could take you to new page, could popup something, could engage on hover. Can also be aggravated by inconsistent use of links on the same page.

examples

yahoo.com inconsistent use of links on main page, teachers.yahoo.com around id card

anti-pattern. linkitus

On the home page, there are three kinds of links:

- Reveal other content in context
- Take you to the article
- Expose area (hover to reveal, click to go to tool)

The screenshot shows a news website interface. At the top, there are navigation tabs for 'Featured', 'Entertainment', 'Sports', and 'Life'. The date 'Jul 24, 2007' is displayed. The main featured article is titled 'Best & worst smoothies' and includes a list of links: 'How to make a healthy smoothie', 'Peach-banana smoothie recipe', and 'Wake-up morning drink'. Below this are four smaller article teasers with thumbnail images. On the right side, there is a user greeting 'Hi, Bill' and a 'Sign Out' link. Below the greeting are six utility buttons: 'Mail 45 New', 'Messenger', 'Radio', 'Weather 78°F', 'Local', and 'Horoscope'. At the bottom right, there is a large yellow banner for 'SUNDAY AUGUST 2007' with a large number '5' and a call to action: 'CAST YOUR VOTE FOR THE WINNING PROJECT BEFORE MIDNIGHT ON SUNDAY,'.

Featured Entertainment Sports Life

Jul 24, 2007

Best & worst smoothies
Some drinks are healthy, but others are loaded with calories. [» More](#)

- How to make a healthy smoothie
- Peach-banana smoothie recipe
- Wake-up morning drink

Best and worst smoothies for your diet

NFL rankings: Where's your team ranked?

Close plays a ruthless attorney in 'Damages'

Save big with biweekly mortgage payments

[» More Featured](#)

Hi, **Bill** [Sign Out](#)

Mail
45 New

Messenger

Radio

Weather
78°F

Local

Horoscope

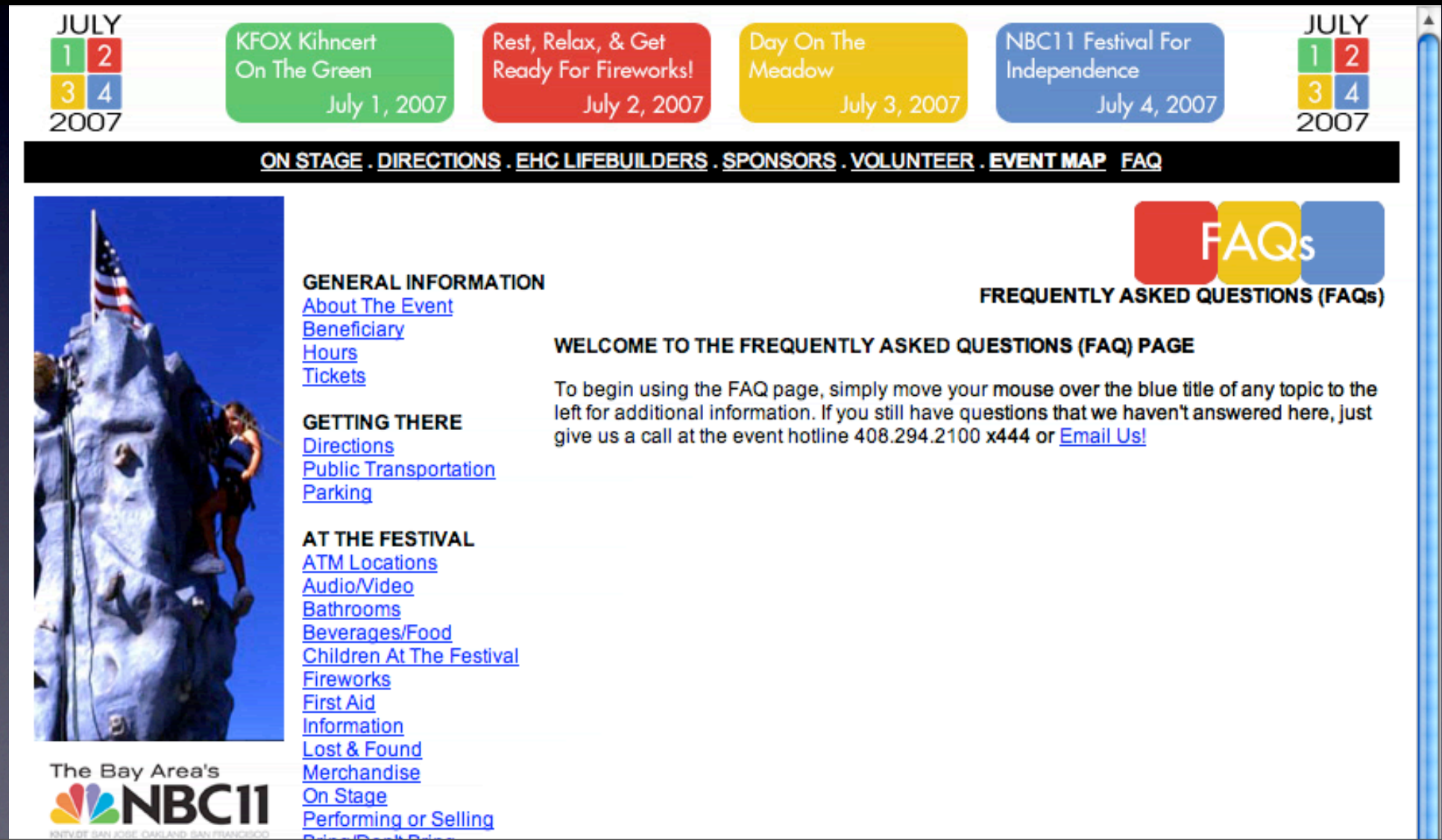
SUNDAY
AUGUST 2007 **5**

CAST YOUR VOTE FOR THE WINNING PROJECT BEFORE MIDNIGHT ON SUNDAY,

anti-pattern. linkitus

Bizarre use of links. Hover reveals information. Click does nothing.

Very close to being a candidate for Novel Notions.



JULY
1 2
3 4
2007

KFOX Kihncert
On The Green
July 1, 2007

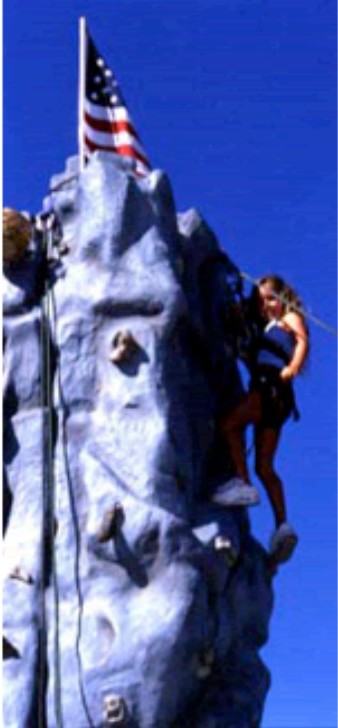
Rest, Relax, & Get
Ready For Fireworks!
July 2, 2007

Day On The
Meadow
July 3, 2007

NBC11 Festival For
Independence
July 4, 2007

JULY
1 2
3 4
2007

[ON STAGE](#) . [DIRECTIONS](#) . [EHC LIFEBUILDERS](#) . [SPONSORS](#) . [VOLUNTEER](#) . [EVENT MAP](#) . [FAQ](#)



FAQs
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQs)

GENERAL INFORMATION
[About The Event](#)
[Beneficiary](#)
[Hours](#)
[Tickets](#)

GETTING THERE
[Directions](#)
[Public Transportation](#)
[Parking](#)

AT THE FESTIVAL
[ATM Locations](#)
[Audio/Video](#)
[Bathrooms](#)
[Beverages/Food](#)
[Children At The Festival](#)
[Fireworks](#)
[First Aid](#)
[Information](#)
[Lost & Found](#)
[Merchandise](#)
[On Stage](#)
[Performing or Selling](#)
[Prizes/Door Prizes](#)

WELCOME TO THE FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQ) PAGE

To begin using the FAQ page, simply move your mouse over the blue title of any topic to the left for additional information. If you still have questions that we haven't answered here, just give us a call at the event hotline 408.294.2100 x444 or [Email Us!](#)

The Bay Area's
NBC11
KTVU/ET SAN JOSE OAKLAND SAN FRANCISCO

anti-pattern. windows aplenty

summary

The practice of throwing up unnecessary idiot boxes. So many reasons this is just wrong...

The screenshot displays the Yahoo! Photos user interface. At the top, the logo "YAHOO! PHOTOS" is on the left, and the user's name "Welcome, b.scott" with links for "[Sign Out, My Account]" is on the right. A navigation bar below the logo contains icons and labels for "Home", "Prints & Gifts", "View Cart", "Settings", and "Help", along with a search box for "Search My Tags".

On the left side, there is a vertical sidebar with a purple "Upload Photos" button at the top. Below it are sections for "All My Photos", "My Albums" (with a sub-item "Paris06"), "My Tags", and "My Friends' Photos".

The main content area is titled "All My Photos" and features a toolbar with buttons for "Slideshow", "Create", "Share", "Edit", and "Prints & Gifts". Below the toolbar is a large, empty tray with the instruction "Drag photos into this tray and choose a task above." A "Sort by: Date" dropdown menu is positioned above a row of three photo thumbnails.

The three thumbnails are labeled as follows:

- Sunset**: A photograph of a sunset with a silhouette of a tower in the foreground.
- Underneath**: A photograph looking up at the intricate lattice structure of a tower.
- View from the Top**: A photograph of a green field with a circular structure in the center, viewed from an elevated perspective.

anti-pattern. **animation gone wild**

summary

Animation effects that become the central focus instead of being part of reinforcing a message.

examples

amazon carousel, tab animation, (stuff from transition talk)

anti-pattern. animation gone wild

Why the extra little slide in?






11 Step Eleven

Water thoroughly so the soil is moist to a depth of 6 to 8 inches.

12 Step Twelve

Keep the seed bed moist (but not soggy) until sod roots knit with soil below. In hot weather, you may have to water more than once a day.

Tips & Warnings

-  Lay the sod on dry soil to avoid a muddy mess.
-  When laying sod, kneel on a piece of plywood so you don't disturb soil or damage sod, and use kneepads to keep your knees from getting sore.
-  Laying sod is hard work. Enlist the help of friends, and use a wheelbarrow to cart pieces around.
-  Keep [pets](#) and kids off your new lawn by enclosing it with stakes and string.
-  Avoid letting sod dry out, whether it's stacked in a pile or already laid. Occasionally sprinkle with water from a handheld hose to keep it moist,

anti-pattern. animation gone wild

Wow! What more can I say?

Seems to be either a pixel at a time or going so fast you can't use it

Our Favorites for Summer (Re)Reading



anti-pattern. animation gone wild

More from the gratuitous animation department...



AFI's 100 Years...100 Movies — 10th Anniversary Edition

A new decade, a new countdown.
AFI reveals the 100 greatest movies of all time



[AFI Home](#)

[About AFI](#)

[Become a Member](#)

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anti-pattern. animation gone wild

*Not sure how much animation does for a tab control?
Candidate for Novel Notions*



Sites



Files



Editor



Preview



CSS



Terminal



Books

Terminal: built right in.

OK, it's not very sexy. In fact, it's quite the opposite. But Coda is all about the little things that make your web development a squidgeon easier. If you need to SSH into a server and run some MySQL queries, or restart Apache, or debug some PHP in real time, there's only one way you're gonna do it: terminal. **Coda's got a terminal one mouse click away.**

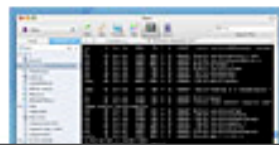


```
egrep 'bellslwhistle' /usr/share/dict/web2
```

Features? Our terminal has 'em. Connect to a local shell or connect via SSH to a remote server. Put a Terminal in a split, or put a Terminal in its own tab. Copy and paste from the output, or scroll back into the buffer. It's a terminal! And it's convenient!

```
export CLICOLOR=1
```

Wait! There's kind of more! ANSI colors also work! You can also, via the preferences, change the font and background colors, or the terminal font itself. Unfortunately, you can't yet set the background to a picture of Arwyn. But e-mail us, we'll always consider it.



anti-pattern. animation gone wild

Yahoo! My Yahoo! Mail Help Search: Web Search

YAHOO! LOCAL Welcome, b.scott Sign Out 74°F

City Guide My Local Directory

drain repair San Jose, CA Search

San Jose City Guide > drain repair

CATEGORY SPONSORS

- **C & K Drain Plumbing Repair** - Why Pay More? Call and Compare. Call Anytime (408) 483-1044, 3560 Flora Vista Ave # 204, Santa Clara, CA [Get directions](#)

Results 1-10 out of 318 total (About these results)

Narrow your search by category, rating, and more.

Sorted by: **top results** | distance [Print results](#)

Yahoos: [Report bad local results or ads for this query.](#)

- 1 Plumber by Lalos Sewer & Drain Cleaning Services** ★★★★★ (1) 0.87 mi
(408) 590-6547
471 N 18th St, San Jose, CA
[Get Directions](#)
www.zoneprofiles.com/plumberinsanjose.html
[Write a review](#)
- 2 Sunnyvale Storm Drain Repairs** ★★★★★ 6.22 mi
(408) 730-7510
221 Commercial St, Sunnyvale, CA
[Get Directions](#)
[Write a review](#)
- 3 C & K Drain Plumbing Repair** ★★★★★ 5.10 mi
Merchant verified
(408) 483-1044
3560 Flora Vista Ave # 204, Santa Clara, CA
[Get Directions](#)
[Write a review](#)
- 4 Alum Rock Hardware** ★★★★★ (2) 2.49 mi
(408) 258-6084
2243 Alum Rock Ave, San Jose, CA
[Get Directions](#)
www.acehardware.com/
[Write a review](#)
jcgarc55- "Wayne was very helpful and informative. They know what..." [more](#)
- 5 YOUR PLUMBING SPECIALIST** ★★★★★
(408) 832-1445
[Write a review](#)

Zoom in and search the map

SPONSOR RESULTS

- Smart Plumbers & Rooters**
Get professional services. warranty and fixing right now.
www.SmartPlumber.org
- Rescue Rooter Plumbing**
Get \$25 off any plumbing service. Schedule an appointment today.
www.rescueroooter.com
- Plumbing Repair**
Affordable Plumbing Repairs and Installations in Windsor, CA.
SimeonePlumbing.com

TV Listings



Select a provider to choose your favorite channels.

	Tue Mar 20	Wed Mar 21	Thu Mar 22	Fri Mar 23	Sat Mar 24	Select date
	10:00am		11:00am		12:00pm	
ABC			The View TV14 (CC)		Local Programming (CC)	
CBS			The Price Is Right TVG (CC)	Local Programming (CC)	The Young and the I TV14 (CC)	
FOX						
NBC	Local Programming (CC)					
PBS	Local Programming (CC)	Between the Lions TVY (CC)	Sesame Street TVY (CC)	Mister Rogers' Neighborhood TVY (CC)	Curious George TVY (CC)	
CW						
MNT						
PAX	Local Programming (CC)	Local Programming (CC)	Local Programming (CC)	Local Programming (CC)	Local Programming (CC)	Local Programming (CC)
AMC	V14					Midnight I MOVIE TV
BET						

strategy. animation gone wild

Transitions mean something. They communicate.

Understand the hierarchy of transition communication

Rapid movement

Rapid color change

Slow movement

Slow color change

If you are refactoring a wild interface, simply turn off all animations and start by communicating fully without it, then add it back in.

anti-pattern. **misguided misdirection**

summary

When you avert the user's attention to the wrong thing due to some effect that was unintended (like page jitter; animation gone wild)

anti-pattern. misguided misdirection

snooth BETA

home search recommendations friends my ratings

Log In

easy drinking red

Showing results 17-24 of hundreds for easy drinking; Red

refine your search

All Wines Wines In Stock

popular searches:

MAXIMUM PRICE: NONE

US\$0 US\$250+

suggest a wine

Torbreck Shiraz Woodcutter's (2004)

Winery: Torbreck
Varietal: Shiraz
Region: South Eastern Australia > South Australia > Barossa > Barossa Valley
Type: Red Wine

User Tags: berry, fruity, color descriptors, blackberry, spices, bramble fruits, spice, balance ... [easy drinking](#)

Neal Family Zinfandel (2002)

Winery: Neal Family
Varietal: Zinfandel
Region: USA > California > Napa > Rutherford
Type: Red Wine

User Tags: fruity, dessert, spices, spice, caramel, big, insects, stone fruits ... [easy drinking](#)

Philip Togni Cabernet Sauvignon (1997)

Winery: Philip Togni
Varietal: Cabernet Sauvignon
Region: USA > California > Napa > Spring Mountain District
Type: Red Wine

User Tags: fruity, berry, cherry, (tree) fruit, big, round, stone fruits, black currant ... [easy drinking](#)

Les Cailloux André Brunel
Châteauneuf-du-Pape (2003)

Winery: Domaine André Brunel

SnoothRank 4.0

anti-pattern. **misguided misdirection**

Two versions of interactive Google. Second one does less mis-direction.

anti-pattern. misguided misdirection

One hits you over the head; the other is nuanced.

The screenshot displays the Blueprint Music website interface. At the top, the logo for "Blueprint music" is on the left, and "POWERED BY LASZLO" is in the center. To the right, it says "IN ASSOCIATION WITH amazon.com." Below the logo is a search bar with the word "Search" inside. The main content area is titled "Your Recommendations:" and features a grid of ten music album recommendations. Each recommendation includes a small album cover, the album title, the artist's name, and the price. Below each recommendation are two buttons: an information icon (i) and a button with a plus sign and the word "list".

Album Title	Artist	Our Price
Come Away with Me	Norah Jones	\$10.97
Bounce	Bon Jovi	\$13.98
Up!	Shania Twain	\$12.99
The Rising	Bruce Springsteen	\$8.99
Buena Vista Social Club	Ry Cooder	\$13.99
Nothing's in Vain	Yousou N'Dour	\$18.98
Lost in Space	Aimee Mann	\$13.99
Under Rug Swept	Alanis Morissette	\$9.99
Sacred Love	Sting	\$18.98
Midnight Radio	Big Head Todd & the Monsters	\$17.98

On the right side of the page, there is a vertical navigation bar with three links: "SHOPPING CART", "WISH LIST", and "CHECK OUT".

anti-pattern. misguided misdirection

In Y! Local, there is a two-step operation to open up information on the map.

Hover activates the balloon.

Click to get the details

However, the hover brings up a popup which you expect to contain information. However, it contains the message “Click icon for more info”.

Here is what happens

The popup mis-directs you to what you think is information.

You start to move the mouse to where it says “Click...”

You realize that you have to find the icon

Then you re-target the icon you were just hovering over

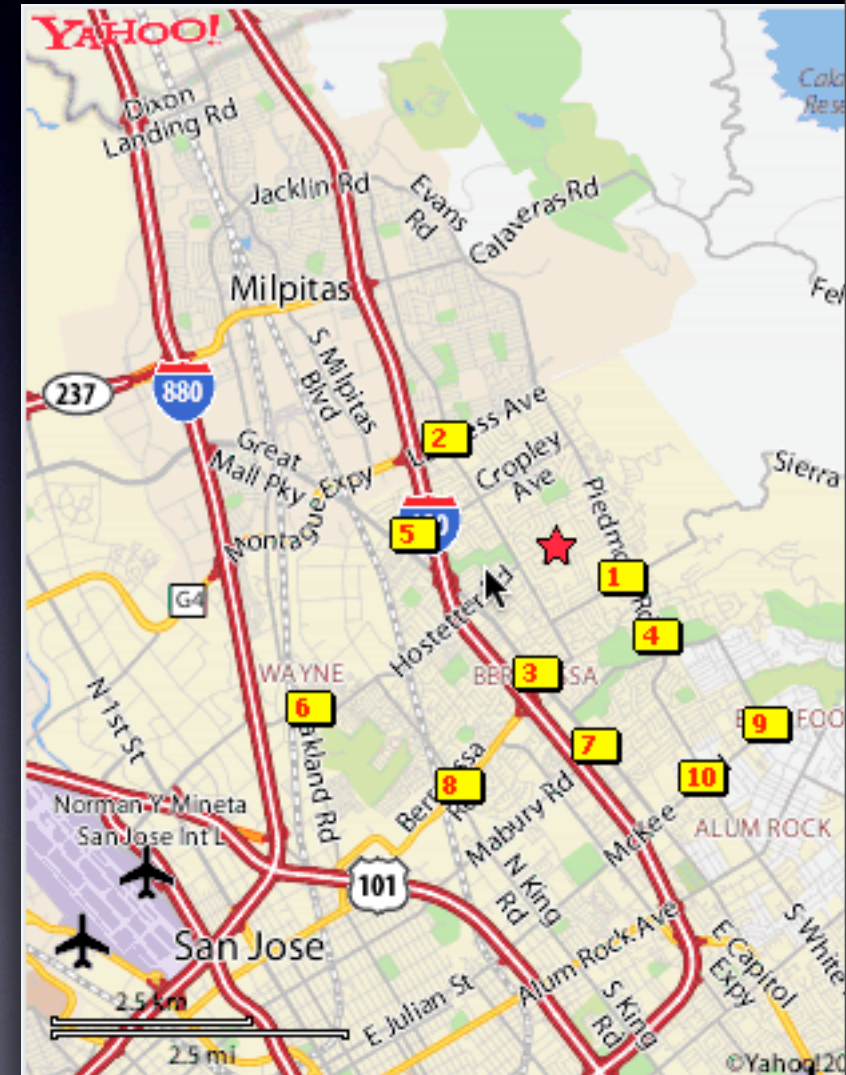
And click to get the information.

Compare this to Google Maps

I just click.

No hover to distract.

You can actually do the same on both



anti-pattern. **missed moments**

summary

Not providing feedback throughout an interaction. These missed moments can confuse the user about what to do.

examples

Drag and drop is classic example.

solutions

Use interesting moments grid to think through each moment

anti-pattern. missed moments

	Page Generation	Mouse Hover	Drag Initiated	Drag over Valid	Drag over Invalid	Drag over Original	Drop Accepted	Drop Rejected	Drop on Original
Page Content	Hint	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Cursor	Normal	Move Cursor	Move Cursor	Move Cursor	Move Cursor	Move Cursor	Normal	Normal	Normal
Drag Object	Normal	Normal	Reduced Opacity & Tracking	Reduced Opacity & Tracking	Reduced Opacity & Tracking + Invalid Badge	Reduced Opacity & Tracking	2. Modules animates into the area just below insertion bar 3. Module comes to rest in new area 4. Modules slide up in a self-healing transition to close hole	Normal Opacity + Zoom Back to Original	Normal Opacity + Zoom Back to Original
Orig Location	Normal	Normal	Hole Opens	Hole Remains	Hole Remains	Hole Remains	Hole Remains	Hole refilled with drag object	Hole refilled with drag object
Drop Target	Normal	Normal	Normal	Insertion Bar	N/A	N/A	1. Insertion Bar Removed	N/A	N/A

anti-pattern. missed moments

This does not work because a number of interaction points miss providing clues during the adding stock symbols

PERSONAL FINANCE TOOLS & RESEARCH MY MARKETWATCH MY STORIES(0)

gal ruling

E-mail Disable live quotes
Digg It Del.icio.us

Dow Jones Industrial Average, as of 11:17PM ET
ing distance of a new high.

nts to
1,708, with Dow Jones Industrial Average
11,707.89 +38.50 +0.33%
COMPQ +2.0%
sp500 +1.5%
+1.0%
+0.5%
-0.5%

2,268 while

efferies &
sing its
t there.'

backward looking and reflects a time

the New

Dow Jones Industrial Average
11,707.57 +38.18 +0.33%
12,000
10,000
8,000
6,000

238.67,
+5.84,

MOST POPULAR

READ E-MAILED EDITOR'S PICK

1. U.S. stocks rise; Dow makes a play for record high
2. U.S. stock futures turn lower as durable-goods data disappoint
3. U.S. Aug. new-home sales up 4.1% to 1.05 million
4. How to cope with a condo-investment hangover
5. GM reportedly demands billions for Renault-Nissan deal
6. API reports an across-the-board climb in petroleum supplies
7. Wednesday's biggest stock gainers and decliners
8. McDonald's boosts dividend to \$1 a share from 67 cents

anti-pattern. missed moments

Using Y! Photos as example again. Notice missing feedback at key point piles on the problems.

The screenshot displays the Yahoo! Photos user interface. At the top left is the 'YAHOO! PHOTOS' logo. To its right, the user is identified as 'Welcome, b.scott' with links for '[Sign Out, My Account]'. A secondary navigation bar contains icons for 'Home', 'Prints & Gifts', 'View Cart', 'Settings', and 'Help', along with a search box labeled 'Search My Tag'. Below this is a purple 'Upload Photos' button. A left sidebar lists 'All My Photos', 'My Albums' (with a sub-item 'Paris06'), 'My Tags', and 'My Friends' Photos'. The main content area is titled 'All My Photos' and features a toolbar with 'Slideshow', 'Create', 'Share', 'Edit', and 'Prints & Gifts'. A large instruction box says 'Drag photos into this tray and choose a task above.' Below this, a 'Sort by: Date' dropdown is visible. Three photo thumbnails are shown with captions: 'Sunset', 'Underneath', and 'View from the Top'. The interface uses a light green and purple color scheme.

anti-pattern. missed moments

You can also miss moments of creating interactive relationships of data. The event browser ties interactivity with information. Google maps search loses that.

The image shows a screenshot of the Google Maps website. The main search bar contains the text "pizza". To the right, there is a secondary search bar with the text "Where e.g., 'poughkeepsie'". Below the search bar, there are buttons for "Search the map" and "Find". The map area shows a view of Sunnyvale, California, with various landmarks like Moffett Federal Air Field and Sunnyvale Municipal Golf Course. A vertical navigation bar is on the left side of the map. Overlaid on the right side of the map is an "EVENTS BROWSER" window for "San Francisco CA". This window shows a smaller map of San Francisco with three numbered event markers (1, 2, 3) and a list of events on the right. The event list includes "MH De Young Memorial ..." (12 Events), "Strybing Arboretum" (3 Events), and "Amoeba Music" (2 Events). Below the event list is a calendar for April 2006, and a sidebar with categories like "All Art", "Events Museums & Galleries", and "Theater".

Google Maps

What e.g., "pizza" | Where e.g., "poughkeepsie"

Search the map | Find

Search Results | My Maps New!

Shoreline Golf Links | Golf Course at Moffett Field | Moffett Federal Air Field | Sunnyvale Municipal Golf Course | Mountain View | Los Altos | Sunnyvale | Santa Clara | San Jose

101 | 237 | 82 | 85 | 280

EVENTS BROWSER

17 RESULTS

1 MH De Young Memorial ... 12 Events +

2 Strybing Arboretum 3 Events +

3 Amoeba Music 2 Events +

San Francisco CA

Richmond District | Kaiser Permanente-San Francisco | University Of San Francisco | St Mary's Medical Center | Golden Gate Park | Buena Vista Park | Grattan Playground | Interior

1 2 3

make start location

Apr 2006

M T W T F S S

1 2

3 4 5 6 7 8 9

10 11 12 13 14 15 16

17 18 19 20 21 22 23

24 25 26 27 28 29 30

All Art Country & Western Folk Music Misc

Events Museums & Galleries

Music Rock & Pop Sports

Theater

anti-pattern. missed moments

Lots of opportunities exist if you are careful to catch them

The image shows a screenshot of the Yahoo! Finance website with a stock quote for Apple Computer Inc. (AAPL) and a Farecast overlay. The AAPL quote shows a price of 64.78, down 2.43 (3.62%) from the previous close. The Farecast overlay provides a fare prediction for a flight from San Jose, CA (SJC) to Dallas, TX (DFW) on Friday, Oct 20, 2006. It indicates that the lowest fares are rising by \$50+ on average within the departure date, with a 56% confidence level, and advises to "Buy Now". A fare history chart shows prices starting at \$189 86 days ago and rising to an average of \$356. Below the prediction is a table of flight options with columns for Price, Airline, Airport, Departs, Arrives, and Stops.

YAHOO! FINANCE Welcome **b.scott** [Sign Out, My Account] Yahoo! | My Yahoo! | **Classic Charts** | Help

Enter symbol(s) Symbol Lookup ▾ Technical Indicators ▾ Chart Settings ▾ Sponsored by Vanguard

COMPARE TO:

- COMPETITORS
 - DELL INC (DELL)
 - HEWLETT PA... (HPQ)
 - MICROSOFT... (MSFT)
- INDEXES
 - DOW JONES (^DJI)
 - NASDAQ (^IXIC)
 - S&P 500 (^GSPC)
 - + MORE INDEXES
- RECENT

ADD SYMBOL(S)

CHART TIPS
View Quote Data: The data row above the chart details quote info on the primary symbol you are plotting.

Apple Computer Inc.(AAPL)
NAME: Apple Computer Inc.(AAPL) | LAST TRADE: 64.78 | CHANGE: ▼ 2.43(3.62%) | VOLUME: 35,526,180 | TIME: 4:01pm ET | [More Quote Info](#)

Farecast Beta Know When to Buy | [Home](#) | [Sign Up for Email](#)

All Times (Listed) | **Select Times (Grid)** | [Learn more about List View](#)

Results for:
Leave: **All Times**
San Jose, CA (SJC)
Fri, Oct 20 2006
Return: **All Times**
Dallas, TX (DFW)
Sat, Oct 28 2006
Adults: 1 | [Change Search](#)

Fare Prediction
 Lowest fares rising \$50+
on average within departure date
Confidence: 56%
Tip: Buy Now.

Fare History
87-Day Low: \$189 | Avg Low: \$356

Refine Results [[Reset](#)]
Showing 201 of 201 options

▼ **Price Range**
\$559 | \$1393 | \$1393

▼ **Stops**
 0 | \$1228
 1 | \$559
 2+ | -

▼ **Airlines** [Compare](#)
 Alaska | \$731
 America West | \$636
 American | \$675
 Continental | \$719

Price	Airline	Airport	Departs	Arrives	Stops
\$559* orbitz.com	Multiple Carriers flight details	SJC>DFW	7: 15a	2: 07p	1 4h 52m
\$559* orbitz.com	Multiple Carriers flight details	DFW>SJC	12: 50p	4: 40p	1 5h 50m
\$559* orbitz.com	Multiple Carriers flight details	SJC>DFW	7: 15a	2: 07p	1 4h 52m
\$559* orbitz.com	Multiple Carriers flight details	DFW>SJC	12: 50p	4: 40p	1 5h 50m
\$559* orbitz.com	Multiple Carriers flight details	SJC>DFW	7: 15a	2: 07p	1 4h 52m
\$559* orbitz.com	Multiple Carriers flight details	DFW>SJC	11: 30a	4: 40p	1 7h 10m
\$559* orbitz.com	Multiple Carriers flight details	SJC>DFW	7: 15a	4: 10p	1 6h 55m
\$559* orbitz.com	Multiple Carriers flight details	DFW>SJC	12: 50p	4: 40p	1 5h 50m
\$561* orbitz.com	Multiple Carriers flight details	SJC>DFW	12: 29p	7: 18p	1 4h 49m
\$561* orbitz.com	Multiple Carriers flight details	DFW>SJC	12: 50p	4: 40p	1 5h 50m
\$561* orbitz.com	Multiple Carriers flight details	SJC>DFW	12: 29p	7: 18p	1 4h 49m
\$561* orbitz.com	Multiple Carriers flight details	DFW>SJC	12: 50p	4: 40p	1 5h 50m

Planning Tools
[Flexible? Fares from \\$325](#)
[Track this trip with RSS](#)

Dallas Hotels
[Dallas TX Hotel - Orbitz](#)
Sort Dallas hotels by price, distance & star rating. Orbitz and Go.
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[Dallas Accommodations](#)
Enjoy Golf, Spas, Fine Dining & More - Minutes Away from Dallas.
[ad.doubleclick.net](#)

Activities in Dallas
[ORBITZ: Dallas Vacation](#)
Over 500 vacation destinations

anti-pattern. missed moments

Turns out that a number of events exist during drag and drop that we can use to our advantage.

Step 1. Selecting a Volcano

Topographic maps are available for all the volcanoes in the United States. Topographic and outdoor recreation stores also sell topographic maps. The model made by the USGS in 1250 about Mount St. Helens. [Click here](#) for a site with information on the major dome building episodes. Your model could

Step 2. Creating a Pattern.



YAHOO! GOBBLER™

Scratchpad

[Click here](#)
<http://volcano.und.nodak.edu/vwdocs>

+ Add Website

Projects(7)

“ r sites you will need to install a simple Gobbler Browser Button. Browse... ”

[Landforms: Volcano...](#)

+ Add Website

anti-pattern. **one at a time**

summary

When you can only update small pieces of the interface instead of doing things in a group.

examples

backpackit

anti-pattern. **one at a time**

Key is what is the workflow? One at a time or multiple operations allowed.

These kind of interfaces (in context tools) always present a problem for doing operations on multiple items.

anti-pattern. one at a time

Takes one at a time check box to the extreme

The screenshot shows the MyFutonCritic website. At the top left is the logo for "my FUTON CRITIC" with the tagline "the web's best television resource". On the top right, it says "You are logged in as b.scott@yahoo". Below the logo is a navigation bar with links: HOME, BREAKING NEWS, SHOWS A-Z, TV ON DVD, LISTINGS, RANTS & REVIEWS, SUMMER GUIDE, and RATINGS. Below this is a secondary navigation bar with links: MYHOME, MYNEWS, MYSHOWS, MYDVD, and MYLISTINGS. A search bar labeled "SHOWWATCH" is positioned above a table of TV shows. The table has columns for series, alert me?, date start/end, network, time slot, and status. The "alert me?" column contains checkboxes, some of which are checked.

series	alert me?	date start/end	network	time slot	status
AMAZING RACE, THE	<input type="checkbox"/>	9/5/01 - ???	CBS	completed airing its current season	returning next season (2007-2008 season)
AMERICAN INVENTOR	<input type="checkbox"/>	3/16/06 - ???	ABC	wednesdays (9:00 PM-10:00 PM EST)	returning this summer (yet to premiere)
AMERICA'S FUNNIEST HOME VIDEOS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1/14/90 - ???	ABC	completed airing its current season	returning next season (2007-2008 season)
AMERICA'S GOT TALENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	6/21/06 - ???	NBC	tuesdays (8:00 PM-9:00 PM EST)	returning this summer (yet to premiere)
AMERICA'S MOST WANTED: AMERICA STRIKES BACK	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	2/7/88 - ???	FOX	saturdays (9:00 PM-10:00 PM EST)	currently airing (2006-2007 season)

anti-pattern. **non-symmetrical actions**

summary

when what it takes to activate a window or function is really different that what it takes to deactivate the window or undo the function.

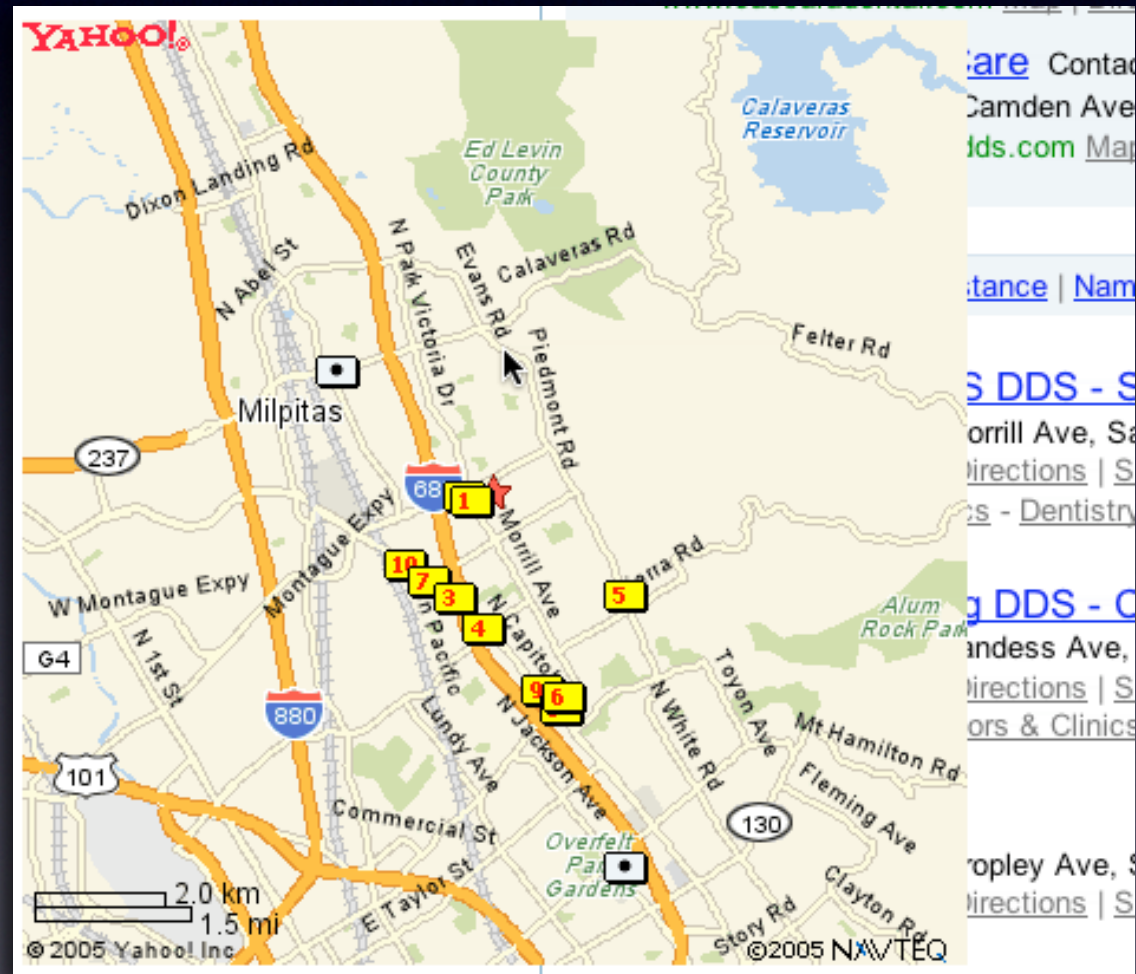
examples

amazon hover popup

solutions

anti-pattern. non-symmetrical actions

Too easy to popup... Too hard to get rid of.



anti-patterns

big ball of mud. **meandering way.**

borg idiom. tiny targets. mystery meat.

buried treasure. **hover and cover.**

pogo stick navigation. novel notions.

against the flow. **metaphor mismatch.**

double duty. linkitus. blind type.

windows aplenty. animation gone wild.

misguided misdirections. unmarked hazards.

missed moments. missing scene.

one at a time. non-symmetrical actions.

my blog.
this prez.

looksgoodworkswell.com

billwscott.com/share/presentations/2007/aesf/

YAHOO! USER INTERFACE BLOG
News and Articles about Designing and Developing with Yahoo! Libraries.

Blog About search in blog...

Yahoo! Design Pattern Library Released

February 13, 2006 on 7:54 am by Bill Scott | In [Design](#) |

I'm excited to announce that today we are releasing the [Yahoo! Design Pattern Library](#) to the public under a friendly [Creative Commons License](#). The goal in releasing this library is for us to share the common patterns that we see emerging at Yahoo! It is hoped that by opening up our design patterns we can share our current thinking as well as solicit your valuable feedback.

We believe design patterns are [powerful](#). First, they offer a solution in context of a problem. Second, they provide a name for the solution. Taken together as a set, pattern libraries form a solution language that can enhance our ability to communicate design ideas. Lastly, they provide us a context in which to discuss a number of associated issues: the thinking behind a solution; issues around accessibility, and de-gradeability; other related patterns; examples of usage; and code samples to name a few.

In case patterns are a new concept to you, here's a little history to get you up to speed.

[Background on Patterns](#)

SYNDICATE
All Entries: [MY YAHOO!](#) [RSS](#)
All Comments: [MY YAHOO!](#) [RSS](#)

RECENT POSTS
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[The Yahoo! User Interface Library](#)
[Yahoo! Design Pattern Library Released](#)
[Search Pagination Design Pattern](#)
[Item Pagination Design Pattern](#)
[Rating an Object Pattern](#)

Developer Network Home Help Site Search Search

YAHOO! DEVELOPER NETWORK

Design Pattern Library

Yahoo! Developer Network > Design Pattern Library

USER NEEDS TO

- NAVIGATE
 - Breadcrumbs
 - Faceted Navigation
 - Fly-out Menus
 - Horizontal Bar
 - Hub and Spoke
 - Left Navigation
 - Tabs
 - Module Tabs
 - Navigation Tabs
- EXPLORE DATA
 - Auto Complete
 - Calendar Picker
- Pagination
 - Item Pagination
 - Search Pagination
- ORGANIZE DATA
- GIVE FEEDBACK
 - Ratings & Reviews
 - Architecture Review
 - Rating an Object
 - Writing a Review
- PERFORM ACTION
- CUSTOMIZE
 - Drag and Drop
 - Drag and Drop Modules
 - Drag and Drop Objects
 - In Page Editing
 - Sliders

APPLICATION NEEDS TO

- CALL ATTENTION
- IMPROVE READABILITY
 - Ratings & Reviews
 - Review Architecture
- GROUP RELATED ITEMS
- ORGANIZE SCREEN/PAGE

Welcome

Welcome to the Yahoo! Design Pattern Library. We are very happy to be sharing our library with the design and development community. This is our first drop of what we hope to be a monthly release cycle for the publication of patterns. In many cases we have bundled the patterns with pointers to related code from the [Yahoo! User Interface Code Library](#). We hope this is a useful resource and look forward to your [feedback](#).

What's a Pattern?

A pattern describes an optimal solution to a common problem within a specific context. [more...](#)

Recent Patterns

- Auto-Complete**
The user needs to enter an item into a text box which could be ambiguous or hard to remember and therefore has the potential to be mis-typed.
- Breadcrumbs**
User needs to navigate potentially large quantities of information efficiently, without becoming lost.
- Drag and Drop Modules**
The user needs to re-arrange the layout of modules on a web page directly with the mouse.
- Module Tabs**
The user needs to navigate through one or more stacked panes of content without refreshing the page.
- Navigation Tabs**
The user needs to navigate through a site to locate content and features and have clear indication of their current location in the site.
- Object Pagination**
The user needs to view data items from a potentially large set of sorted data that will not be easy to display within a single page.
- Results Page**
The user needs to view a set of search results ranked by relevance that is too large to easily display within a single page.
- Rating an Object**
A user wants to quickly leave their opinion on an object, with minimal interruption to any other task flow they are involved in.
- Review Title**
User wants to share her opinion with others about an object (place, person, thing) in greater detail than a simple rating.