

Step 14: Style Guide: Documenting user interface standards for designers and developers.

Purpose of this step:

What it is -

- Bring together a single document that includes all requirements analysis and user interface design of a product
- Bring together all Requirement Analysis in a document to maintain a link in design rationale and the design itself

Overview:

There are several reasons we will want to document a style guide during the Usability Lifecycle

- Too easy to forget information and design decisions
- Documentation ensures information is not lost and tasks are not redone due to turnaround
- Ensures that decisions & requirements are applied to the design
- Consistency – division of labor
- Standardization - Instills a standard look & feel by documenting the Conceptual model Design and screen design standards

Practical application of these principles to your site:

What is included in the style guide?

1. Introduction
2. Overview
3. User Profiles
4. Contextual Tasks
5. Platform capabilities constraints
6. Usability's goals
7. Reengineering work models
8. Conceptual model design
9. Input and output devices
10. Screen design standards
11. Feedback

Where it fits in the usability life cycle

Start: Requirement Analysis phase through the end of Level 2 design (screen design standard)

End: Never ends only stabilizes The product style guide evolves continually changing through the rest of the development life cycle and even after instillation.

Take a look in the beginning of the book you can see that it creeps up throughout the lifecycle.

Examples: See examples of this step in the “Examples” folder.