Drawing for IT Architects

Filip Van Laenen
While you’re waiting:
Be sure to have some paper and pencils ready!

Drawing for IT Architects
ACCU 2021 — 9 March 2021
Filip van Laenen
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If you’re going to remember only one thing from this workshop...
Look at your drawings!
Exercise
You have three seconds to...
Exercise

Draw a rectangle!
The Solution
Alternative Solution
Alternative Solution
Alternative Solution
Ratios

1:1

2:3

Golden Ratio

φ = (1 + \sqrt{5}) / 2 \approx 1.618

1:2
“The” Solution
Exercise
Exercise

Draw a line!
“The” Solution
Alternative Solution
Alternative Solution
Alternative Solution
Alternative Solution
Alternative Solution for the Rectangle
Alternative Solution
Alternative Solution
“The” Solution
Alternative Solution
Alternative Solution
Stroke Widths
“The” Solution
Exercise
Exercise

Two connected rectangles
“The” Solution
Alternative Solution
Alternative Solution
Alternative Solution
Alternative Solution
Alternative Solution
“The” Solution
Stroke Width
Stroke Width Consistency
“The” Solution
What’s This?
What’s This?
What’s This?
What’s This?
What’s This?
What’s This?
“The” Solution
Alternative Solution
Alternative Solution
Alternative Solution
Alternative Solution
Alternative Solution
Alternative Solution
Alternative Solution
“The” Solution
Remember This?
Remember This?
“The” Solution
Alternative Solution
What’s This?
Alternative Solution
Alternative Solution
“The” Solution
HOT
IGNORE
“The” Solution
Use of Colours

- Your viewers won’t be able to ignore the colours you use
- Not all your viewers will be able to see the colours you use

- Use colours to support your point
Still Room for Improvement...
Exercise
Exercise

Draw a rectangle with the word “Text” in it
“The” Solution
“The” Solution
Alternative Solution
Alternative Solution
Alternative Solution
Alternative Solution
Alternative Solution
“The” Solution

Lorem Ipsum
Alternative Solution
Alternative Solution
“The” Solution

Lorem Ipsum
“The” Solution
Alternative Solution

GUI

Application Server

ML

DB

Payments

Payments DB
Exercise
Exercise

Same semantics, but only one colour
Redraw Using Only One Colour!

- GUI
- Application Server
- ML
- DB
- Payments
- Payments DB
A Possible Solution
Line Styles

---

Dash

-.---.---

Dotted

-.--------.-------.
“The” Solution

GUI

Application Server

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A Slightly Better Solution
Features of Inkscape

Object creation

- Drawing: pencil tool (freehand drawing with simple paths), pen tool (creating Bézier curves and straight lines), calligraphy tool (freehand drawing using filled paths representing calligraphic strokes)
- Shape tools: rectangles (may have rounded corners), ellipses (includes circles, arcs, segments), stars/polygons (can be rounded and/or randomized), spirals
- Text tool (multi-line text, full on-canvas editing)
- Embedded bitmaps (with a command to create and embed bitmaps of selected objects)
- Clones ("live" linked copies of objects), including a tool to create patterns and arrangements of clones
A Slightly Better Solution
An Even Better Solution
Question
Who’s Using a Red Pen to Take Notes?
Who’s Using a Black Pen to Take Notes?
Who’s Using a Green Pen to Take Notes?
Anyone Using a Yellow or Orange Pen?
Palettes

● For professional work:
  ○ Ask the marketing department for a palette
  ○ Pick the colors from your web page

● In your free time:
  ○ Create your own palette(s)
Basic Rules for Palettes

- Something blue
  - Green? Purple??
- Another blue/green/purple
- Yellow/orange/red
  - To draw attention
- Grey/purple
  - Peripheral elements
colourlovers.com/palettes
Extract Color Palette from a Picture

“draw me a line” by Gabriel Garcia Marengo on Flickr
- https://www.flickr.com/photos/gabrielgm/9473634297
Add Tints and Shades

- **Tint**: mix a color with white
- **Tone**: mix a color with gray
- **Shade**: mix a color with black
### Palette with Tints and Shades

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Color Code</th>
<th>Tint Color</th>
<th>Shade Color</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BFEEFD</td>
<td>FFFAE7</td>
<td>F4DBD2</td>
<td>CFDBD5</td>
<td>E7EDD9</td>
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<tr>
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<td>9FB7AA</td>
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<td>4E3D00</td>
<td>251109</td>
<td>080A09</td>
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Exercise
Fill a Rectangle with a Pattern
A Solution
Another Solution
More Solutions
More Solutions
More Solutions
More Solutions

1:5  1:4  1:3  1:2  1:1  2:1  3:1  4:1  5:1
Convention from Heraldry

- Or
- Azure
- Purpure
- Vert
- Argent
- Gules
- Sable
Semantics
Topographic Semantics
Color Combinations
Powerful Color Combinations
Dangerous Color Combination
Unfortunate Color Combination
Stroke Color
Another Solution
Other Solutions
“The” Solution
Alternative Solution

- GUI
- Application Server
- Payments DB
- Payments
- DB
- ML
What’s This?
What’s This?
What’s This?
What’s This?
Don’t Do This!
Don’t Do This Either!
Let’s Revisit This
Alternative Solution

- GUI
- Application Server
- ML
- DB
- Payments
- Payments DB
Alternative Solution

- GUI
- Application Server
- ML
- DB
- Payments
- Payments DB
Alternative Solution

GUI

Application Server

Payments

DB

Payments DB

ML
Alternative Solution

GUI

Application Server

ML

DB

Payments

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So Don’t Do This!
And Certainly Not This!
Things to Strive For

- Symmetry
- Balance
- Equal spacing
- Alignment
- Not more than seven items
- A single message
A Thing to Avoid:

- Rounded corners
Troubles with Rounded Corners
Another Thing to Avoid
Inconsistent Drop Shadows
And Finally, Putting Things Together:
What’s This?
What’s This?

Control flow
What’s This?
What’s This?
What’s This?
Connectors Types
Connect to the Center
Spacing, Alignment, Symmetry, Balance
Drawing for IT Architects

Filip van Laenen
Questions?
See You!