Living Style Guide Webinar

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Etube
Living Style Guide Topics

• What is a living style guide
• What problems does it solve
• Who is it for
• How to integrate it with your application development
• The tools for creating your own Living Style Guide
Great UX is Possible in All Applications

• Creating a great UI for your application is the first step towards a great end user experience

• How to incorporate great UX in your app development consistently over time, across projects
What is a Living Style Guide?
LSG what’s that?

• A living style guide sometimes called a Pattern Library is a reference for a team to understand how an application’s UX and UI will look and function.

• A central repository for the visual and functional patterns that make up an application or suite of applications.

• It creates a shared understanding among all team members and is a place for the whole team to reference how something should look, function, and be executed.
Origin/Evolution

- Living Style Guides (LSG) originated from brand guides
- Either printed or a pdf which require layout software to update
- As an application where your team can all contribute a LSG can be more alive than its printed predecessor
Shopify Polaris
Our design system helps us work together to build a great experience for all of Shopify's merchants.

Be principled
Explore what we care about most when we build new features and products.

Write it
Learn how to use language to design a more thoughtful product experience.

Get visual
Find out how we approach the visual elements of our interface with purpose.

Build something
Use components as building blocks as you develop new products and features.
LSG Functional Pattern

Buttons

Use buttons and links to trigger actions. Buttons can contain a combination of a clear label and an icon while links are always text.

Writing labels

Button labels are sentence case and are as short as possible, while clearly explaining what happens when the button is pressed.

- Pay now
- Create group
- Visit documentation
- Submit
- Done
- Click here

Button order

Buttons are sorted by importance from left to right.

Primary Button Standard Button Link button

The only exception to the rule is when buttons are used to move through a sequence of screens (e.g. Getting Started Guides). In those cases, the ‘Back’ standard button would be on the left.

Button types

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Button</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Primary</td>
<td>To call attention to an action on a form, or highlight the strongest call to action on a page. Primary buttons should only appear once per screen (not including the application header or in a modal dialog). Keep in mind that not every screen needs a primary button.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Standard</td>
<td>The standard button for most use cases. Use links for secondary actions, destructive actions such as “Cancel”, or to discourage usage. Links should open in the current window unless the user may lose information, e.g. when filling out a form or the destination is an external site.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Link button</td>
<td>Toggles menus with a set of nested options. Can show more options when clicked.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
LSG Perceptual Pattern

Glyphs
Glyphs are distinguished by their solid shape and knocked-out details. Their recommended size is 24 by 24 pixels, the smallest recommended size for touch interfaces. Glyphs that are not meant for touch should be no smaller than 16 by 16 pixels.

Icons
Icons accommodate for limited space, but are sized for interactive, touch-friendly experiences. They can indicate change, provide visual cues for the eye and increase recognition. We recommend sizing icons at 32 by 32, 64 by 64, and/or 128 by 128 pixels.

Icon Resources
- Icon builder template
Link

Links are used to embed actions or pathways to more information in a sentence.

Examples

Use for text links in larger spans of text.

```
<Link url="https://help.shopify.com/manual">fulfilling orders</Link>
```

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>TYPE</th>
<th>DESCRIPTION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>url</td>
<td>string</td>
<td>The url to link to.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="https://help.shopify.com/">https://help.shopify.com/</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>children</td>
<td>string or React.ReactNode</td>
<td>The content to display inside link</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>fulfilling orders</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>external</td>
<td>boolean</td>
<td>Use for a links that open a different site</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>TRUE FALSE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>onClick</td>
<td>function()</td>
<td>Callback when a link is clicked</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Who is it for?
Is a Pattern Library right for me?

• I’m apart of a small team with no full-time Uxer.
• I’m apart of a large team working on concurrent projects.
• I have trouble coordinating developers and designers.
• I have trouble executing quality UI/UX through shifting development requirements.
No matter the size

• Living Style guides serve to enforce the why and how to implement your design.
Discussion Point

• A living style guide can serve as a mutually agreed upon anchor on how the application should look and function.
• It can serve to facilitate discussions and communication between team members.
Executing designs

• What is designed with specific content in mind at the beginning of a project may not be present in the final application
What problems does it solve?
Increased Productivity

- With style guides, both the development and design teams can move at a faster pace.
- It allows a developer to quickly build a feature that inherits the already established design of the app.
Faster Problem Solving

- Allows designers to adapt existing patterns to solve new problems
- Maintain consistency for the end user UX
Increased Maintainability

• From a technical standpoint, living style guides help to avoid duplicated CSS and page layouts.
• This will leave your application easier to maintain.
Speed up Onboarding

- As a deliverable, a living style guide acts as a personalized bootstrap that another team of developers and designers can pick up, work with, and build upon.
Increased Quality

• The living style guide when integrated with your QA team can help maintain the quality of your UI and consistency for the UX.
Create your own Living Style Guide
Creating your own LSG

• Creating your own living style guide in Mendix can be as simple as linking a series of pages together in a module.

• Or use the Atlas UI Reference App and add your own descriptions of when, where and why to use certain elements.

• I recommend using a separate sandbox app to create the guide so the app can pull up and refereed to during development.
Who should own it?

- Someone involved with the design and/or development of application
- Joint ownership helps reinforces full team involvement
When to create a LSG

- LSG documentation should follow shortly after initial theme is created
- Assign user stories to document patterns created in the previous sprint
LSG iteration

- A living style guide should be seen as an iterative process just as design and development iterates.
- To keep everyone up to date with the latest iterations organize Living Style guide catch-ups. This can be done in tandem with sprint reviews.
Organizing your own LSG

- Category starting points
  - Functional Patterns
  - Perceptual Patterns
  - Page(s) anatomy
  - CSS helper classes
Living Style Guide Module Demo
Living Style Guide Module

• Perspective Release Jan 2018
• Developed by US Expert Services
• Uses the application’s Styles for UI base
• Developed with Admin and User security roles
• Easy to create custom categories/ subcategories/ items
Any Questions?