

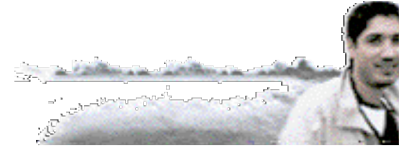


Patterns for Designers?

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CASCON Presentation



My experience in practice



- **2 years experience in using patterns**
 - in a group of 6 experienced interaction designers
- **Patterns for web design and mobile**
- **Internal collection of +/- 60 patterns**
 - a subset is available at www.welie.com/patterns

Paging

Problem User need to browse through a large list of items

Use when Often users need to go through large list of items. This pattern is applicable when the items are too numerous to fit on one page. The items are typically ordered and the users are likely to find their desired item somewhere need the start, for example in searchresults. This pattern is almost always used when the [Search](#) pattern is used. The number of items is typically larger than 10. This pattern can also be applied when large texts need to be read by users.

Solution **Present the results grouped in pages.**

Show navigation of the pages above and below the list of items. Provide a direct link to a particular page and links to the next/previous page. Show around 5 to 10 items at a time. Also show the total number of items and use a title to say what kind of items they are.

Items **11-15** of **34**

[< previous](#) [1](#) [2](#) [3](#) [4](#) [next >](#)

The basic structure for the navigation bar is: "Nr. of items", "previous", "1 2 3 4 5 ...", "next". The "previous" and "next" are only shown when there is a previous/next page.

Why The navigation bar tells the users the most important information about the list; how many items there are, how many they see now and how to get to the rest. By placing the navigation above AND below the list they always have access to the navigation even when scrolling through the current page.

Examples



Result Page: [Previous](#) [1](#) [2](#) [3](#) [4](#) [5](#) [6](#) [7](#) [8](#) [9](#) [10](#) [11](#) [12](#) [13](#) [Next](#)

Known Uses www.google.com

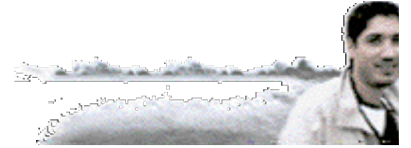
Related Patterns Paging is very similar to [Tabbing](#). However, with Paging the users will typically browse from the first page to other pages in a (semi-) linear way. Moreover, all items together have a taskspecific order while items in Tabbing are ordered on category.



**Are patterns now useful for
experienced designers?**



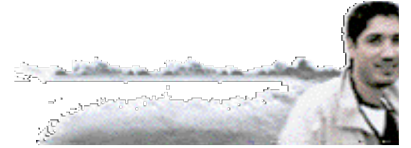
Short answer...



- **No!**
 - Patterns describe established design practice, which experienced designers *should* already know
 - Current patterns are too basic and do not help experienced designers in everyday design problems
 - The current format for patterns is not effective enough for (experienced) designers



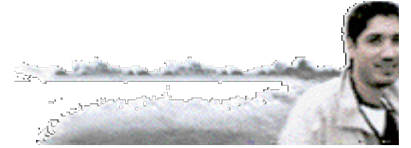
Reasons for using patterns



- **Experienced designers may still use patterns to:**
 - get ideas when design problems need tackling, even if they are being dismissed
 - use them when discussing designs with clients or engineers
 - capture knowledge about domains you never worked on
 - document solutions that are often used by a group of designers
 - stimulates thinking about what works, why and when
 - Otherwise, just think of them as better packaged guidelines.



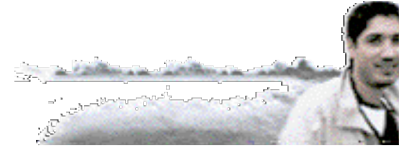
Changes in the near future?



- **Pattern development is progressing towards:**
 - Writing “higher” level patterns that deal with concept design decisions
 - Making patterns better accessible (format, index)
 - Building pattern languages



Towards a pattern language



- **A pattern language is a set of connected patterns**
 - High level patterns deal with high level problems that are broken up in smaller problems.
 - Will deal with all aspects from concept design to detailed dialog design
 - By traversing the language, a design ‘unfolds’

**Task
Level**

Identify

Shopping cart

Wizard

List manager

**Action
Level**

Login

Paging

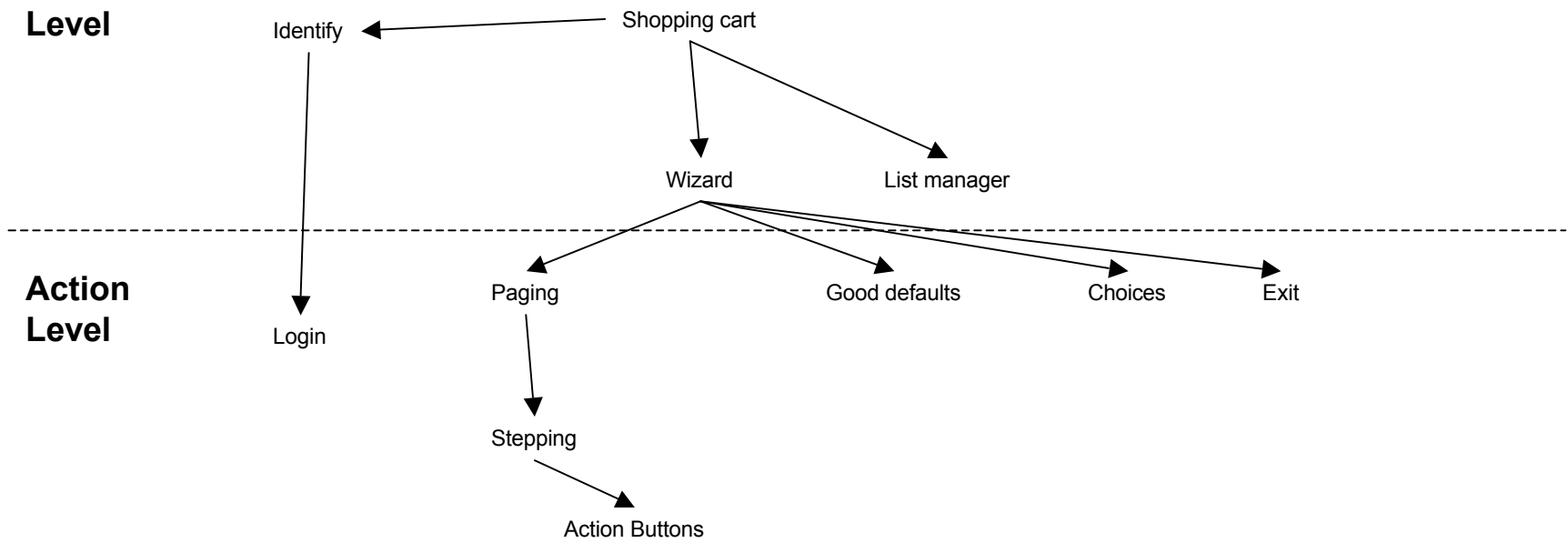
Good defaults

Choices

Exit

Stepping

Action Buttons



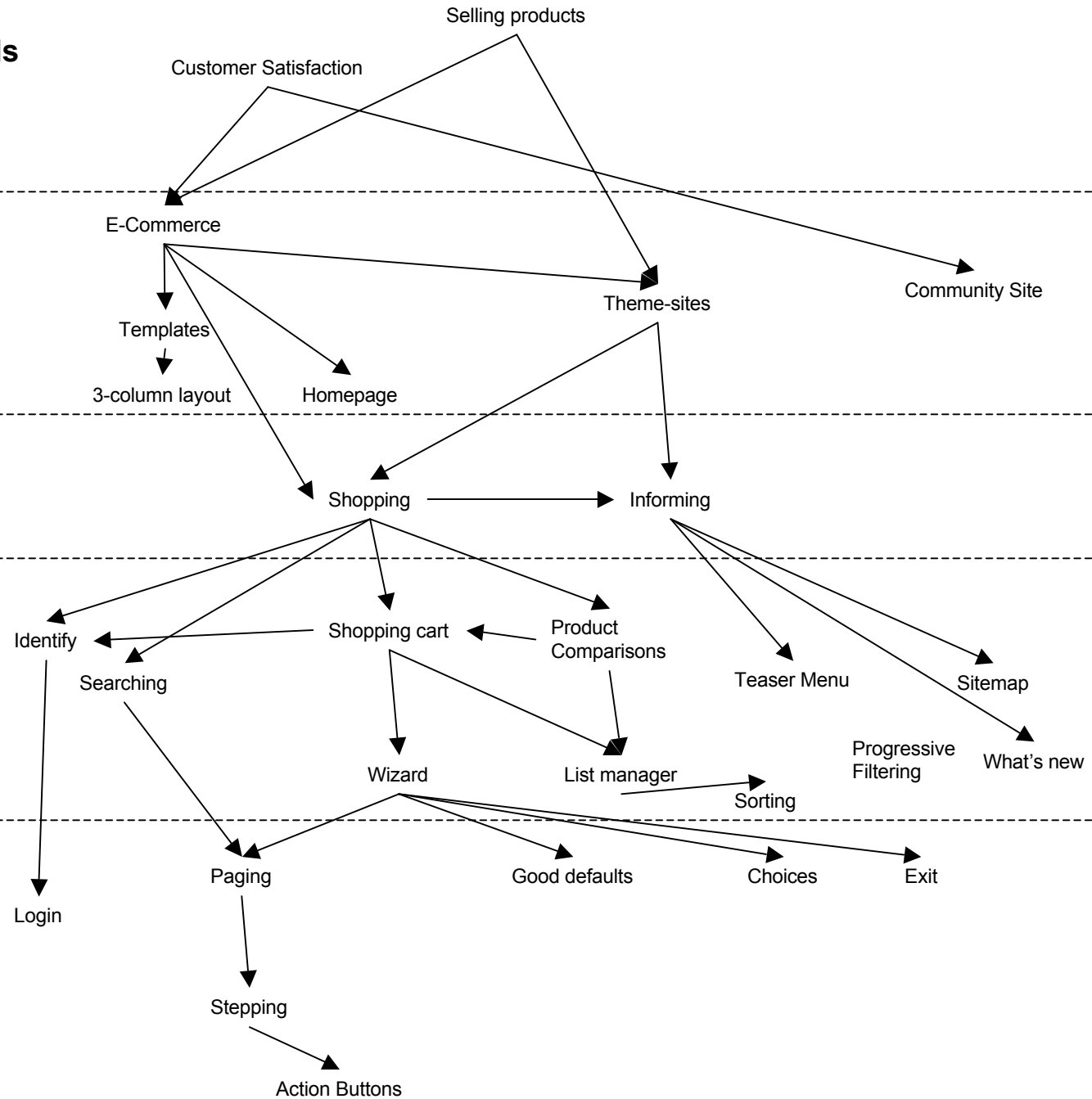
Business Goals

Posture Level

Experience Level

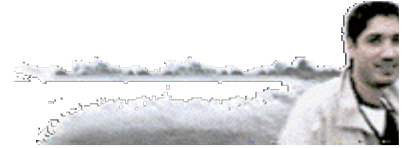
Task Level

Action Level





Summary



- **For experienced designers, pattern *can* be useful tools for reference....but we are not there yet....**
- **When pattern work progresses, the usefulness should increase**