Information Architecture

How we categorize information

Organization Systems

- Organization Schemes
  - *Easy to design and maintain - easy to use*
    - Exact / Objective Organization Schemes
      - Alphabetical Schemes
      - Chronological Schemes
      - Geographical schemes
  - *Difficult to design and maintain - can be difficult to use*
    - Ambigous / Subjective Organization Schemes
      - Topical Organization Schemes
        - Newspapers
        - Academic courses
        - Chapters of nonfiction Books
      - Task-oriented Schemes
        - Intranets and Extranets
        - Word processors and spreadsheets
      - Audience-specific Schemes
        - Open
        - Closed
      - Metaphor-driven Schemes
      - Hybrid Schemes
- Organization Structures
  - Hierarchy
    - Top-Down Approach
    - Bottom-Up Approach
  - Database-oriented
  - Hypertext
- Social Classification
  - User generated Content (e.g. tagging)

How we represent information

Labeling Systems

- Contextual Links
- Headings
- Navigation system choices
- Index terms

How we move through information

Navigation Systems

- Global Navigation
- Local Navigation
- Contextual Navigation

How we search information

Search Systems