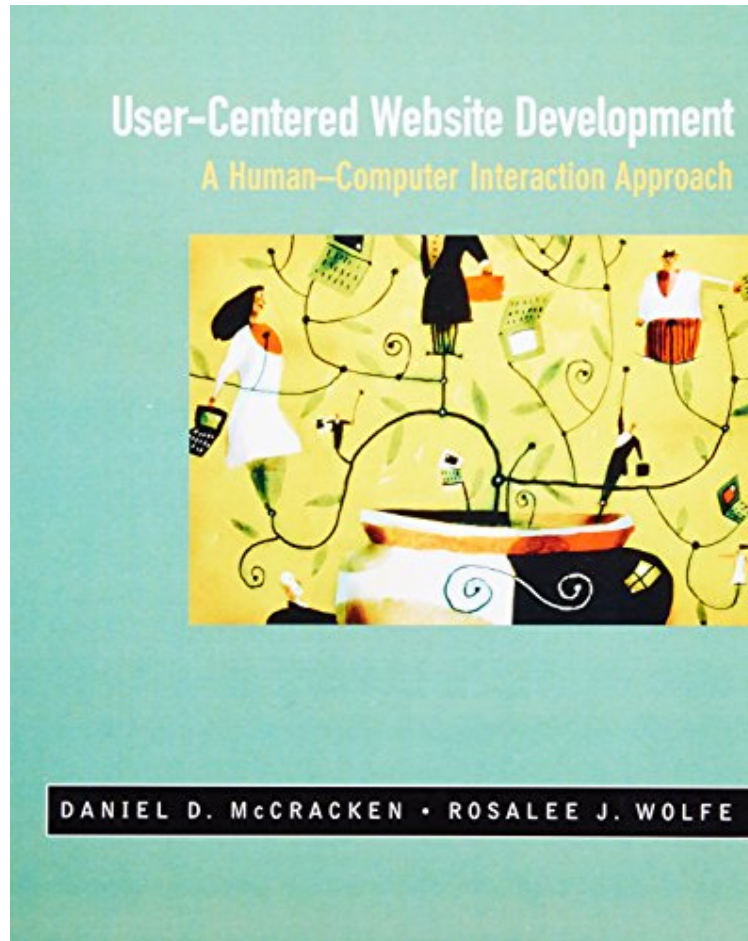


# User-Centered Web Site Development: A Human-Computer Interaction Approach

*Daniel D. McCracken, Rosalee J. Wolfe, Jared M. Spool*

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**Daniel D. McCracken, Rosalee J. Wolfe, Jared M. Spool : User-Centered Web Site Development: A Human-Computer Interaction Approach** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised User-Centered Web Site Development: A Human-Computer Interaction Approach:

8 of 8 people found the following review helpful. Only instructors will get the full value of this bookBy Brett MerkeyUntil it was finally in my hands, I wondered why this book had not received much reviewer attention, given its solid content and authorship. Keys to understanding that at once became obvious:1) The book is much more expensive than books with similar content.2) The eloquent Jared Spool, listed as an author, provided only a short preface.3) The book was designed as a college textbook. Who loves or hates a textbook enough to bother to review it?As a classroom aid, the book is superb. Usability principles are presented from foundations to applications clearly and without padding. Unlike many usability texts, statements are backed with ample references. The color illustrations lighten the

book sufficiently to soften any textbook stigma. Each chapter ended with review questions and exercises. Some of them were very interesting and creative, but if you are not in a classroom with an instructor who has access to the password-protected answers, you are on your own. So the Web professional attracted to the material and learning on his own will inevitably feel a bit cheated out of the full value of the book. 4 of 5 people found the following review helpful. Not worth the price. By A Customer When I first bought this book, I expected to get more out of it in terms of designing web pages with users in mind. It focused a lot on setting up testing centers with a paper system and getting feedback from users. It was very brief on good web design techniques (doesn't cover navigation enough). The hands on exercises leaves something to be desired. Although there were some good ideas in this book, I found myself "hanging" at the end as if there should have been much more. 3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Content Okay - Presentation Poor. By andrea As a previous reviewer suggested, the printing quality of this book is very poor. Every word in each row of the right hand column has been cut off, leaving the reader to guess what should come next. Additionally, this is not a book that is meant to be published in paperback, this is especially evident in the chapter on color, which of course has absolutely no color, but references color wheels (in black and white mind you) and asks you to view images that are meant to show gradations in hue, etc.! One can work through these obstacles, but with a \$50+ price tag, you shouldn't have to. The only reason I did not return my copy, was because I needed it for a class in which I was already behind.

This is an innovative and timely book that introduces the reader to the human component of Web site design. Readers will be able to do a much better job of writing front ends or other interactive software, as the book describes the creation of user-friendly Web sites. In the context of Human-Computer Interaction and Web design, this book covers such topics as user and task analysis, content organization, visual organization, navigation design, prototyping, and evaluation, as well as color, typography, multimedia, accessibility, globalization. For individuals interested in entering the field of Web page and site design, as well as industrial team workers in HCI and Web site development.

"This is the kind of book I've been searching for!" Robert Renman, Augustana University College "I used your textbook in draft form this past semester for my undergraduate HCI course. It was fantastic. The students loved it, I loved it, and we had a great time. I think they learned a lot." Mary Jane Wiltshire, School of Engineering, University of Portland "I really like the book and think that it would fit into the course I'm going to teach in the fall." John K. Estelt, Ohio Northern University From the Back Cover Here is a book that presents Web design as an application of key ideas of Human-Computer Interaction (HCI). This text is the only one of its kind that addresses Human-Computer Interaction as it relates to website design. It stresses HCI principles, not just Web implementation techniques. The book provides a working knowledge of Web design. aimed at creating Web pages and sites that are attractive and user-friendly. while allowing students to become familiar with the concepts and terminology of Web design as a basis for further study. Major themes include: Human Computer Interaction: Chapters 1-8 cover the importance of knowing your customer and the significance of visual and content organization of a website, as well as navigation design and the crucial issues of prototyping and user testing. Supporting Disciplines: The impact of color, typography, and multimedia are discussed in terms of website development. Major Web Issues: The significance of accessibility, globalization, and personalization are discussed in the context of a successful website. Rich in pedagogy, the book contains more than 300 review questions, exercises, and projects. A full suite of instructor supplements is also available. About the Author Don McCracken is Professor of Computer Science at City College, CUNY, and the author of more than 20 textbooks in computer science. He is a past president of ACM and the 1992 recipient of the ACM SIGCSE Award for Outstanding Contributions to Computer Science Education. Rosalee Wolf is Professor of Computer Science at the School of Computer Science, Telecommunications and Information Systems of DePaul University, where she was the first Director of the HCI program and was instrumental in creating the first bachelor's program and the second master's program in HCI in the United States. A -former NASA fellow, she leads the groundbreaking American Sign Language project at DePaul.