Font usability design guidelines

Description

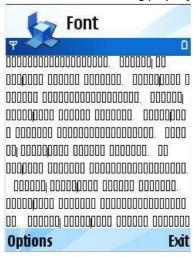
Font is defined as a design describing size, style, height and thickness for a groups of characters. E.g. a group of characters for Times New Roman for a certain size(lets say 10) is a font. While doing the usability design it is important to ensure that due consideration is placed on the right usage of the fonts, in terms of their style, size, color, highlighting/underline patterns etc. A rightly used font to display text/information to the user can go a long way in providing higher usability index for the application.

Some usability guidelines

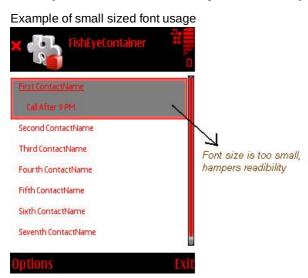
- Unless required, try to use the fonts which are already defined by the system.
- If you are using custom fonts that not defined in system then make sure that it will render properly on all devices

Custom font rendering properly on device Custom font not rendering properly device

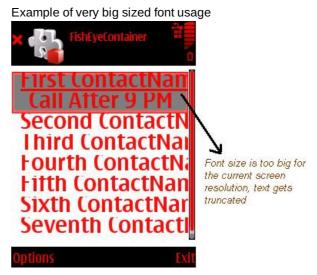


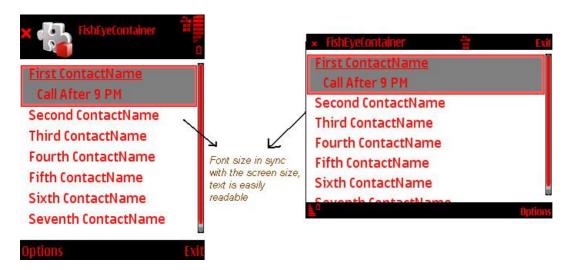


- While defining the font size, the screen resolution must be kept in mind.
- Keep the font size which is in sync with the display screen space available to the application.



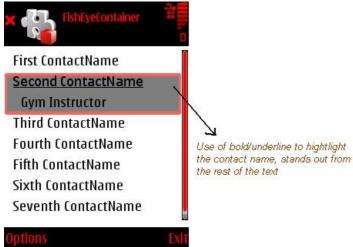
Example of right sized font usage



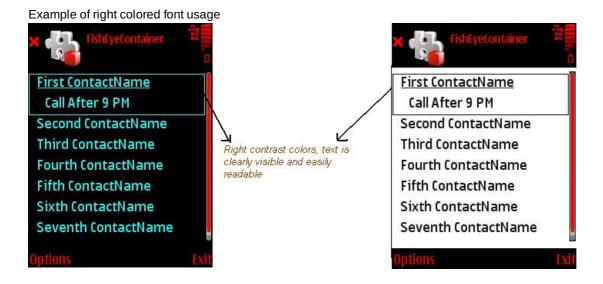


- Font should make text easily readable. Font properties like color/size/style should make the text look nice on the UI.
- While using background images, use a proper combination of font type and colour so that the text is readable.
- Keep the backgrounds behind your text solid and plain, it is more readable.
- Because blue-receptors in the eye are least numerous, avoid blue for small font.
- It serves to use the font in sync with the overall theme color/background image combinations to give it a harmonious look on the UI.
- One can make use of bold font styles or use underlines etc so that the text looks highlighted and easily noticable.

Example of underline/bold font usage



• The best combination for readability is black font on a white background and vice versa.



Read more on font

- Using fonts
- Custom font