Layout Essentials

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Presentation Goal

Learn about essentials
for well-designed screens

Equal Widths

Equal width indicate similar function

Equal Line Heights

Balance and Symmetry

Stable Layout

Align Font Baselines

Poor alignment of components and font baselines

Minimal Widths

- For example buttons need a minimal width
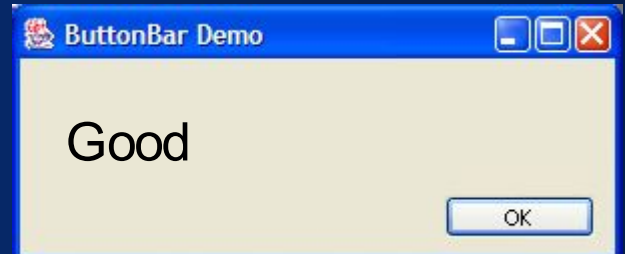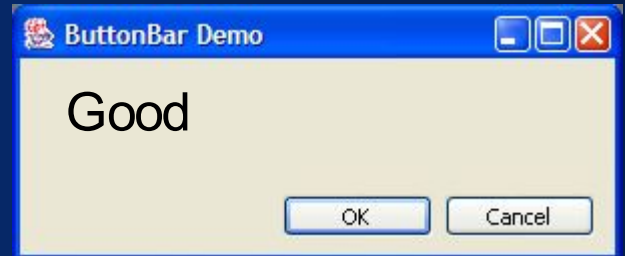
Scale with Font and Resolution
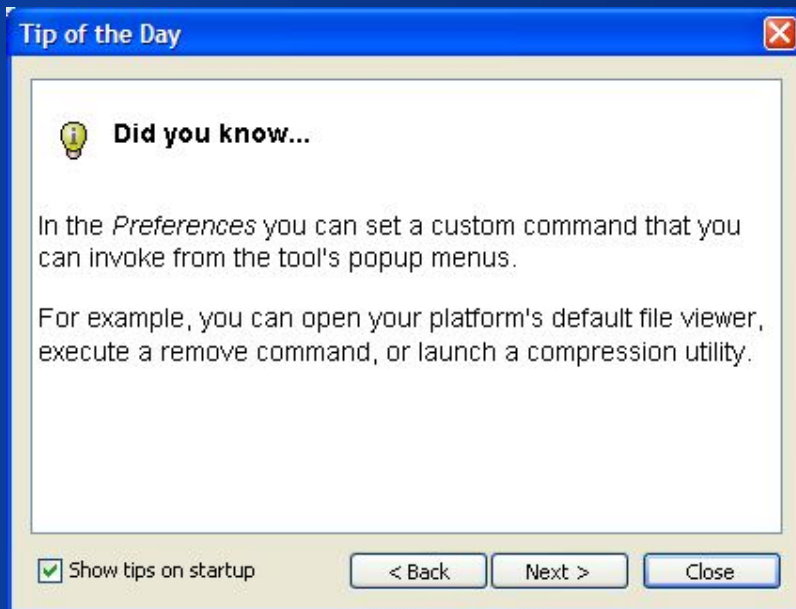
96dpi

120dpi

No Pixel Sizes in Screen Design!

Otherwise layout does not retain proportions
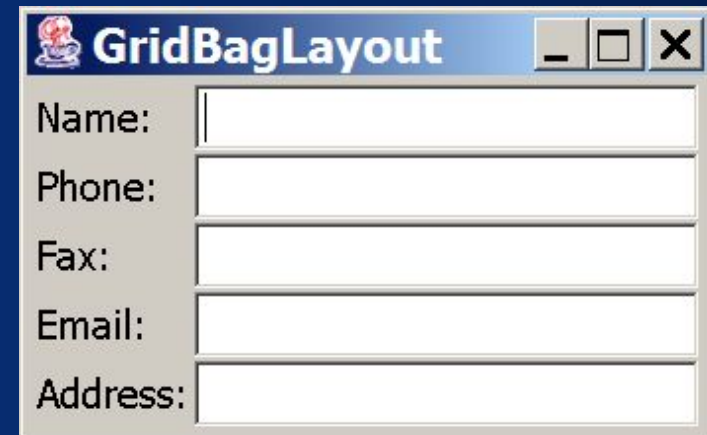
96dpi
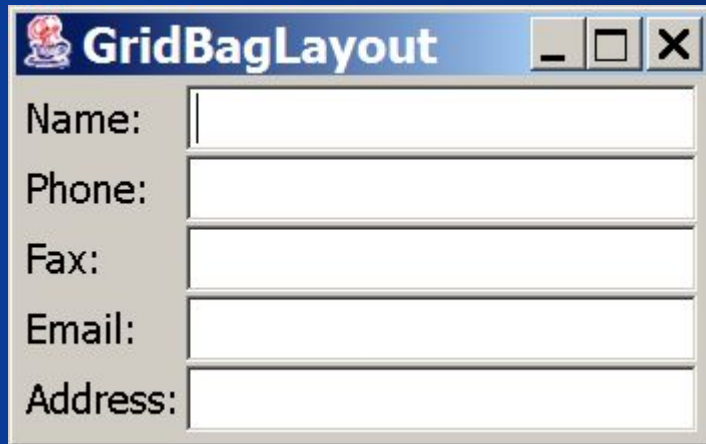
180dpi

Appropriate White Space

Bad

Good

Aesthetic Aspect Ratios

Instable

Stable

References

- Design Specifications and Guidelines
  msdn.microsoft.com

- Aqua Human Interface Guidelines
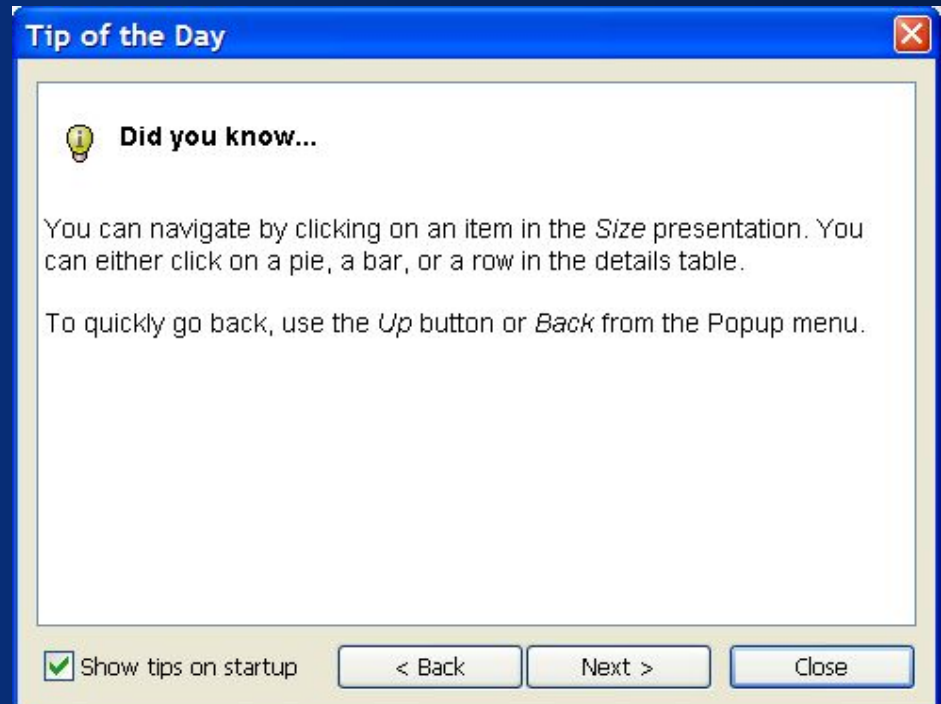 www.apple.com/developer/

- Grid Systems in Graphic Design
  Josef Müller-Brockmann

- JGoodies Forms
  www.JavaDesktop.org

Readings: Design

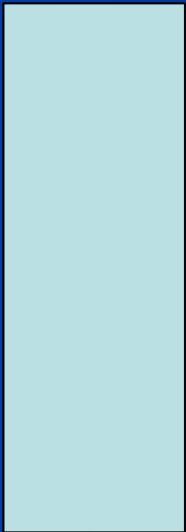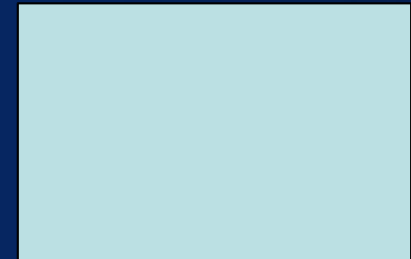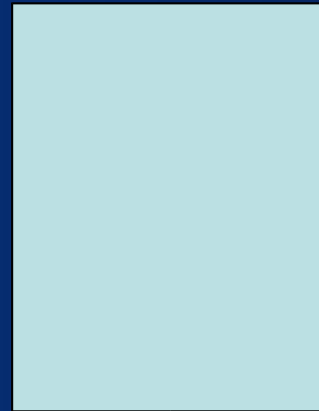Mullet & Sano: *Designing Visual Interfaces*

- All about: visual variables, scale, contrast, proportion, organization and visual structure
- Many useful examples
- Interesting and easy to read
- 250 pages with many screenshots