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How a maturation in interface design has brought user experience to a new paradigm, where function meets aesthetics in harmony, yielding a passive user.

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Abstract

This research paper investigates how skeuomorphism presents a sense of familiarity in user interfaces, while simultaneously failing to embrace digital experiences. The eschewing of skeuomorphism has given way to an interface design which offers users a sophisticated versatility in which design complements functionality where it once incorporated ornamentation.

This paper will find how flat design in user interfaces – within the restraints of minimalism – can handle increased complexity while embracing the real limitations of the digital experience, thus eradicating the imposed limitations of skeuomorphism. This paper also seeks to expose how, by presenting a clear and engaging design rather than disguising and warping that interface to mimic something nostalgic, flat design imposes a ubiquitous augmentation which yields a greater user experience and passivity.