

PRINCIPLE FIVE: **Tolerance for Error**

The design

minimizes hazards

and the adverse

consequences of

accidental or

unintended

actions.

principle five

TOLERANCE FOR ERROR



5a1

Shop machinery power control includes a ridge guard around the “START” button, minimizing accidental activation.



5a2

Lip or curb at sides of ramp reduces risk of slipping off.



5a3

Bagel slicer shields hands from blade while holding bagel securely.

GUIDELINE 5A:

Arrange elements to minimize hazards and errors: most used elements, most accessible; hazardous elements eliminated, isolated, or shielded.

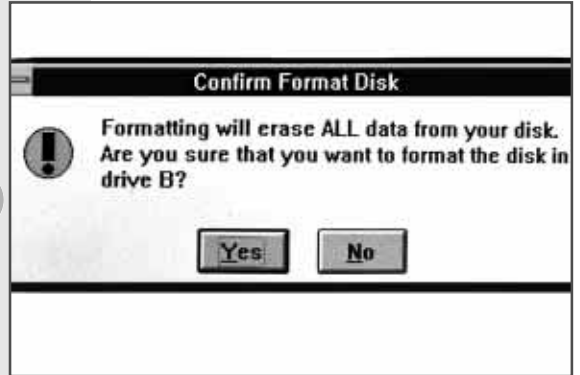
principle five

TOLERANCE FOR ERROR

GUIDELINE 5B:

Provide warnings of hazards and errors.

Computer disk management software warns user of consequences prior to formatting.



5b1

Prominent escalator labeling advises parents of potential hazards to children.



5b2

Strong graphic message on sticker augments package warnings to discourage children from accidental ingestion of household poisons.



5b3



Red tip on contact lens cleaner bottle warns user not to confuse with eye drop bottle of identical shape.



5b4

principle five

TOLERANCE FOR ERROR



5c1

Double-cut auto key is always right side up.



5c2

Clothing iron shuts off automatically after 5 minutes of non-use.



5c3

Ground-fault interrupter (GFI) electrical outlet reduces risk of shock in bathrooms and kitchens.

“UNDO” option allows computer user to correct mistakes without penalty.



5c4

GUIDELINE 5C:

Provide fail safe features.

principle five

TOLERANCE FOR ERROR

GUIDELINE 5D:

Discourage unconscious action in tasks that require vigilance.

“Deadman” handle on power lawnmower requires the user to squeeze together the lever and handle to keep engine running.



5d1

Sodium content critical to special diets is marked prominently on soup can label.



5d2

Unique configuration of cable terminals discourages unconscious accidents in connecting computer components.



5d3

TOLERANCE FOR ERROR

Photography Credits

- 5a1. The Center for Universal Design, Raleigh, North Carolina
- 5a2. The Center for Universal Design, Raleigh, North Carolina
- 5a3. Larien Products, Northampton, Massachusetts

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- 5b4. J.L. Mueller, Inc., Chantilly, Virginia

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- 5c3. The Center for Universal Design, Raleigh, North Carolina
- 5c4. The Center for Universal Design, Raleigh, North Carolina

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