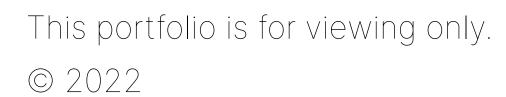
# Design Portfolio

Ali Noorani



### About me



Hi, My name is Ali Noorani.

I am a UX Designer with a MULTIDISCIPLINARY background in graphic design, television and journalism.

I am a great storyteller.

Here is my design portfolio in 3 parts. Plus more!

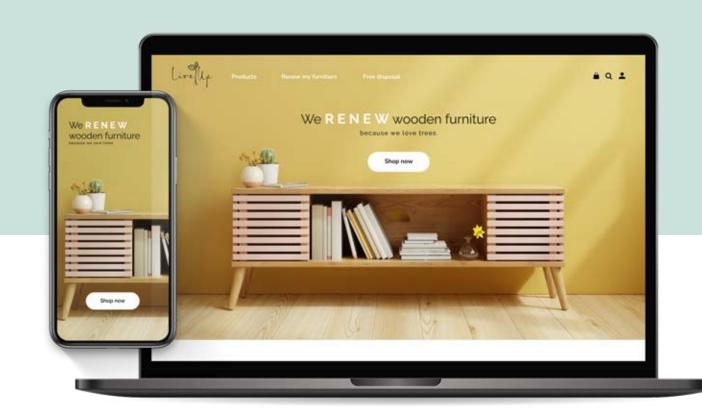




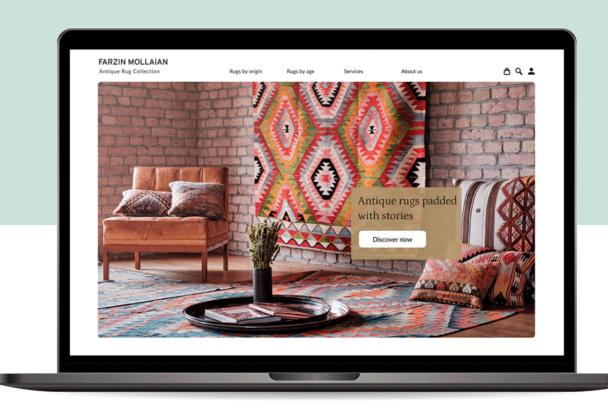




### **Table of Contents**



Wooden furniture renewal website



Antique rugs online store website



Crowdfunding Logo & Stationery set

BRANDING

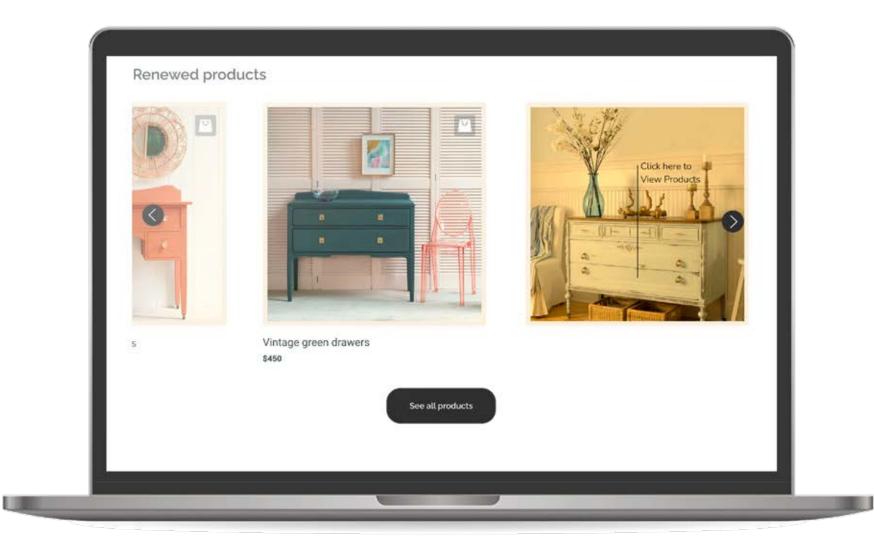
WEBSITE RE-DESIGN WEB DESIGN Page 5 Page 28

Page 53

The first two samples are class projects completed during my UX design courses. The third is a logo and branding proposal which was short-listed for the final stage in a design competition.

### Porject I: Live Up

A case study of Furniture Renewal service



### Project Overview

To put what I learned from my UX/UI courses into action I designed an e-commerce website with two of my classmates. Our interest in SUSTAINABLE BUSINESSES AND CARE FOR NATURE led us to create "Live Up".



#### Key deliverables

Business goals

User journey

UI kit and branding

High-fidelity prototype

#### My Role

I was the UX/UI designer and was involved in every step from ideation to prototyping.

I also designed the LOGO for this brand.

#### **Product**

Website (Mobile and desktop versions)

#### Team

3 people

#### Duration

5 weeks

#### Tools

Figma, Photoshop, Illustrator, Maze, Miro, Google Forms

### What is LiveUp?

### Why should we renew wooden furniture?

"Live Up" is a carpentry workshop that renews old wooden furniture according to the customer's specification and recycles usable wood wastes into new furniture.

Live Up cares about extending the lifespan of the wood rather than its commercial and consumerist lifespan.



#### Why Renew?

- Wood products reach their actual lifespan
- Reduces the need to cut down trees
- Old pieces with valuable stories can be maintained and reused with a fresh look.

### Objectives

Encouraging users to buy sustainable products by showing how UNIQUE AND USABLE renewed products can be.

Introducing our new service, renewing client's old wooden furniture, in a way that MOTIVATES USERS TO TRY IT.

Providing a HASSLE-FREE PURCHASING experience

#### Design goal

To create an Empathetic and Junique design.



#### Kickoff

We started by asking the stakeholders some initial key questions.

#### Who?

- 1. Who will the users be?
- People who have old furniture pieces with sentimental values and want to maintain them.
- People who want to buy new furniture while protecting environment.
- 2- Culture
- Those who care about environment
- Those who prefer unique items with stories rather than mass produced pieces.

#### Where?

A small workshop in Europe.

#### When?

- When they need their furniture be renewed
- When they want to buy a renewed unique item

#### What?

- 1- What products should be sold on the website?

  Renewed furniture.
- 2- What services would the website provide?
- Renewing people's old wooden furniture.
- Free pick-up service for wooden items that can be salvaged.
- Selling renewed furniture sourced from various paths

#### Why?

Why would people renew their worn-out furniture?

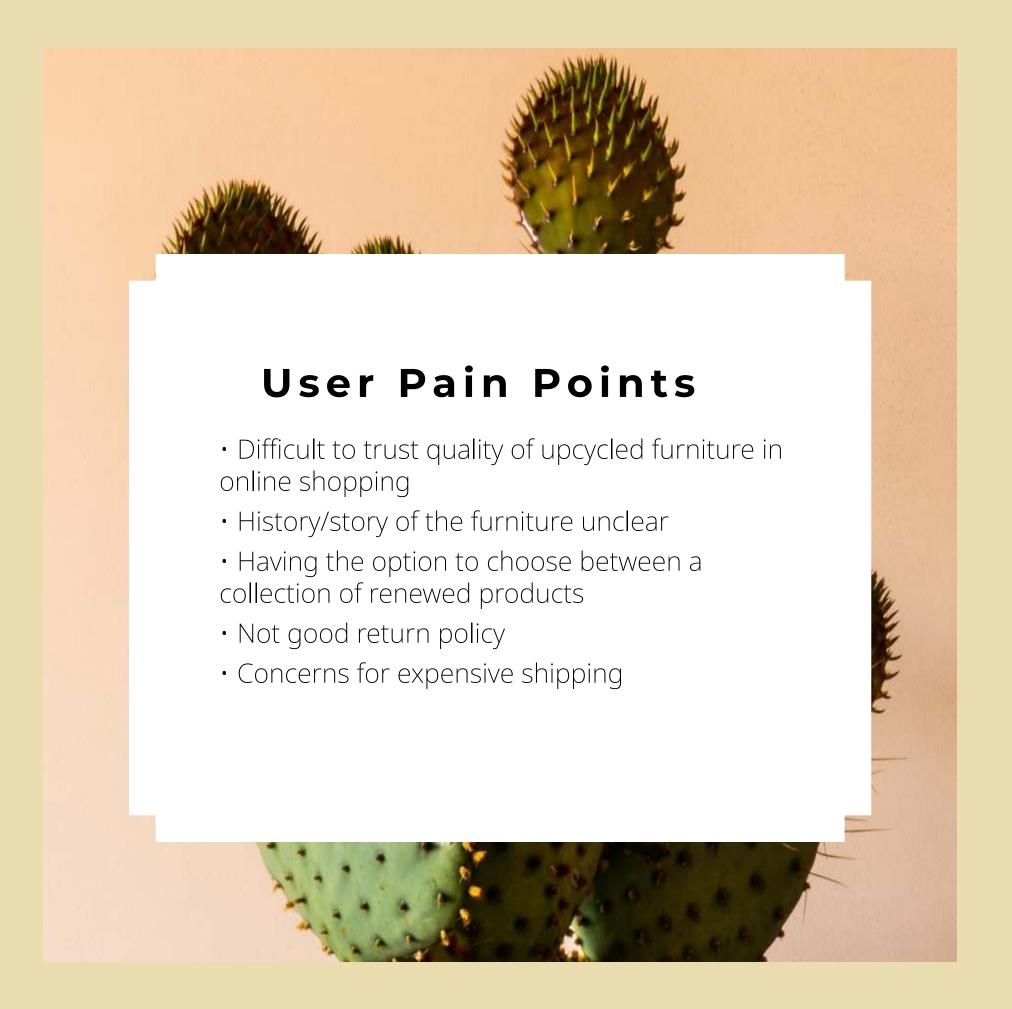
- · Increase the lifespan of their furniture.
- · Reduce costs.
- Keep using an item with sentimental value.
- Contribute to saving trees.



### DISCOVER

#### User research

We began by designing a survey asking over 60 people to answer a few key questions.



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#### **Probable Solutions**

- Build positive energy by the experience of past users
- Create a good experience in shopping for renewed furniture
- Show the variety of our products in a pleasant way
- Increase sales by highlighting features like free shipping and return policy
- Share the details of furniture's history

#### Survey Results

To better understand customer needs, we conducted a survey. A group of 63 people responded most of whom were women. Around 80% of respondents were between the age of 20 and 39 and some 65 percent of them were married.

#### Gem 1 People care

Through the survey, we found that the majority of respondents were environment-conscious and did think about reducing their impact on earth when shopping. That was good news!

#### Gem 3 People want it

The majority of respondents said they may consider using a service to turn their old furniture into something more stylish and practical.

#### Gem 2 Old furniture

Most of them do have a piece of furniture with sentimental value in their family that needs renewal, and more interestingly, most of them think about having them renewed.

#### Gem 4 Disposal

Additionally, we found that the majority of people do not use bulk waste disposal services, meaning that there is an opportunity for us to pick up their unwanted wooden furniture and use it as material for renewed products. This would take the burden of disposal off their shoulders and provide a steady source of used wood for the workshop.

# Competitive Analysis

Searching and asking around for websites offering renewed products or furniture renewal service, I realized that there weren't many websites focusing on this area. There are a few websites in the upcycling business and some of them are focused on selling DIY tools.

The competitive analysis helped us identify key features offered by the competition.

	The Upcycled Trading Co.  Paint Supplies · Upcycled Furniture · Local Artisan Products  www.tutco.co.uk/  Small shop in UK owned by an interior designer	THE UPCYCLE COMPANY www.theupcyclecompany.co.uk/ Company with three desingers in UK	Attic.furniture.qld www.atticfurnitureqld.com/ Small shop in Australia	UpCycle www.Upcycle.berlin.com Workshop in Berlin
Products	<ul> <li>Repurposed furniture</li> <li>Furniture Paint and accessories</li> <li>Recycled gift wrap and cards</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Chalk paint and accessories</li> <li>Very few Upcycled Furniture</li> </ul>	Eco furniture upcycling	Table     Beside tables     Shelves     Beds
Services	<ul> <li>Furniture restyling</li> <li>Lighting products upcycling</li> <li>Workshops</li> </ul>	Free consultation	Accepting commissions	X
Online Shop	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Gallery	Yes	X	Yes	Yes
Product page	Yes	Yes	Yes	x
Product gallery	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Blog	Yes	Yes	X	x
Free delivery	Yes (Inside mainland UK)	X	X	x
Testimonials	Yes	X	X	Yes
Getting a Quote	<ul><li>Phone number</li><li>Simple contact form</li></ul>	<ul> <li>Detailed form with photo upload feature</li> <li>Color choice based on provided guide</li> </ul>	Contact form or Instagram	X
Free disposal/ pick up	X	X	X	x

#### Major takeaways

The only competitor in Europe was in Beriln and the others were in UK or Australia.

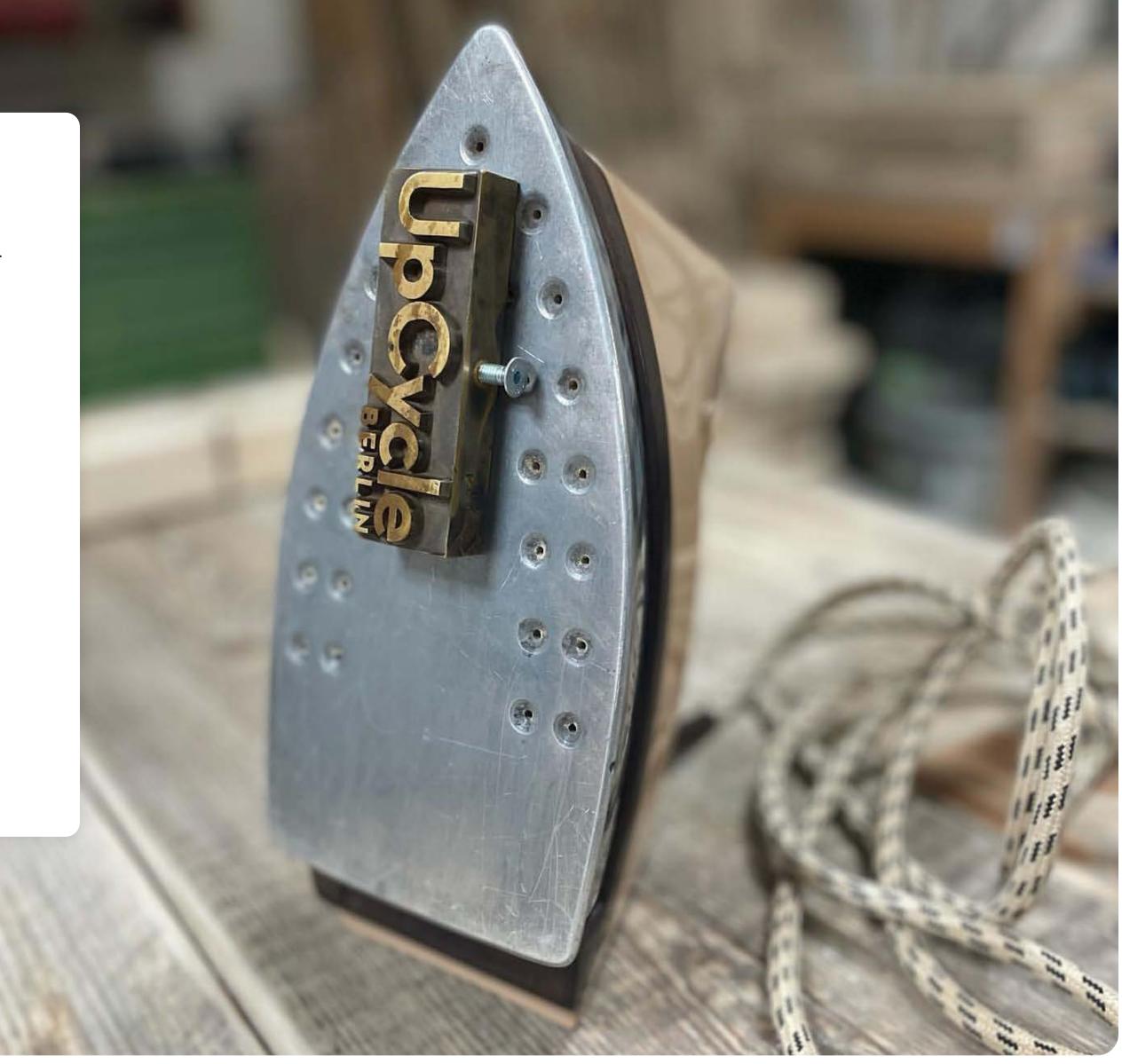
**Upcyle.berlin** seems the most comprehensive competitor.

- It nicely emphasizes its business values by a counter of how many trees saved.
- They have useful information about process with photos and gifs dispelling many concerns.
- They show the eco-friendly nature of their company by emphasizing lumbers sourced from construction companies.
- They also have a virtual tour of workshop. Nice to have.

**Atelier Tutco** offers beautiful photos of the renewal process that feel friendly and professional.

The Upcycled Company has a detailed quote page where users can input their desired colors and design.

**Attic Furniture** takes lovely photographs of her pastel-colored works in minimal sunlit settings.



MAGE COURTESY OF UPCYCLE.BERLIN



### Value Proposition

Live Up. One tree, many stories.

We make old and valuable wooden furniture prettier and more usable.

We take into account the actual lifetime of a product and believe that wood waste can be greatly minimized by upcycling woodcrafts and furniture into different usable products with new looks. We care about the story behind every piece and we think they are mostly worth maintaining.

### **Affinity Diagram**

We interviewed five respondents who were ready to talk more about their opinions and came up with an affinity diagram to lead our design process.

#### Price

Buying a renewed

product for me

means saving

I like buying second

hand things and if it

is one of a kind, the

price won't stop me

from buying it.

money.

As long as I'm satisfied with the quality, I don't mind paying for a secondhand item.

I'd pay even more for a renewed product with a unique story and style rather than a mass-produced one.

If it costs more than a new item, I probably won't purchase it.

I think the price of renewd products shouldn't matter becasue they bring a lot of value.

#### Product quality

An older furniture has

a quality that a brand

new one can't have

which is the history

I don't expect a used

furniture to have a

high quality even if

While renewing a used

product the flaws of

the initial design will

it even a higher

quality.

appear. So, we can give

it's renewed.

behind it.

A second hand product can hardly compete with a brand new one when it comes to quality.

The products should be renewed using high quality material in order to last as long as possible.

The price is not a problem as long as the quality is quaranteed.

I am a fan of purchasing second hand items and I appreciate having better quality options.

I'd only consider purchsing from such websites if they offer hassle-free logistics.

It is almost impossible and quite expensive for me to pick up the furniture.

I want to recieve the product at my door without worrying about the

distance.

An unreasonable delivery fee can be a deal-breaker for me.

Delivery

I'd be concerned that the product could be damaged during delivery process.

### Persona

The persona was chosen based on survey results and consulations with stakeholder.

#### Amy Brown

SCHOOL TEACHER



Age:

38

Location:

Europe

Education:

**Master Degree** 

Family:

Married

"One tree, many stories"

#### **Behaviors**

- Sympathetic character
- Enjoys DIY projects
- Believes in harvesting the power of social media for good

#### Goals and needs

- Raise awareness about upcycling
- Contribute to a greener world
- Use her creative taste

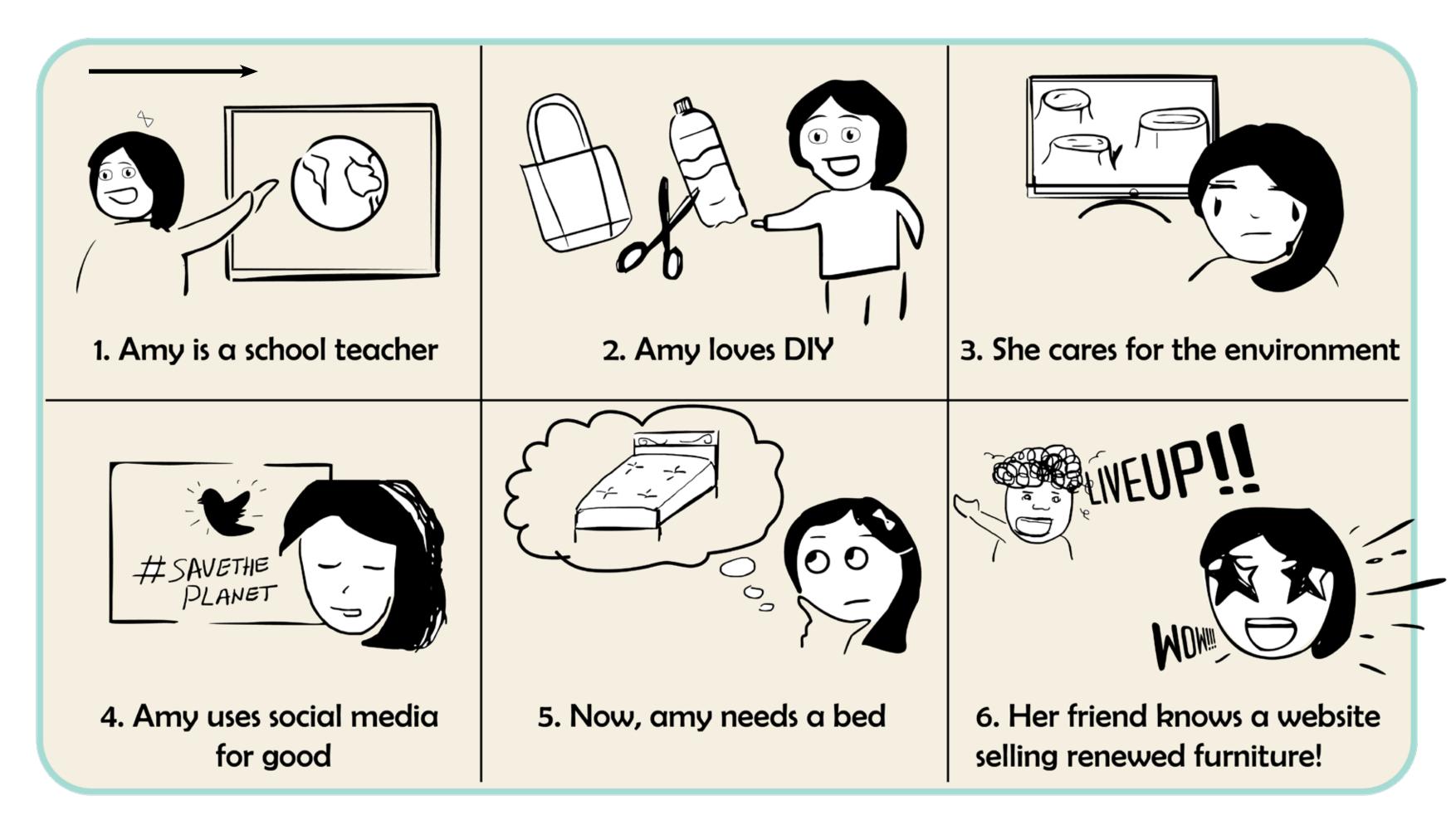
#### Frustrations

- Needs a wooden furniture
- Avoids high shipping costs
- Worried about global warming

### Storyboard

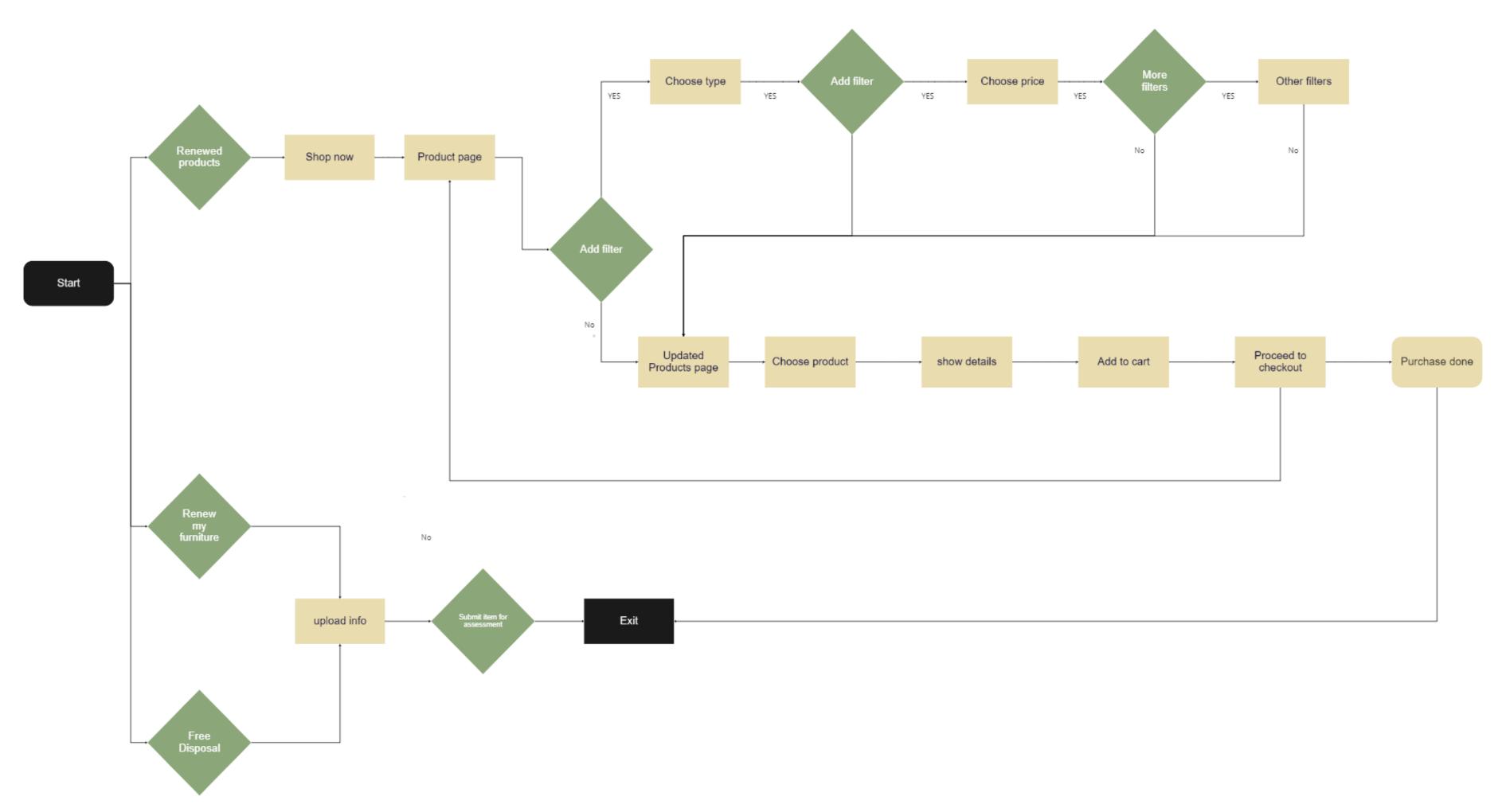
I scribbled these on my phone and edited them on Illustrator.

This was my first ever visual storyboard. Fun to try and convey the context with pictures. Stories are very powerful.



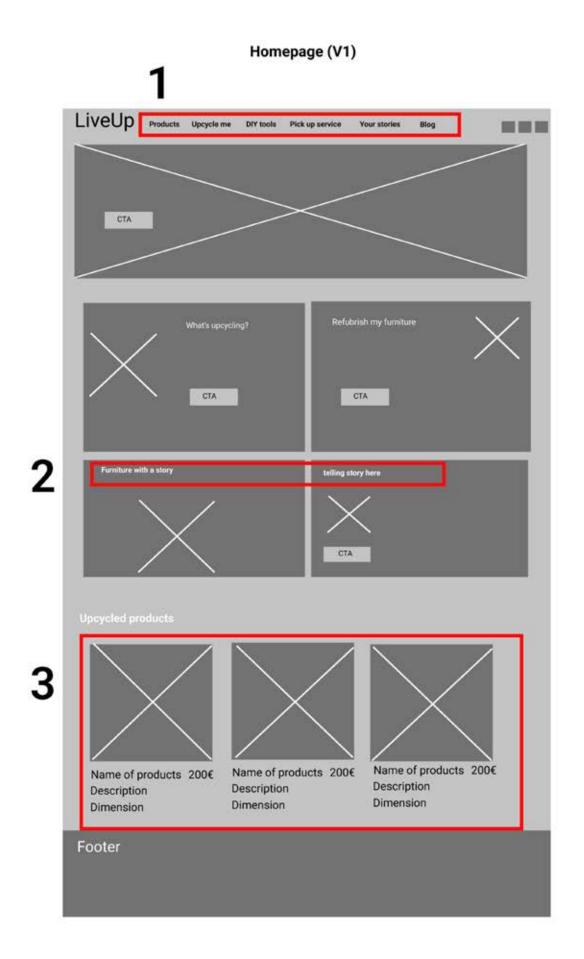
### User flow

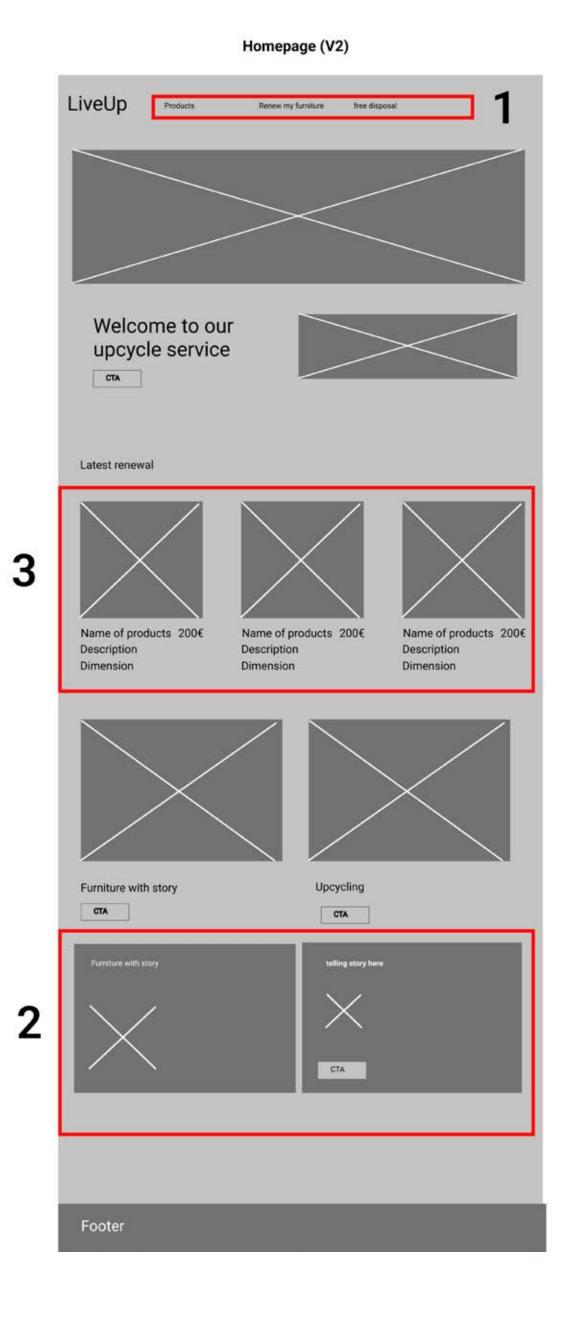
Shows a user's interaction journey from the beginning of the purchase.



### IA & usability testing

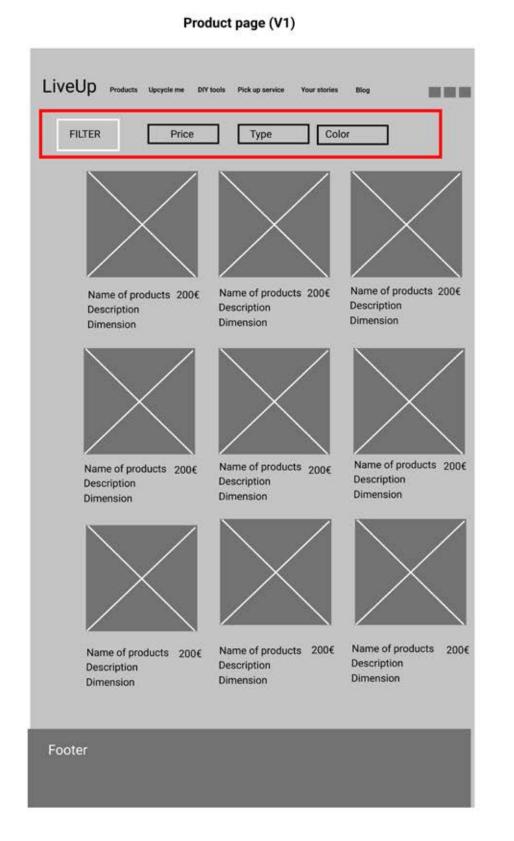
- We used card sorting for optimizing information architecture process.
- As a result of competitive analysis we realized that businesses like LiveUp have only 3 to 4 categories on their global navigation bar.
- I wanted to clarify whether fewer categories were logical to the majority of users or not.
- The four main categories and six sub-categories were given to users asking them to sort the items into these predetermined groups.
- You can see two different versions.



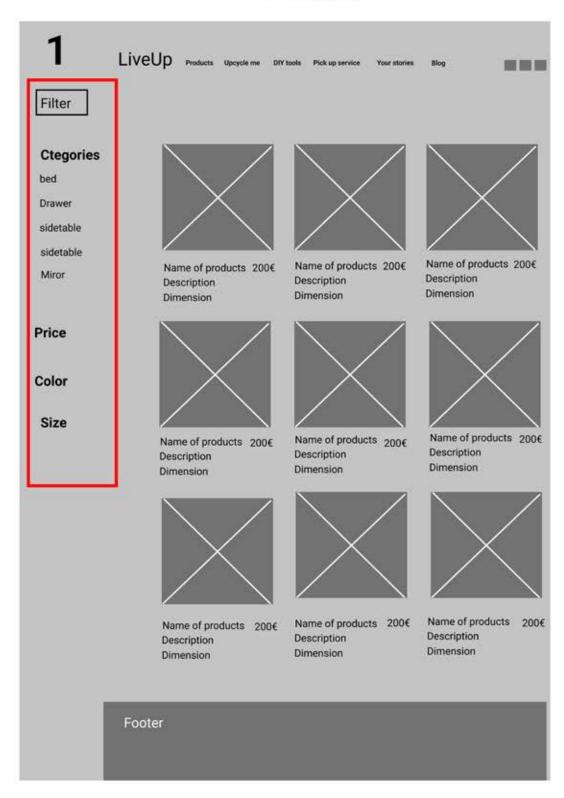


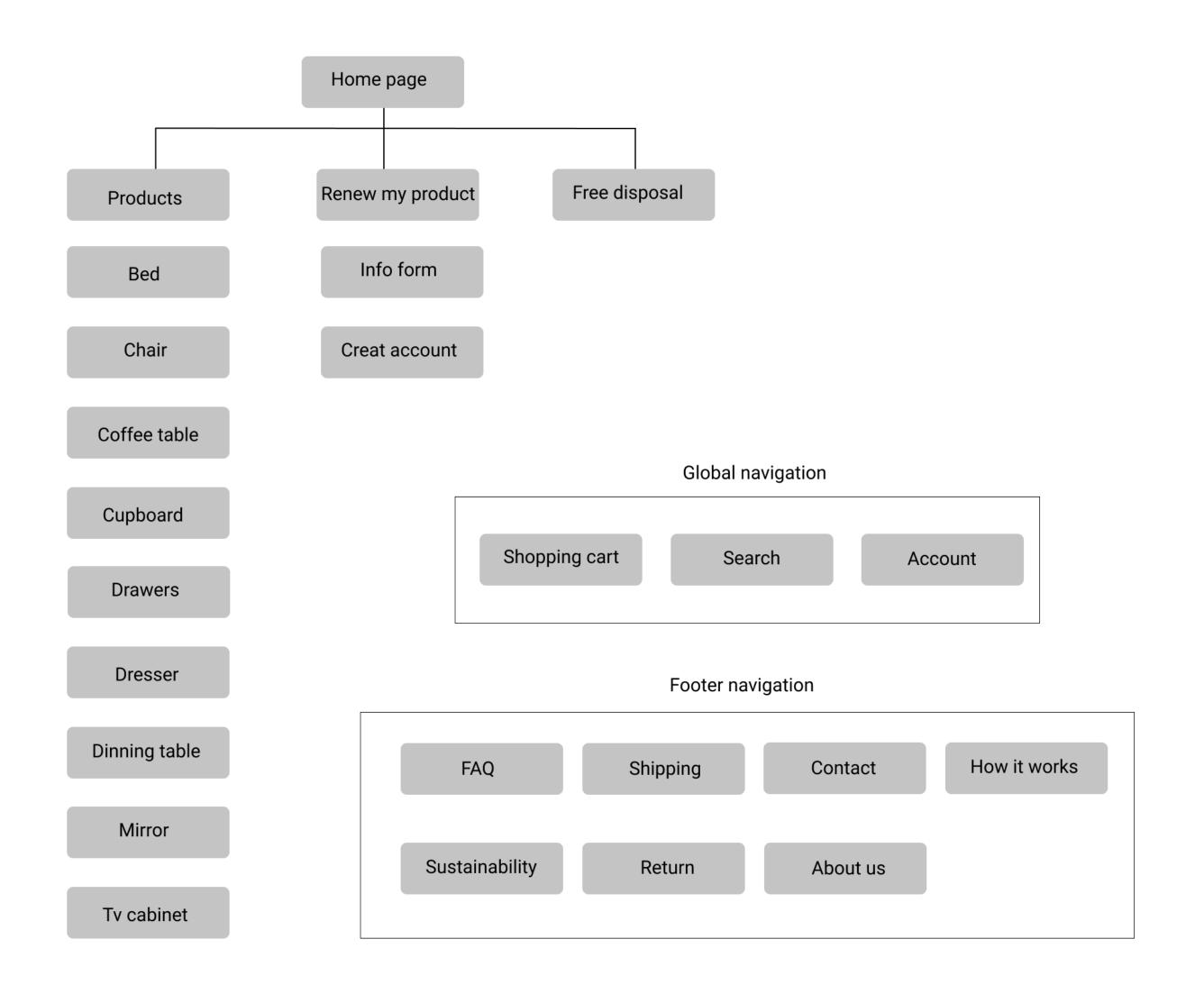
### IA & usability testing

- Filter panel moved to left for better organization
- Products pictures now better accessible
- 'Type' changed to 'categories' and 'size' added



#### Product page (V2)





### Site map

#### Moodboard

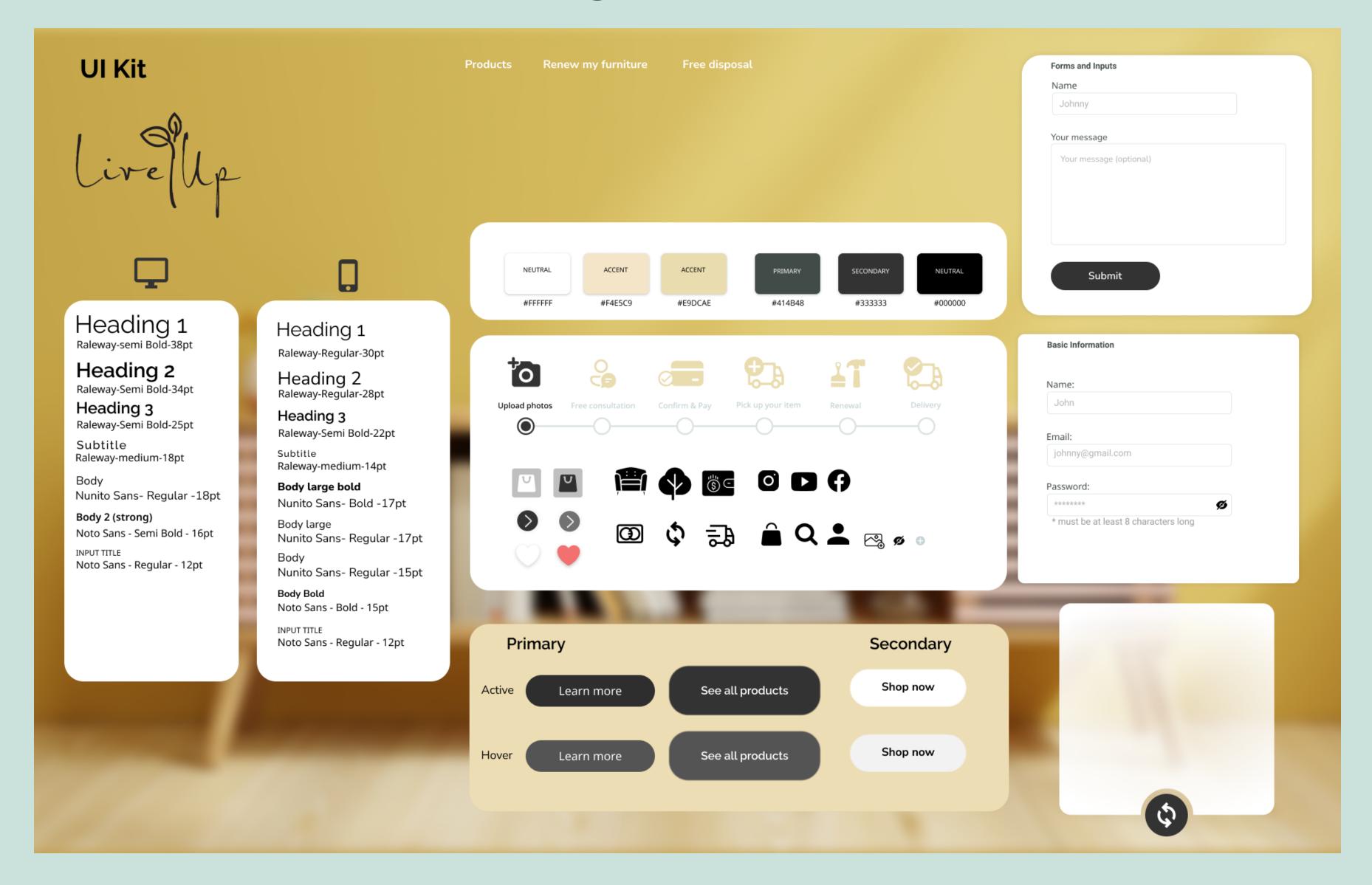
The mood board was used as a reference for color choice, design elements, and the overall feeling of the design.

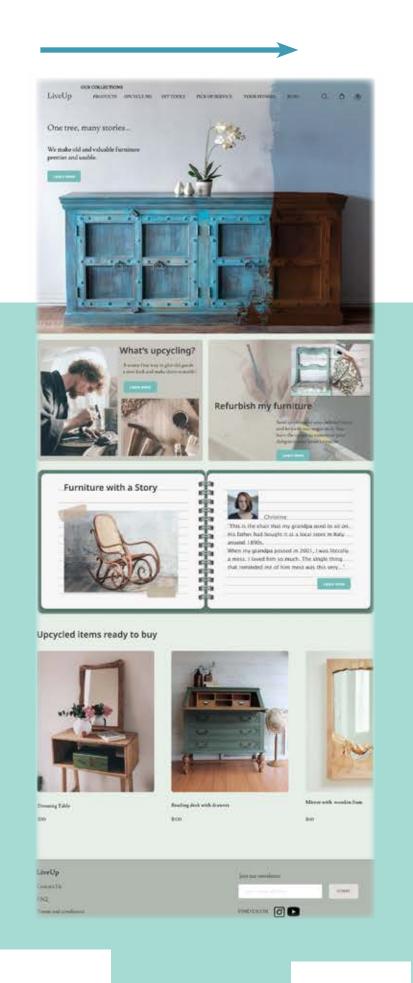


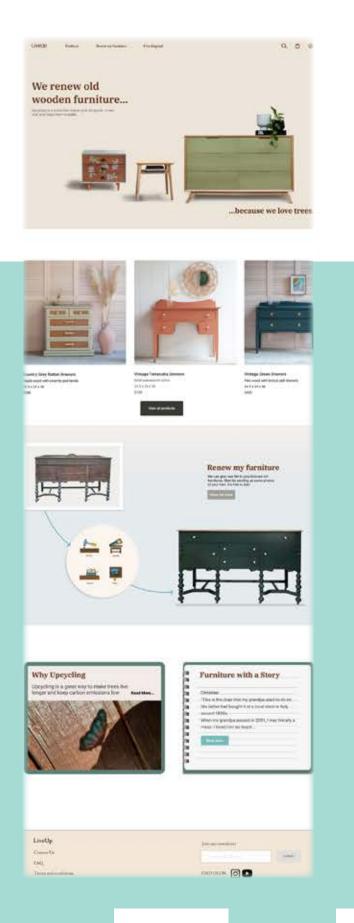


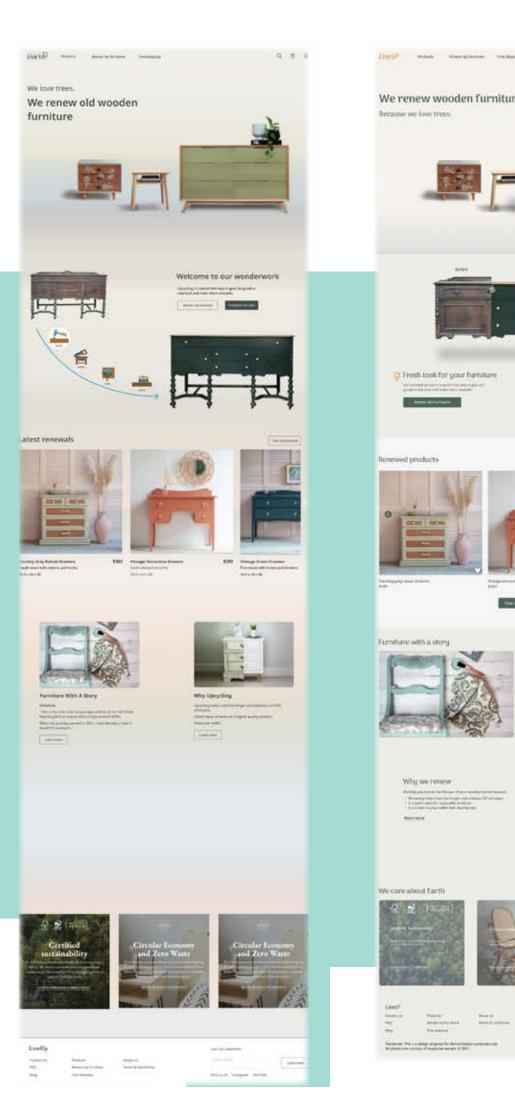


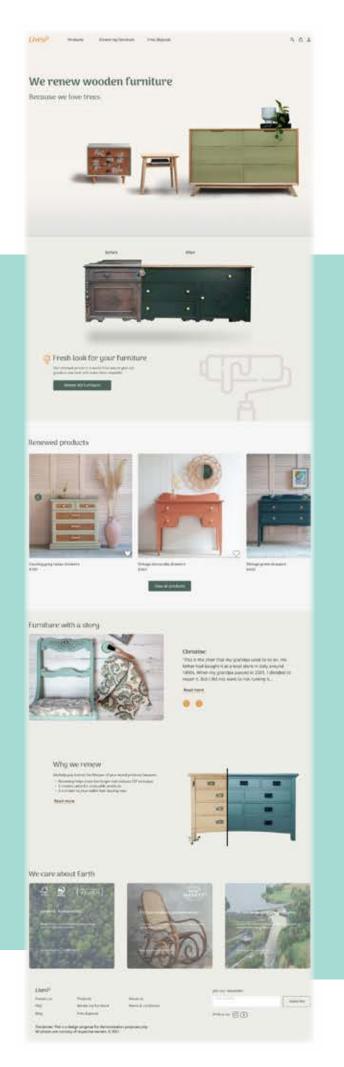
### Design System



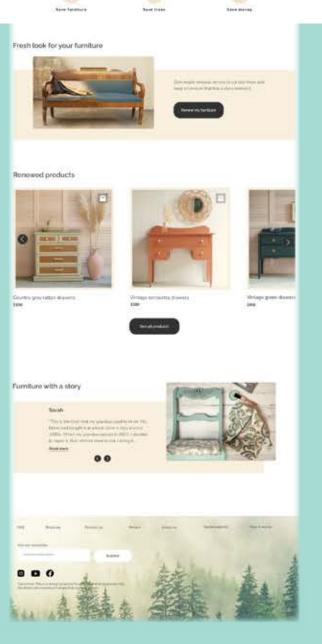












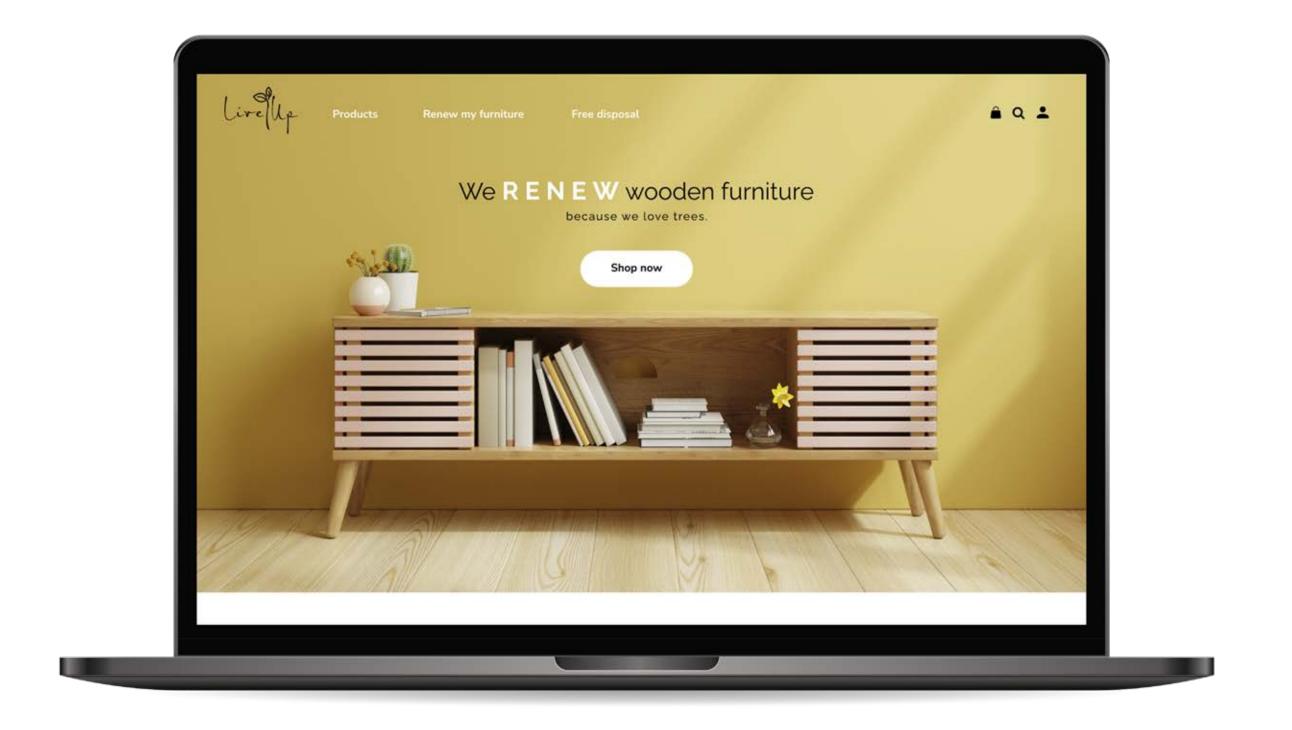
### Iterations

We went through numerous iterations based on actionable feedbacks during usability tests.

\* One challenge was how and whether to show a before/after picture in the hero section both to inform the user and keep the clean look.

### High Fidelity Prototype

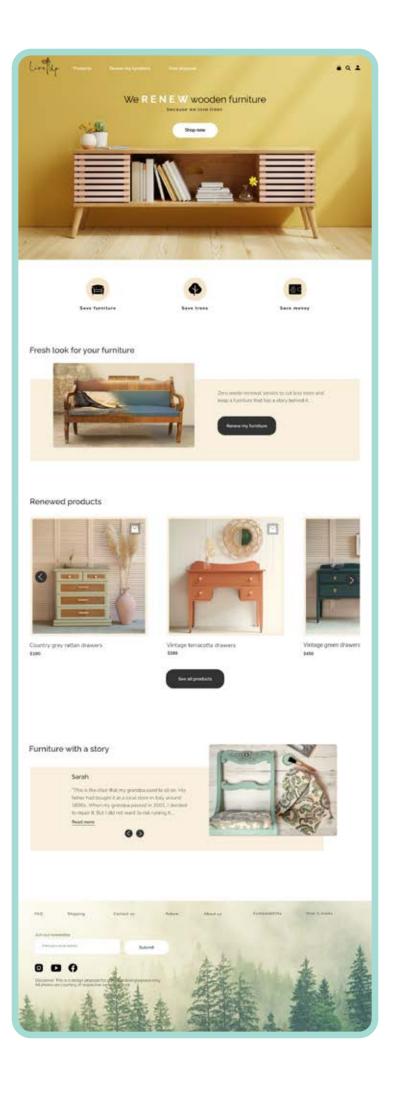
You can view the final product here.



View in Figma



View in Figma



## Antique Rugs

REDESIGNED

(UNSOLICITED)

**ALI NOORANI** 



www.mollaianrugs.com

### About this project



MOLLAIAN ANTIQUE RUGS WEBSITE

#### The Mollaian store:

- Offers a variety of textiles
- Sells unique handmade rugs
- Has 35 years of experience
- Operates out of 3 branches

### Project 11

#### **Details**

#### **Project Duration**

100 hours in 60 days

#### Tools

Figma, Photoshop, Maze, Miro, Google Forms

#### Product

Website (desktop version)

#### Team

3 people

#### Duration

6 weeks

#### My Role

I was a UX/UI designer in this redesign project and was involved in every step from ideation to prototyping.

<sup>\*</sup> All photos and content are courtesy of mollaeian.com website. No infringement is intended by this proposal

# Problem<br/>Statement

The client in this unsolicited redesign project has a poorly organized and outdated website for online sales. They need to redesign their website based on better information architecture to boost the shopping experience and sales.

### The process

My team utilized the double diamond concept. It was not a linear path, we bounced between stages as the project progressed.



### Heuristic Evaluation

A heuristic analysis of the current website revealed several problems of varying severity.

Free Shipping on All Orders Over 499 Euro in EU

Carpet Collector

ilon Persian Saruk Faranar

nº:26805553

 $(203 \times 160 \text{ cm})$ 

Antique Rug nº:56732954

(142 × 100 cm)

NEW RUGS ∨ ANTIQUE RUGS ∨ VINTAGE CARPETS ∨ CATEGORIES ∨ ABOUT MOLLAIAN SRL ∨ 🏬 ENGLISH ∨

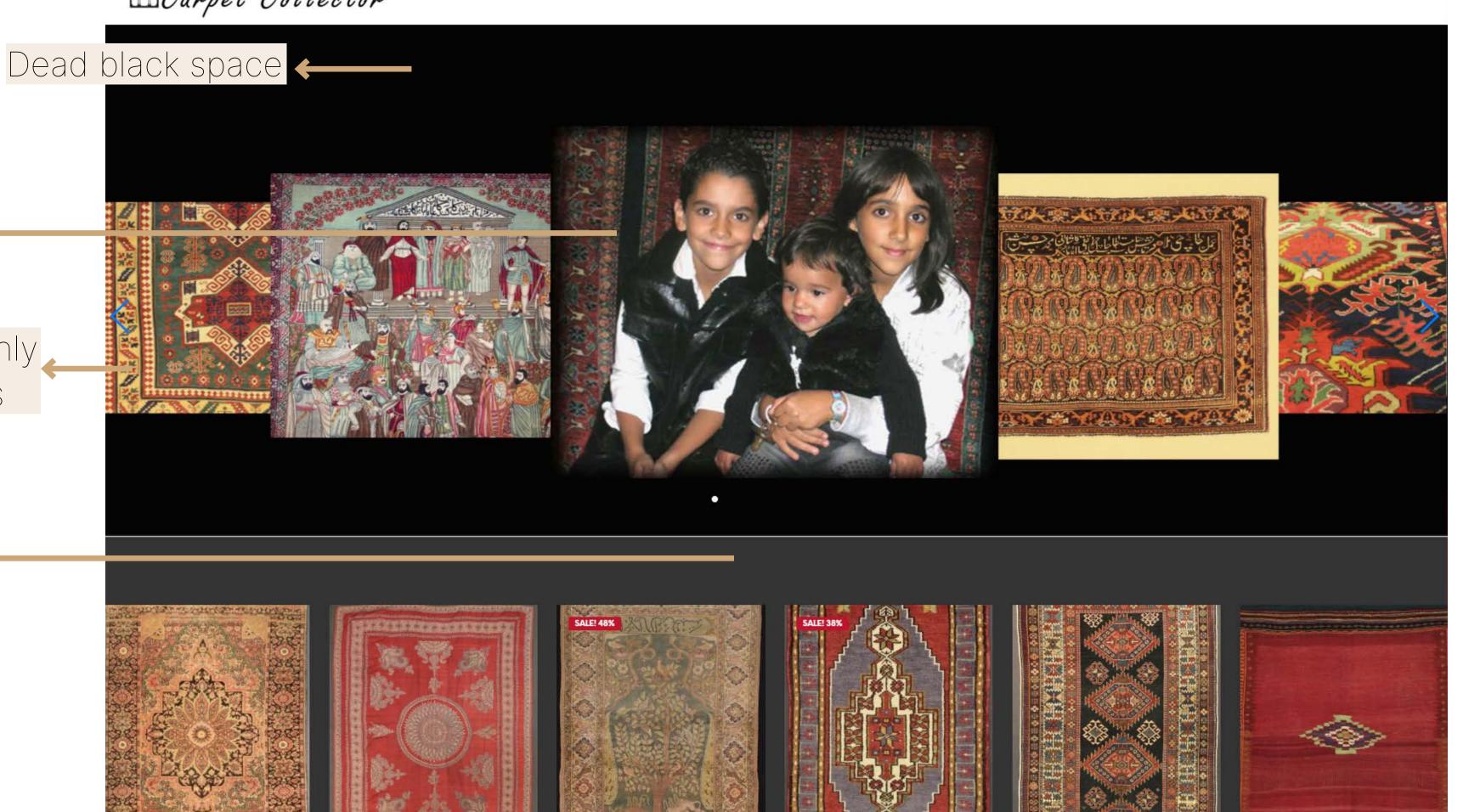
OOHOO

1 Aesthetic and minimalist design

Old family photo as hero image?

Hero image slider only for beauty purposes

Color palette dull and unattractive



n°:29294272

(183 × 122 cm)

€2,500.00 €1,290.00

Old Turkish Yastik Rug nº:85599761

€200.00 €125.00

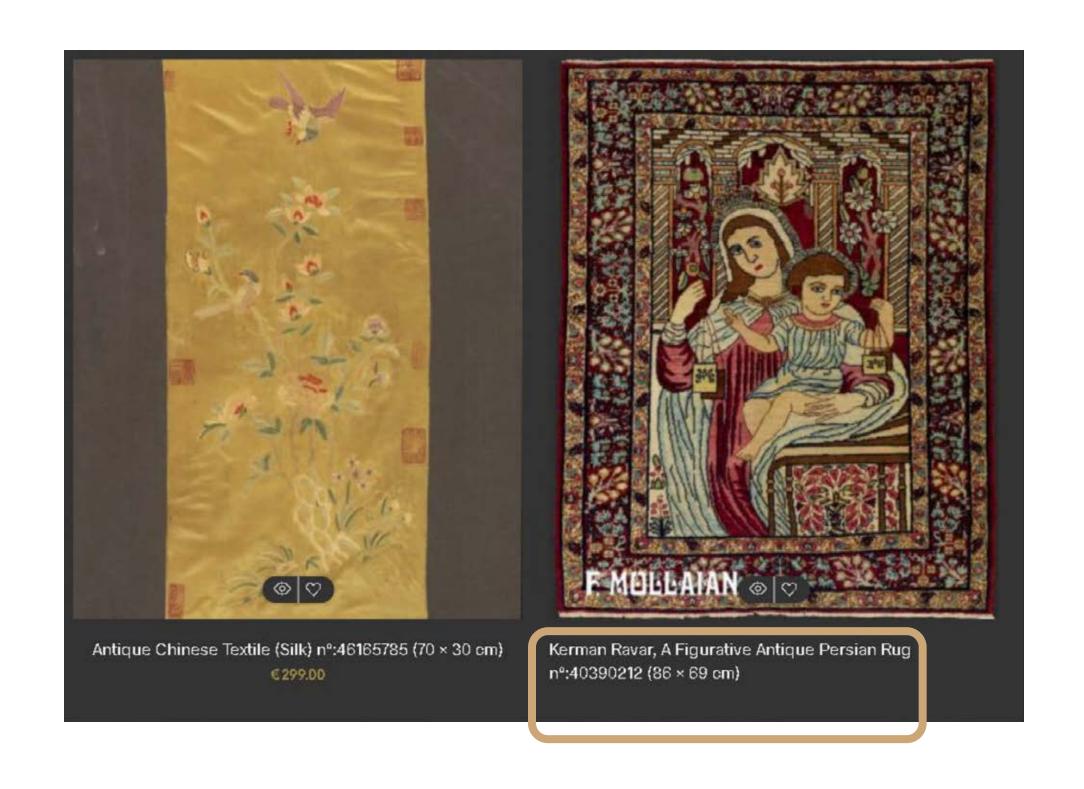
nº:31580007

(253 × 150 cm)

€1,850.00

Sorren (B) 261 nº:111275

(126 × 134 cm)



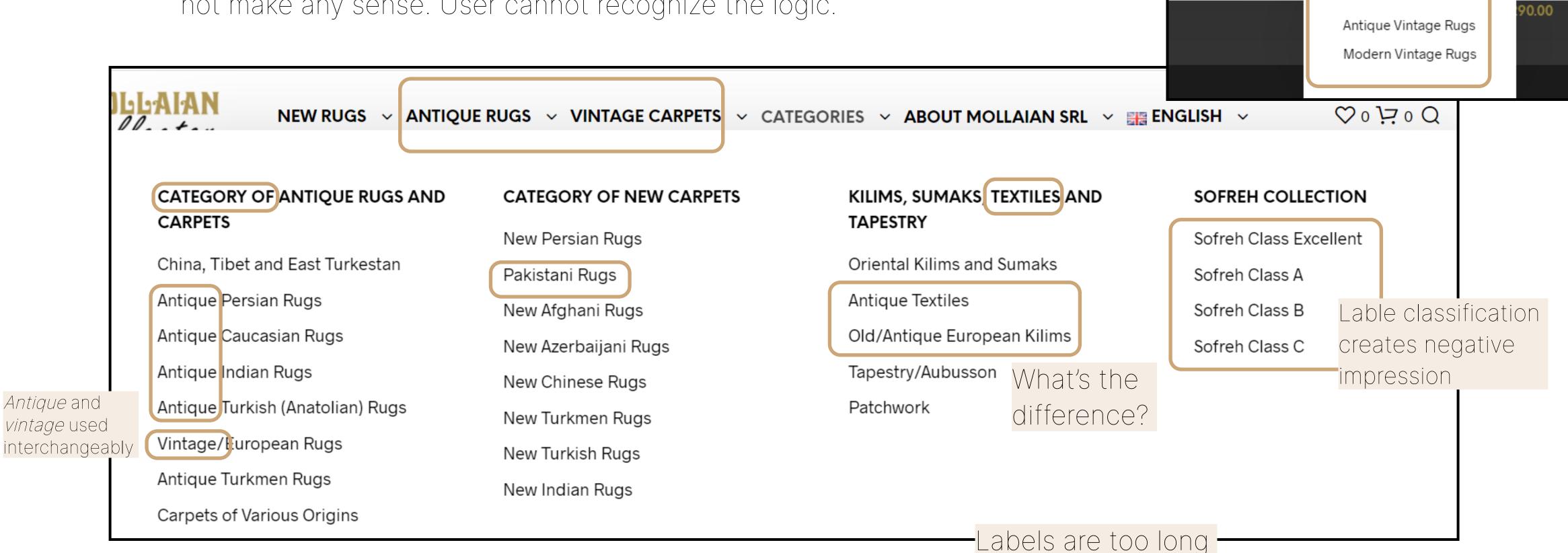
### Visibility of system status

Out of stock products are not marked. No price is written.

There are too many out-of-stock products listed. It feels more like a museum than a store!

#### Match between system and the real world

On the navigation bar, the sorting and labels are messy and do not make any sense. User cannot recognize the logic.



Vintage or

VINTAGE CARPETS V CATEGORIES

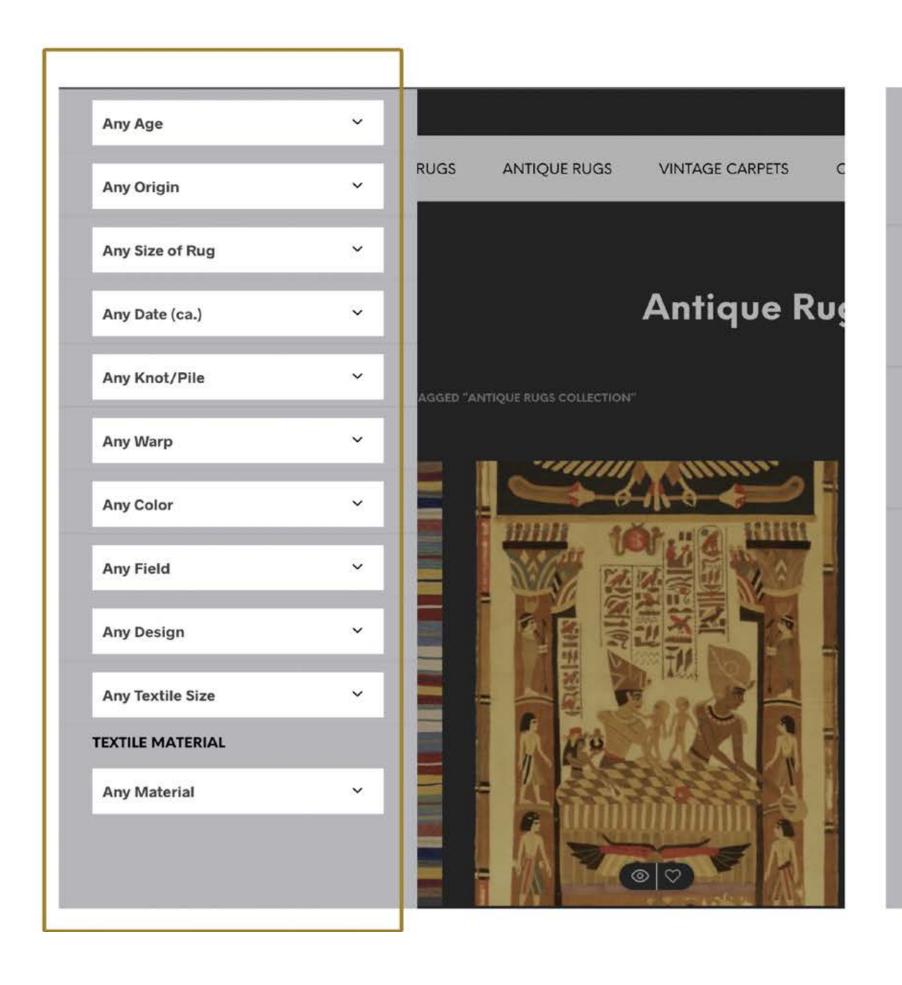
modern?

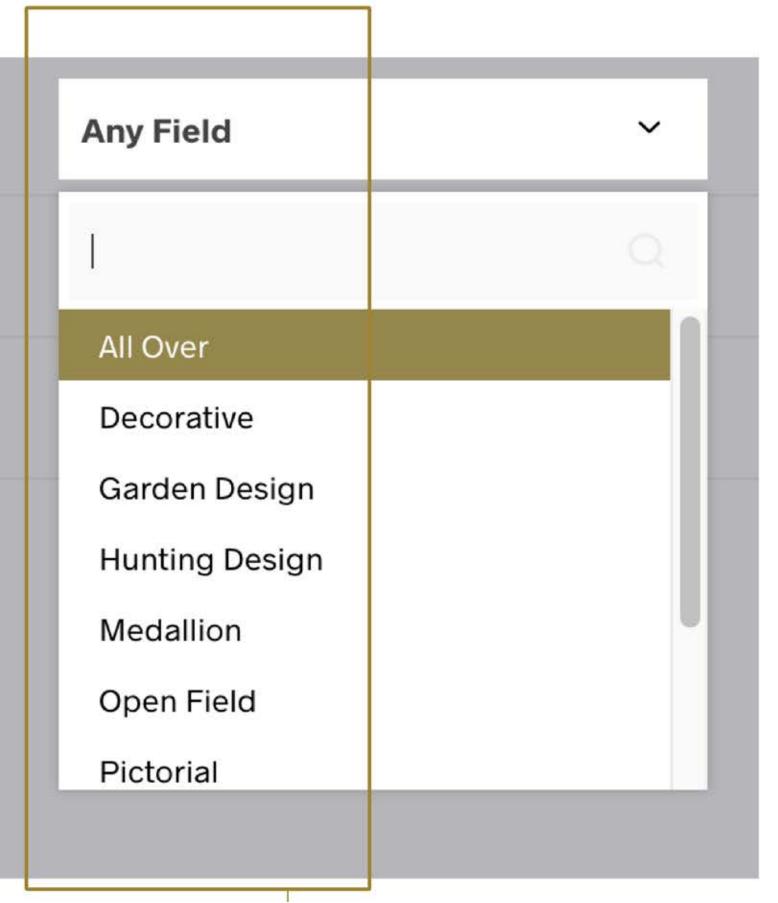
**ANTIQUE RUGS** 

Antique and

### 4 Aesthetic and minimalist design

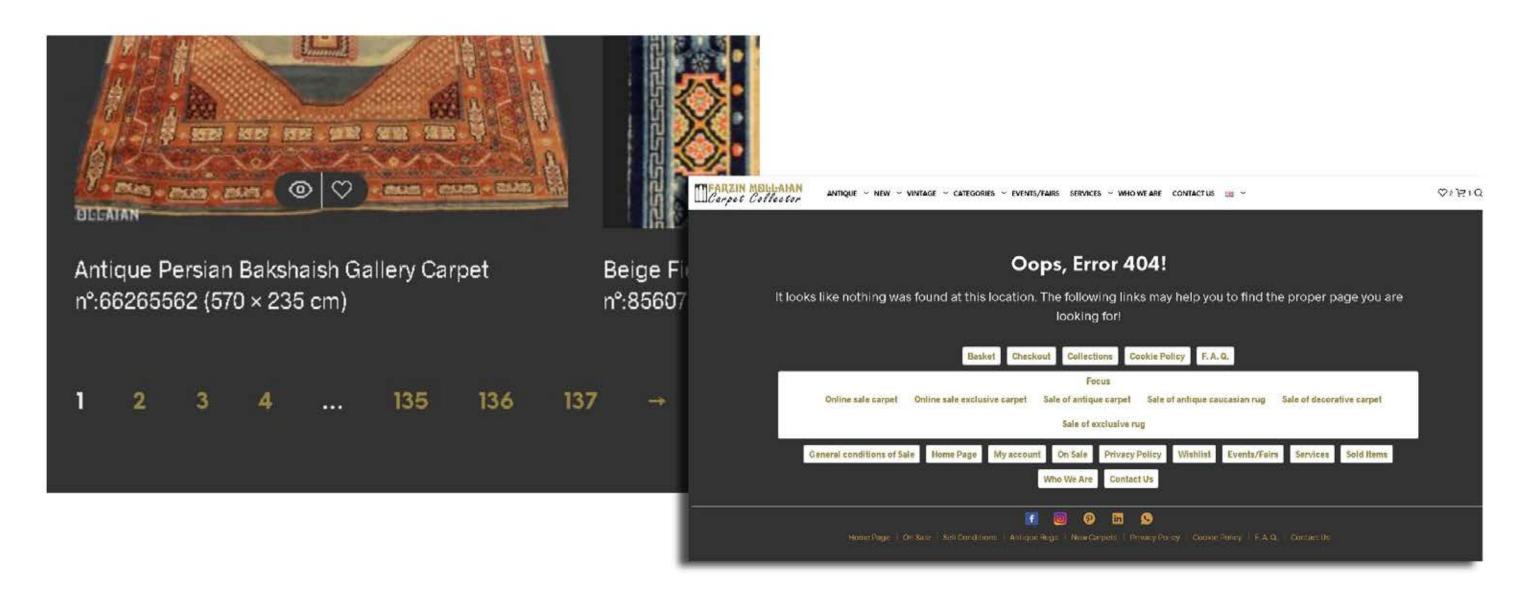
The list of filters is long and too technical.





#### Error prevention

Not all the pages of the products are active.



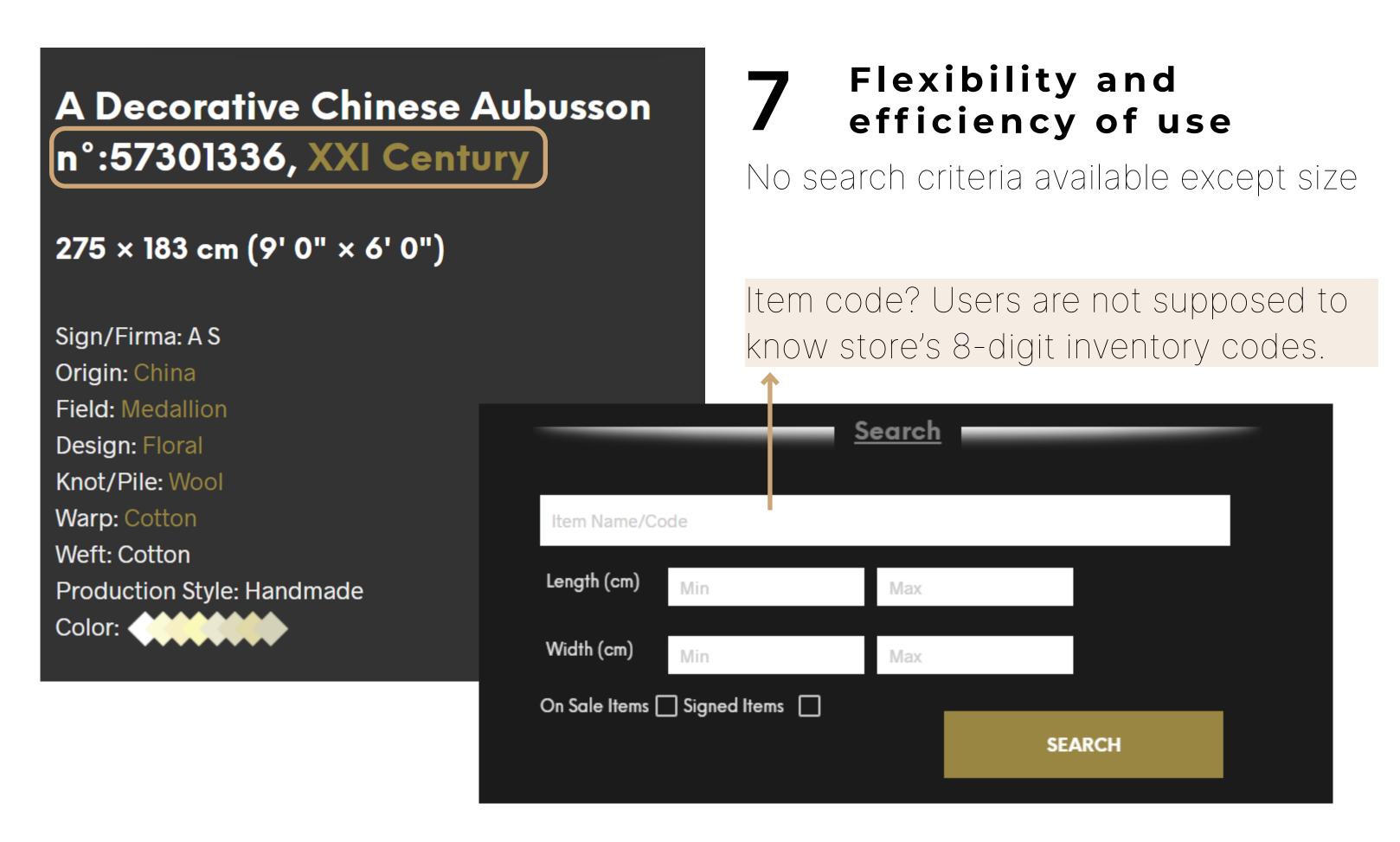
### Help users recognize, diagnose, and recover from errors

Some pages return errors.

## 6 Recognition rather than recall

A meaningless number in the product title makes recognition difficult.

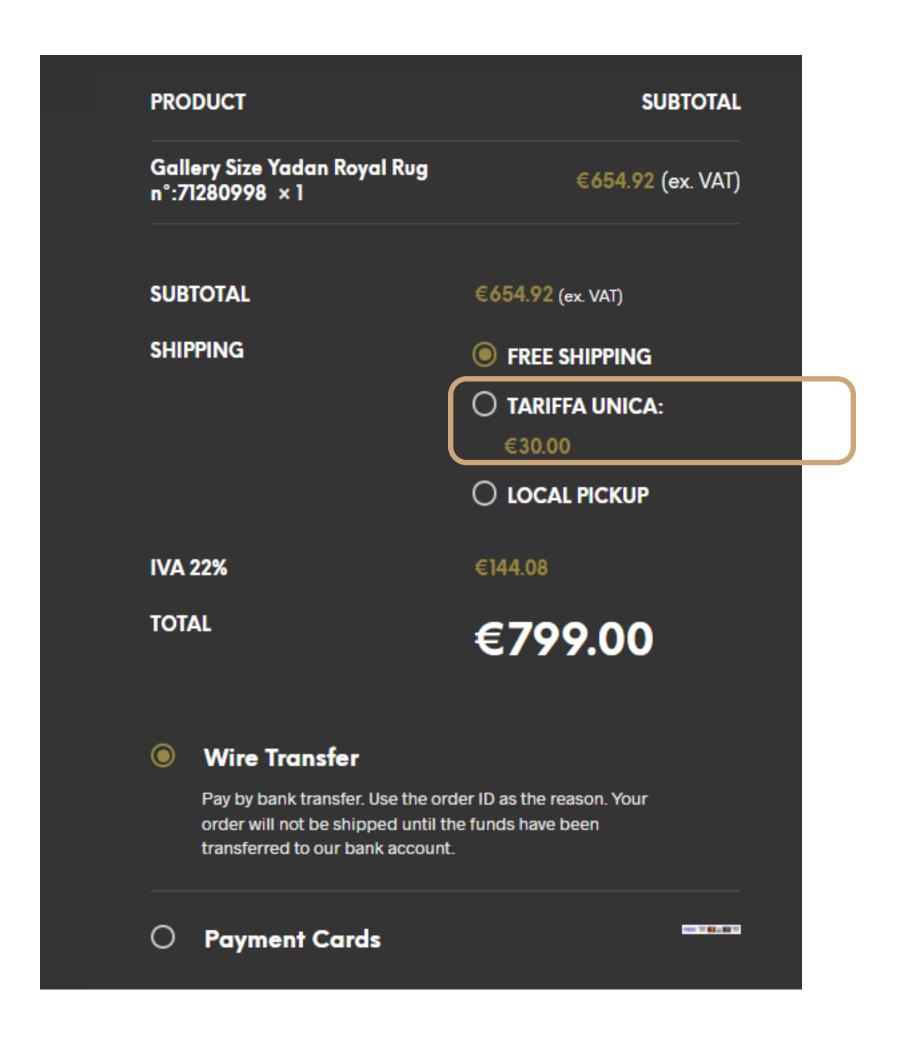
Next to the rug's age, the numbers confuse the user.



### 8

# Consistency and standards, UX writing problems

The website content sometimes appears in different languages mixing English and Italian.



9 Visibility of system status 10 User control and freedom
Expired events are advertised.

The back button doesn't work properly on all pages.

## Next

# Competitive Analysis

We compared four similar websites to better understand where we are standing compared to the market.

#### Must add

- To add a personal account section
- Having a blog can help customers choose better

#### Must change

• Old-fashioned look

#### Good to have

- A more interactable user interface
- Lack of information about rug thickness (foldable or hard)

	NainTrading	Carpetstore LX	Ruby Rugs	Rug direct
Filter	✓	✓	✓	✓
Navigation Bar	✓	✓	✓	✓
Services	✓	*	✓	✓
History of rugs	✓	✓	✓	×
Blog	*	✓	*	✓
Our story(about our company)	✓	×	✓	✓
Schedual appointment	*	*	✓	*
Appraisales and insurance(guarantee )	×	~	×	✓
in-home design consultation	×	~	×	×
Account	✓	✓	×	✓
Idea	*	×	×	✓
Sitemap	*	×	*	✓
Description	✓	✓	✓	✓
Virsual design	*	×	*	✓
Foldable	*	*	*	×

# Persona: SOFIA RICCI

"GOOD DESIGN MEANS GOOD BUSINESS."



#### Profile

Occupation: Architect

Age: 45

Location: Milan

Activity: Photography, Painting

#### Story

Sofia is it into art and history. Shopping rugs for her is not only about collecting. She actually cares about the story behind it, so she is picky and precise when choosing a rug. Sofia loves oriental textiles. She has some basic knowledge of the materials and techniques. She loves to read all the details and know what she is buying.

She avoids mass-produced products as much as possible.

#### Frustrations

- Can't find a well-organized online store to browse rugs
- The information about rugs are not complete online, especially the antique textiles

#### Needs

- High quality hand knotted rug
- Unique rugs with top designs
- Finding a reliable website to buy rugs
- Smooth and fast shopping experience without confusion

## User flow

We mapped out the easiest and most efficient user flow that a user needs to go through By origin Choose Add Choose Add Show list of rugs-Rugs filter origin filter age By age More Filter Select a Visit a other Show updated list of Other the rug's Start rugs filters rug's rug textile New Buy the Search EXIT arrival more rug servic About sale Blog es us

## Card sorting

To research the labels and site map we asked 10 users to sort the cards.

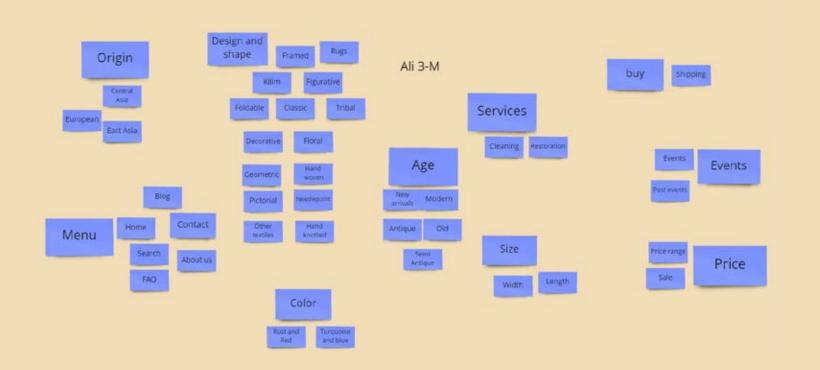










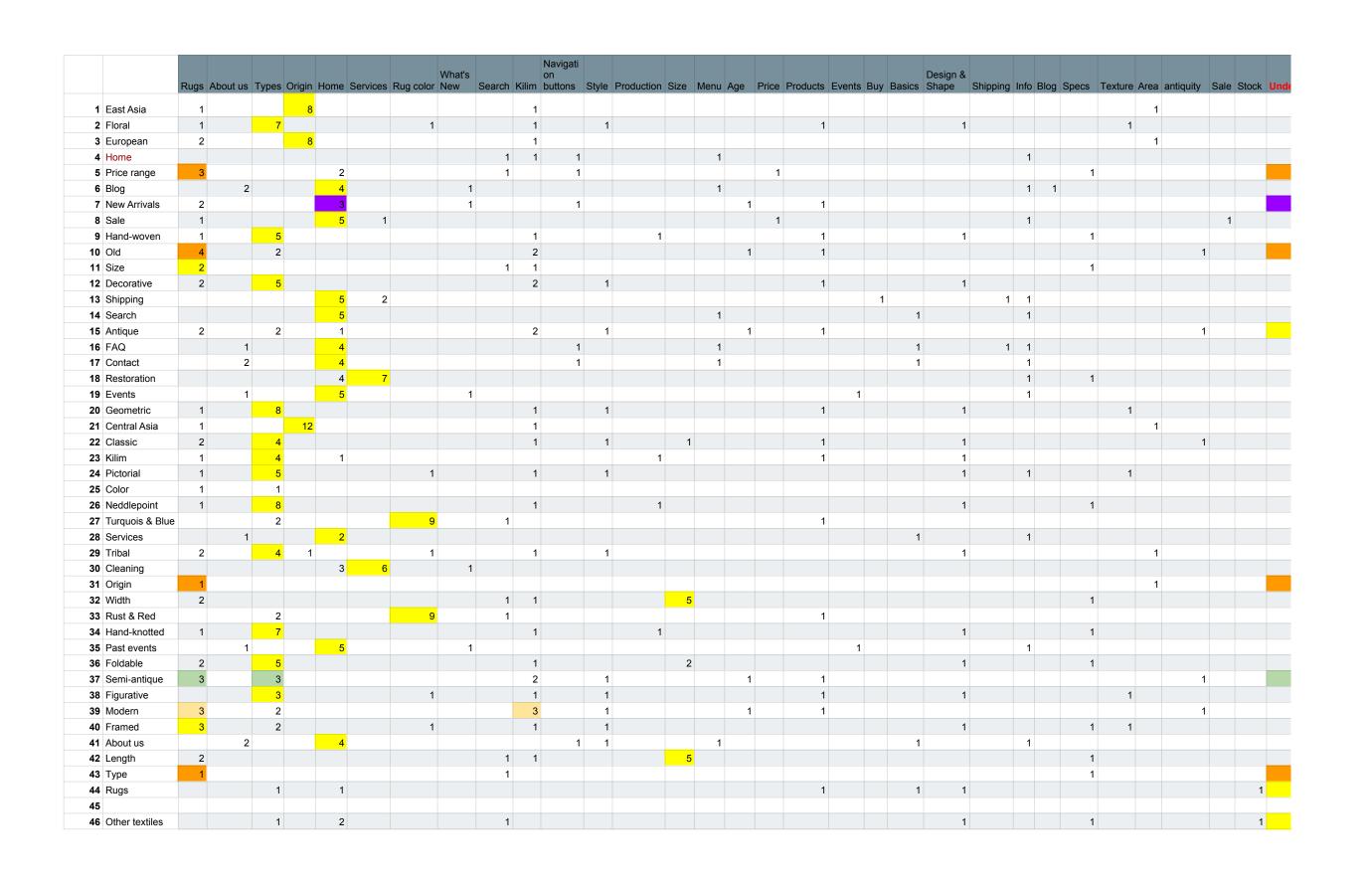






# Card sorting results

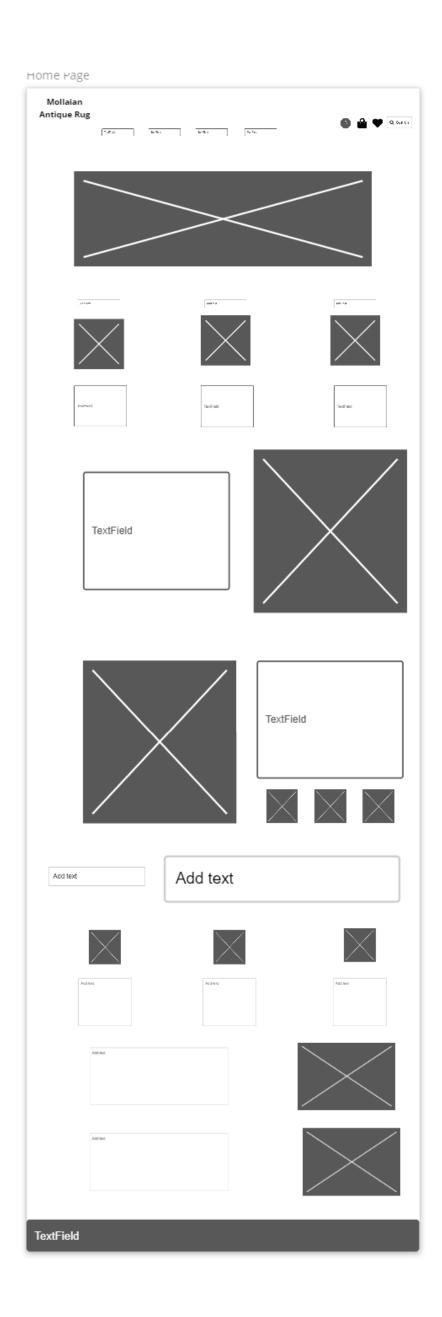
Information architecture was designed based on card sorting results.

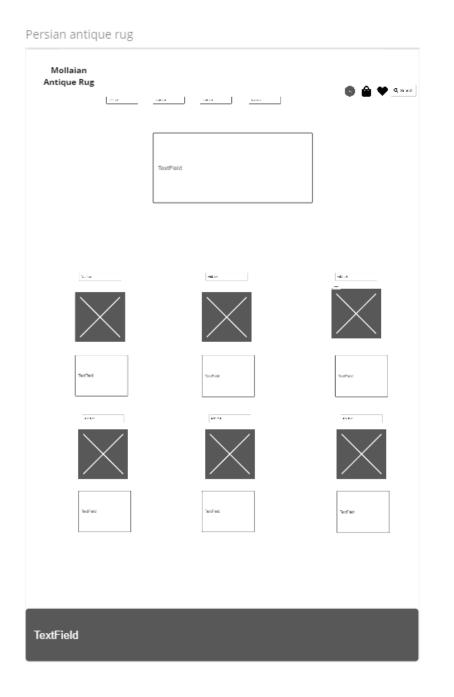


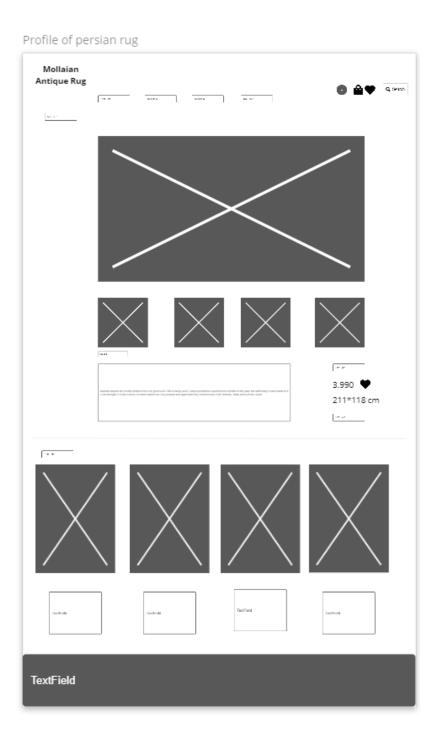
# Wireframing

Based on the research, the proposed website was wireframed to experiment with maximum simpleness and usability.



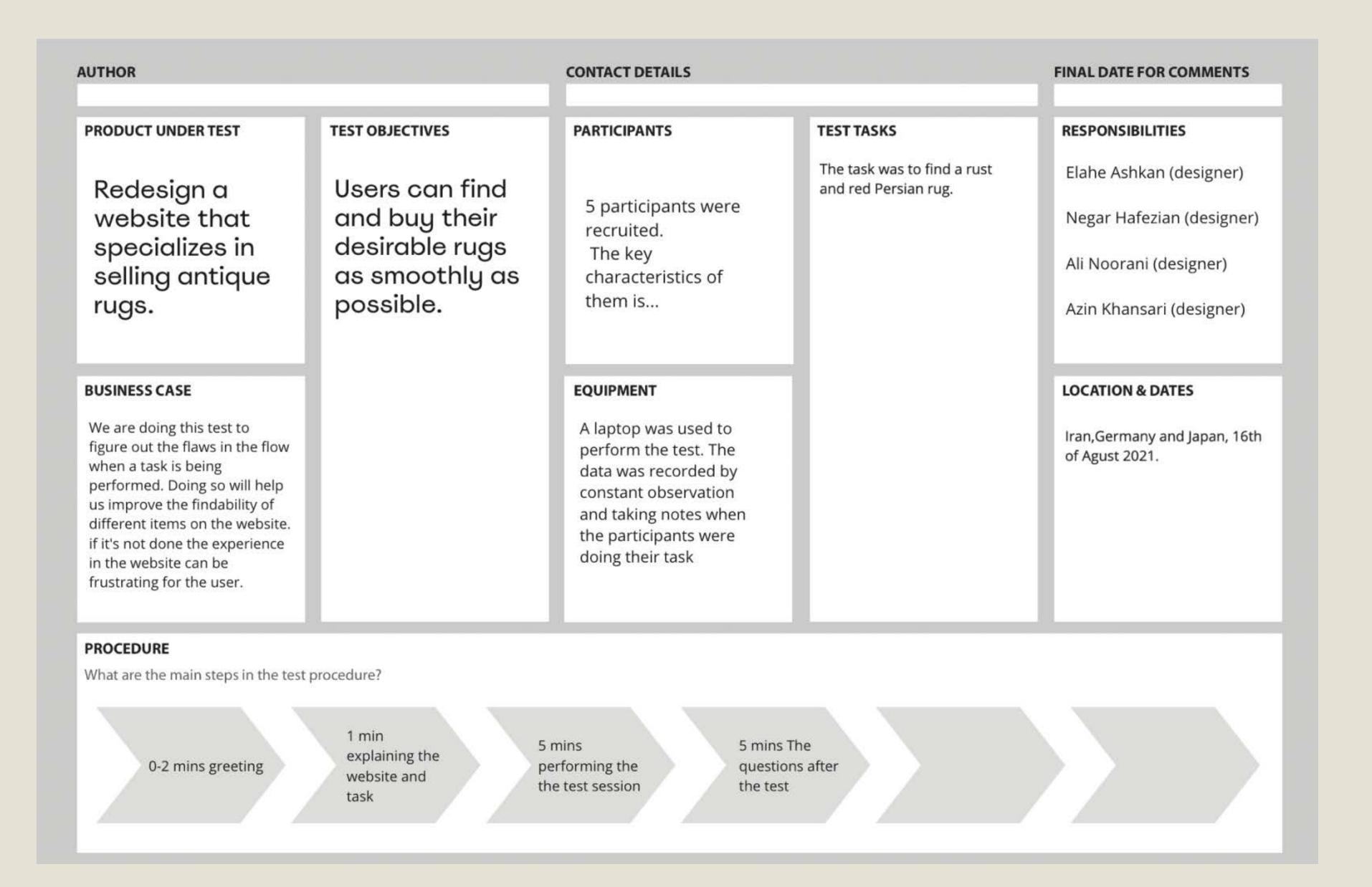






# Usability test plan

After redesigning the website based on the usability test a task was defined for users to find a **rust and red rug**. Here we see the process according to a usability test plan dashboard.

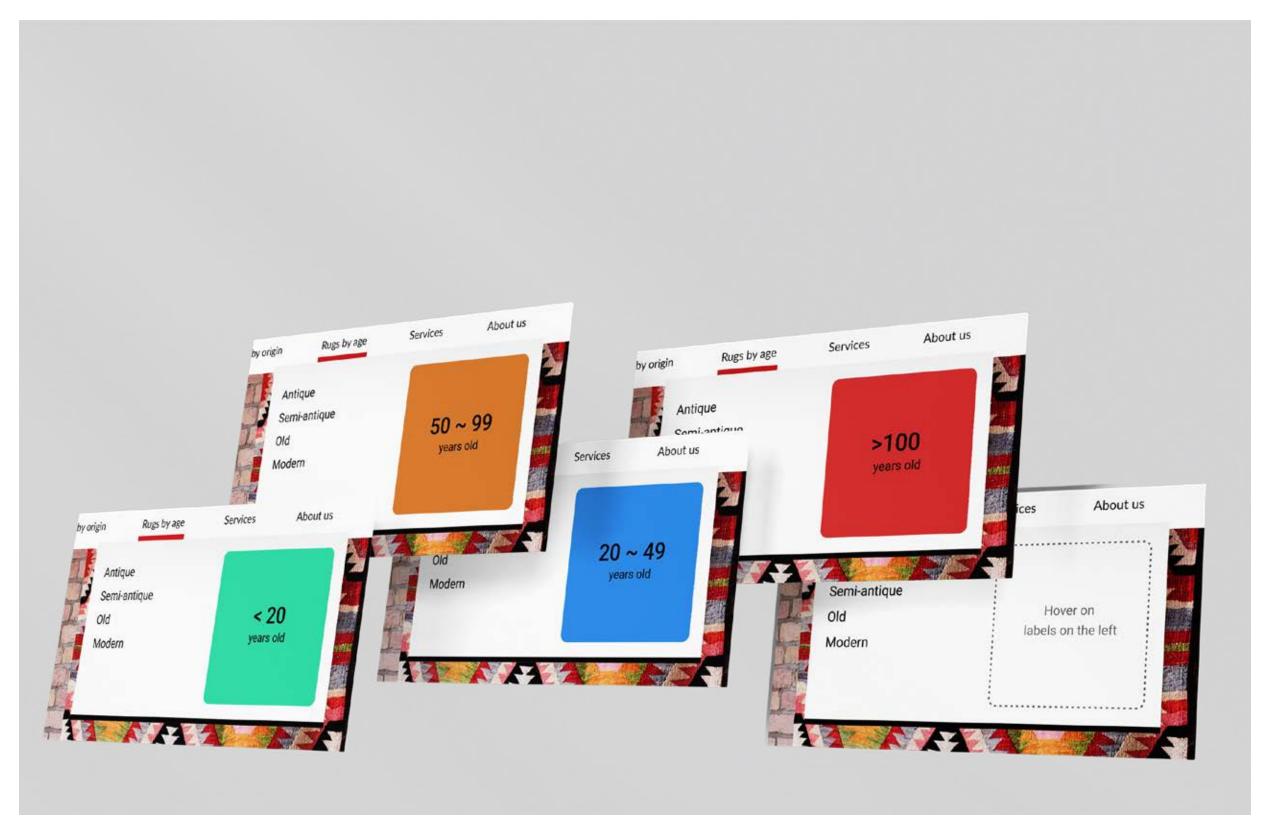


# Information Architecture

Open card sorting: 10 participants

Some design flaws were revealed, including the ease of navigation in the navigation bar. So, we re-designed it.

# Information Architecture



#### Rug age

Users found "Antique" and "vintage" labels as confusing.

So, AGE was simplified to four clear levels:

- Antique
- Semi-antique
- Modern
- 0 0

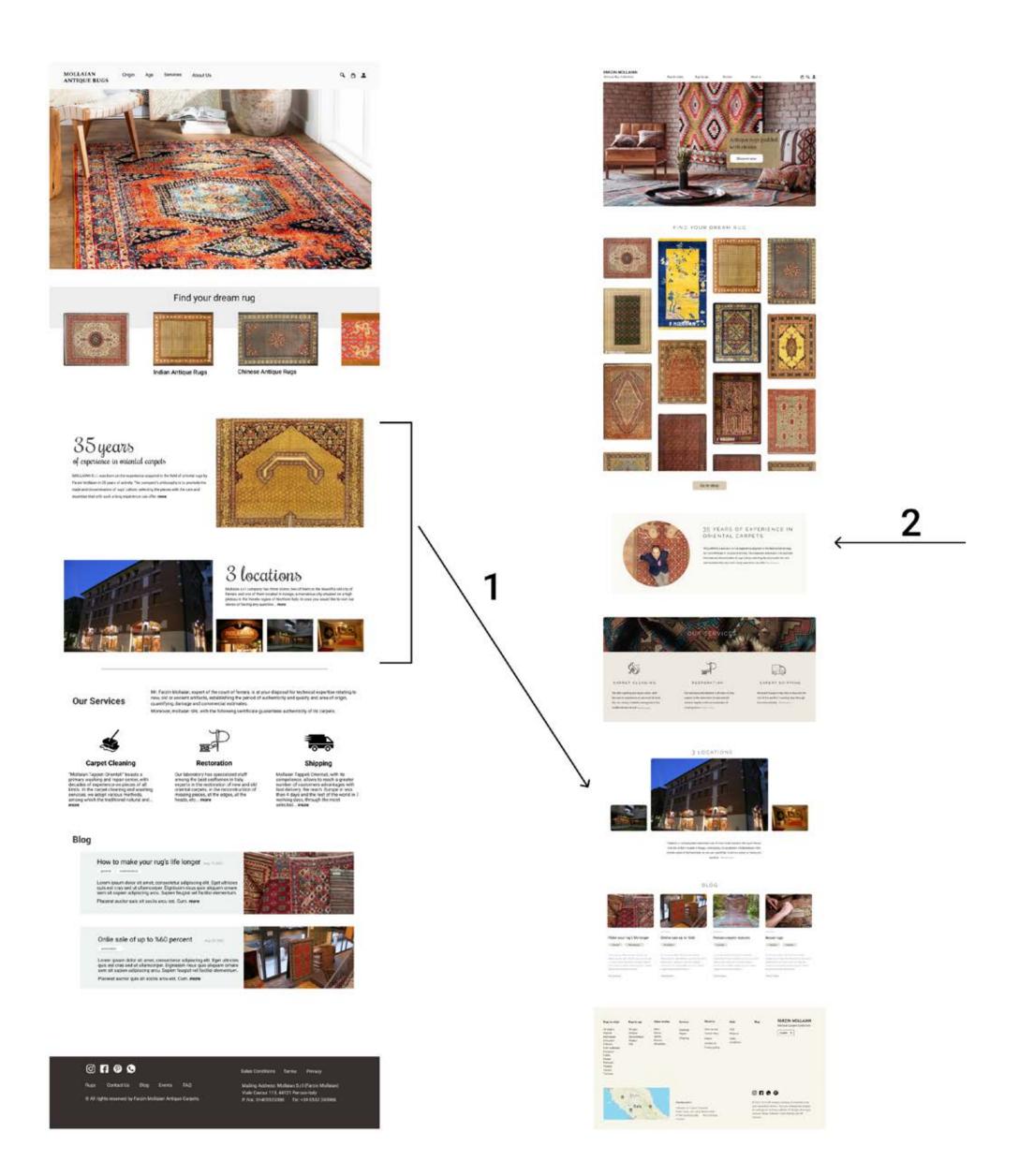
#### Iteration

Some users were still unsure about the distinction. They mixed up antique and old.

#### Result

Age categories were **quantified** with distinct colors in the form of mouse over tips to leave no room for mistake.

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## Hi-fi iteration

After running a usability test, these iterations were agreed upon:

- 1. Users didn't pay much attention to the locations, so it was made smaller and put lower.
- 2. Users did read the story of the creator so it was brought to the center with a photo of the owner to make it more personal and relatable
- 3. Laying out photos up front helped users better realize if this is what they were looking for.
- 4. Users needed a CTA to take them directly to the products page.
- 5. Services were moved higher with more clear icons and less text.

#### Rug color palettes



Current design has separated colors, showing their shades.

Users did not find this solution useful.

They only saw the main colors. e.g.: blue and red.

#### Solution

Shades were discarded.

Adding labels helped user recognition and searchability.

But separate colors did not look real for normal people.





Orecin

Pink and Purple



Beige, white and cream



Multicolor



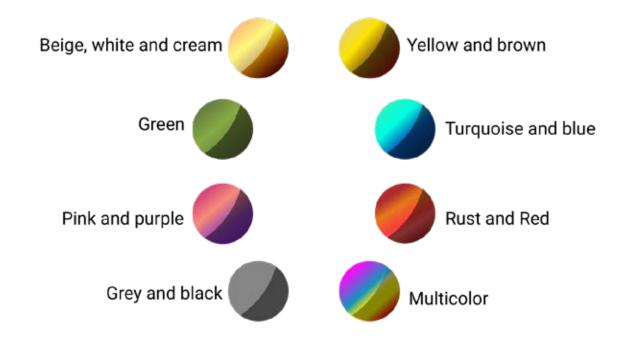
Rust and Red



Turquoise and blue



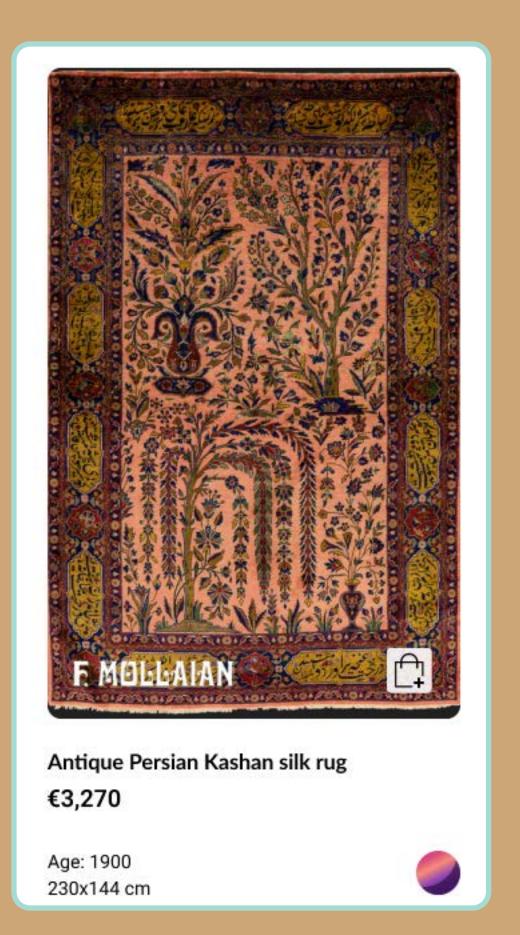
Yellow and brown



#### Iteration

To merge all the info in a compact and appealing form, I created orbs out of the rug color palettes.

#### Result



#### Rug category display

Previous design of categories page did not invite users to interact

#### Iteration

Focus on category was removed as it is accessible in the menu.

Instead, rugs were put upfront with an elegant and minimal design.

Hovering on each photo shows info.

#### Result

New design adds dynamism and visual appeal.

It engages users directly with products.

Users feel empowered to view info and add product to cart directly.







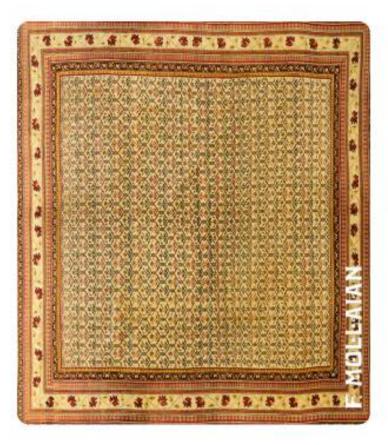
#### FIND YOUR DREAM RUG

Hover over rugs to see info

















## Prototype

A functioning was created based on the findings. Several rounds of iterations were conducted to fix errors and fine-tune the product.

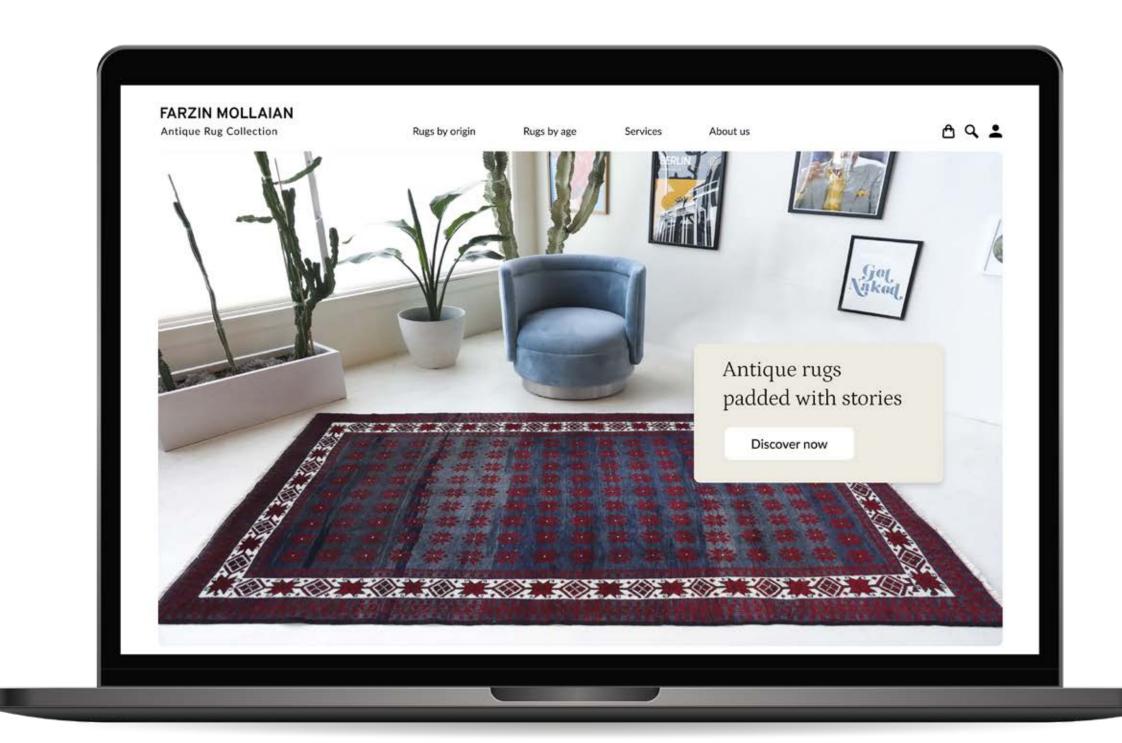
Click to view prototype:



#### Outcomes

Our final design reflects the learnings that we achieved during our discovery and development steps. Users wanted a more modern and user-friendly design, reflecting that need.

By removing unnecessary categories, streamlining the navigation, and improving the user interface and information architecture, we improved the user experience.





# Project III

Branding for Crowdfunding

LOGO & STATIONERY SET DESIGN FOR IDEH HUB By: Ali Noorani

Id<sup>E</sup> HUB

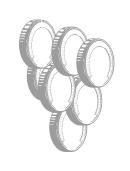
ide hub

IdE HUB



hub

IDE HUB



hub

ide hub

ide HUB

ide hub



Id<sup>E</sup> HUB

ide hub

IdE HUB

hub

DE HIIE

ide HUB

hub



Create an original, stylish, and memorable brand identity for Ideh Hub crowdfunding company.

\*Ideh in Persian is a Ioan word meaning idea.



IDEH HUB is a boutique startup consultancy platform providing leading-edge advisory services to the Iranian startup ecosystem.

#### **Functions**

- Procures insights from industry research and financial analysis to help companies
- Helps startups capture new opportunities to achieve profitable growth.
- Supports the local business community in establishing sustainable startups

To understand what direction the brand should take, I consulted the company and brainstormed the main attributes they were looking for. We came up with the following keywords.

# Brand attributes

- trustworthy
- committed
- discipline
- 000
- honest

The central idea of the logo that I made comes from combining its two parts, "idea" and "hub" and compressing the repetitive H in the middle in a way that makes it stand out. It is easier on the eye yet unique and memorable.

The journey starts with the dot on the "i".

Here, the sans-serif IDEH features a more vibrant style reminiscent of the unlimited nature of ideation.

# ides.

The design then reaches its turning point when crossing to the HUB's more official and disciplined atmosphere: more stable, trustworthy and result-driven.

A space has been added between the two halves to give the eye a rest to absorb the crossover.

HUB is the more serious side of the project. The serif font shows the official and legal aspect. It is clean and concise.

# HUB.



#### Idehub.

The dot on the left started a bit off, with the effort to find investment and has now matured and came to fruition. In fact, the work is done now.

Period.

# CEHUB.

In this timeless logo, colors have been carefully picked to convey intelligence, thoughtfulness, creativity, and a modern vibe.



idea shines like a light bulb.hub captures and anchors it.

The company also needed an independent monogram that would complement its logotype and brand message.

I focused on the initials of Ideh & Hub.

From early on, the bridge on the H and the figure-like shape of i presented potential for exploration.

And came up with...

# 3 designs

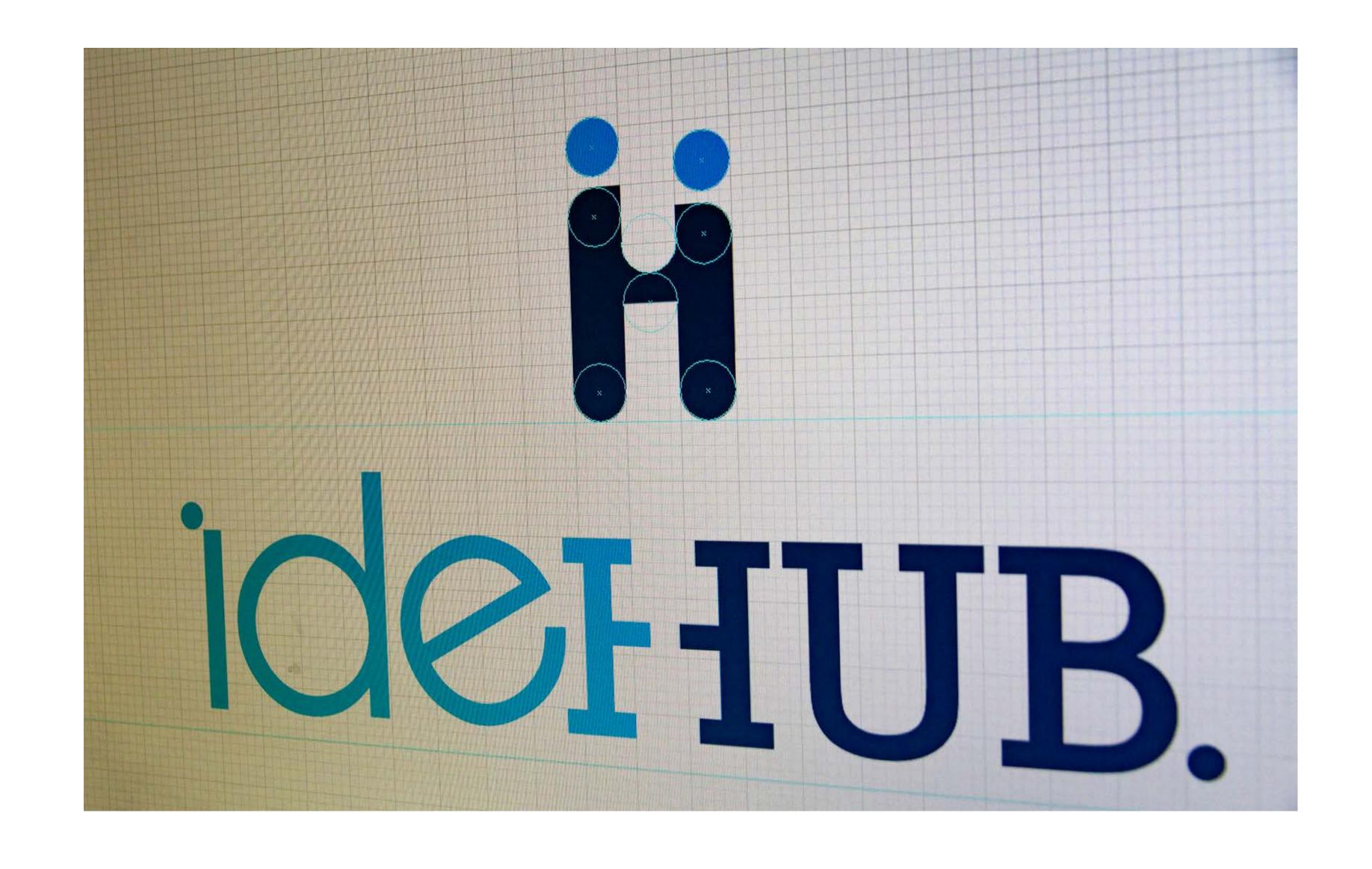








And chose this version as the final.



# A monogram that goes beyond initials...

- designed as a meaningful symbol
- directly connected to crowdfunding and human networks
- the two figures are interacting and connecting
- can be seen as shaking hands or exchanging something, like attracting investment or sharing ideas



# All about ideas...

- Colors remind viewer of the logotype
- The heads of two human figures, are lit up with ideas, as with the "ideh" in the logotype.
- People's minds are connected through the bridge of Hub.

This monogram can be used in all kinds of places at all sizes, where use of logotype may not be suitable.



## Preview



The use of color conveys intelligence, thoughtfulness, creativity, and modern vibes.

The color palette is based on dark blue and gray, which inspire thoughtfulness, smartness, trust, and calmness.

It is invigorated and completed with two shades of sky blue and yellow.

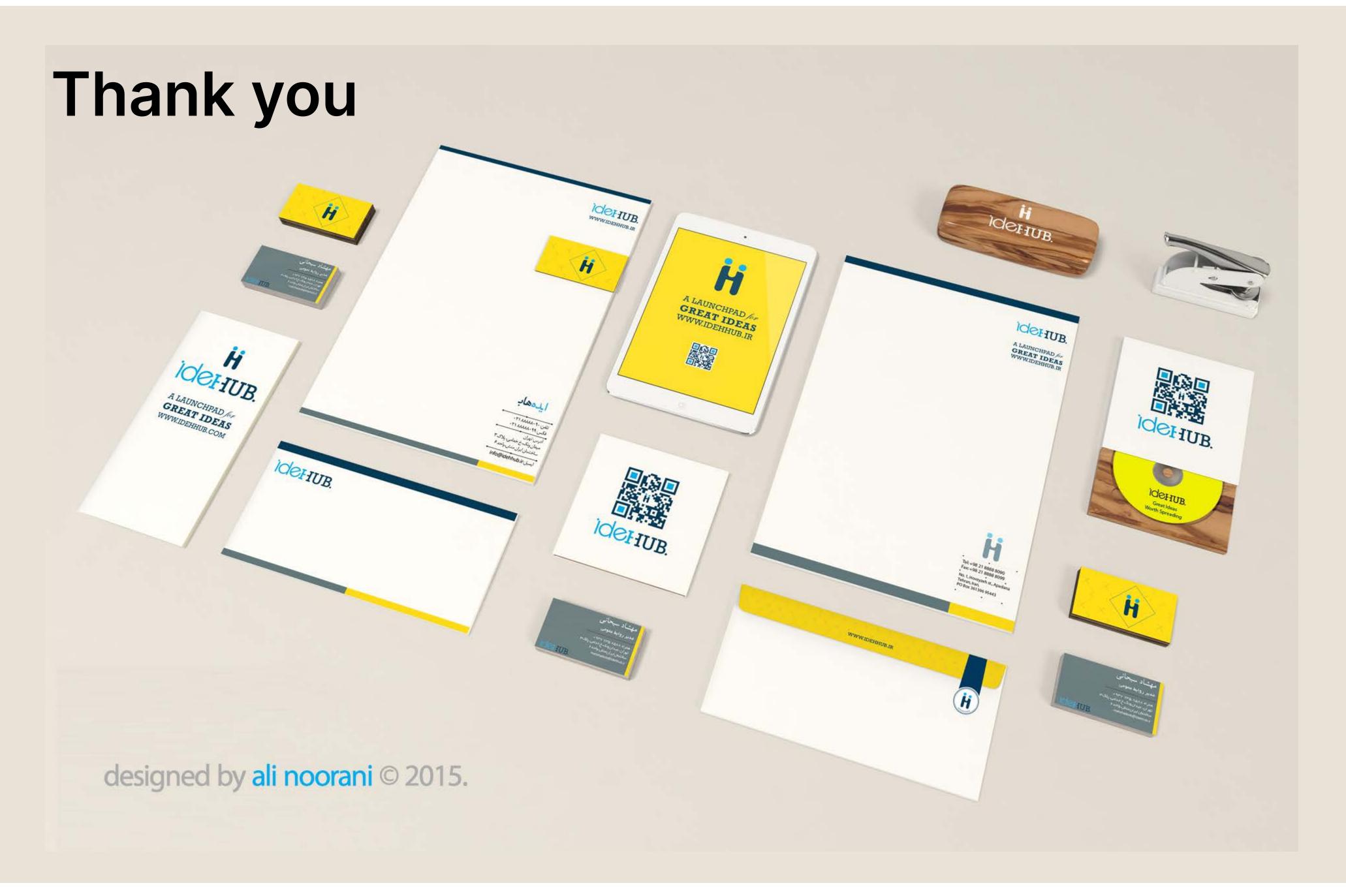


## Business card







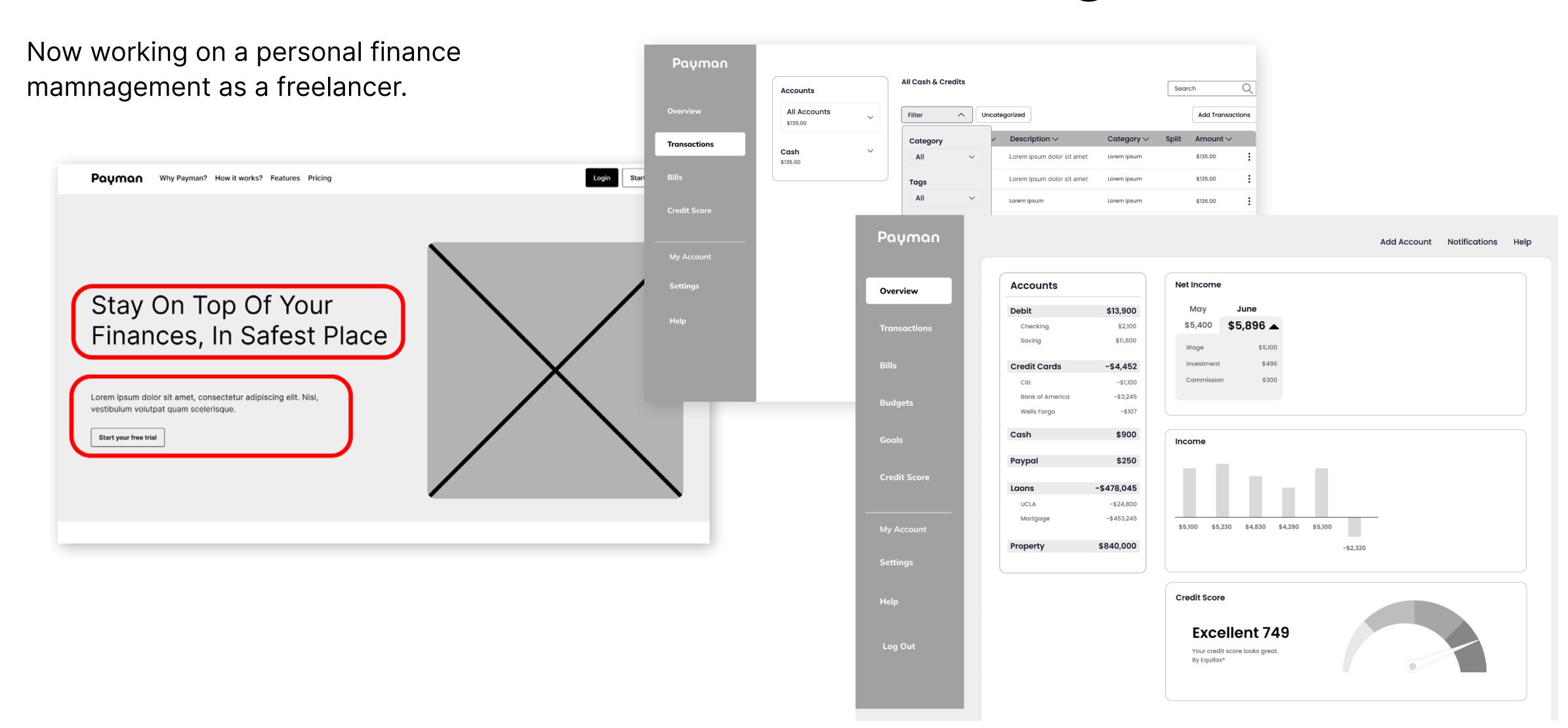




# A brief view of Other projects

#### **Current freelance project:**

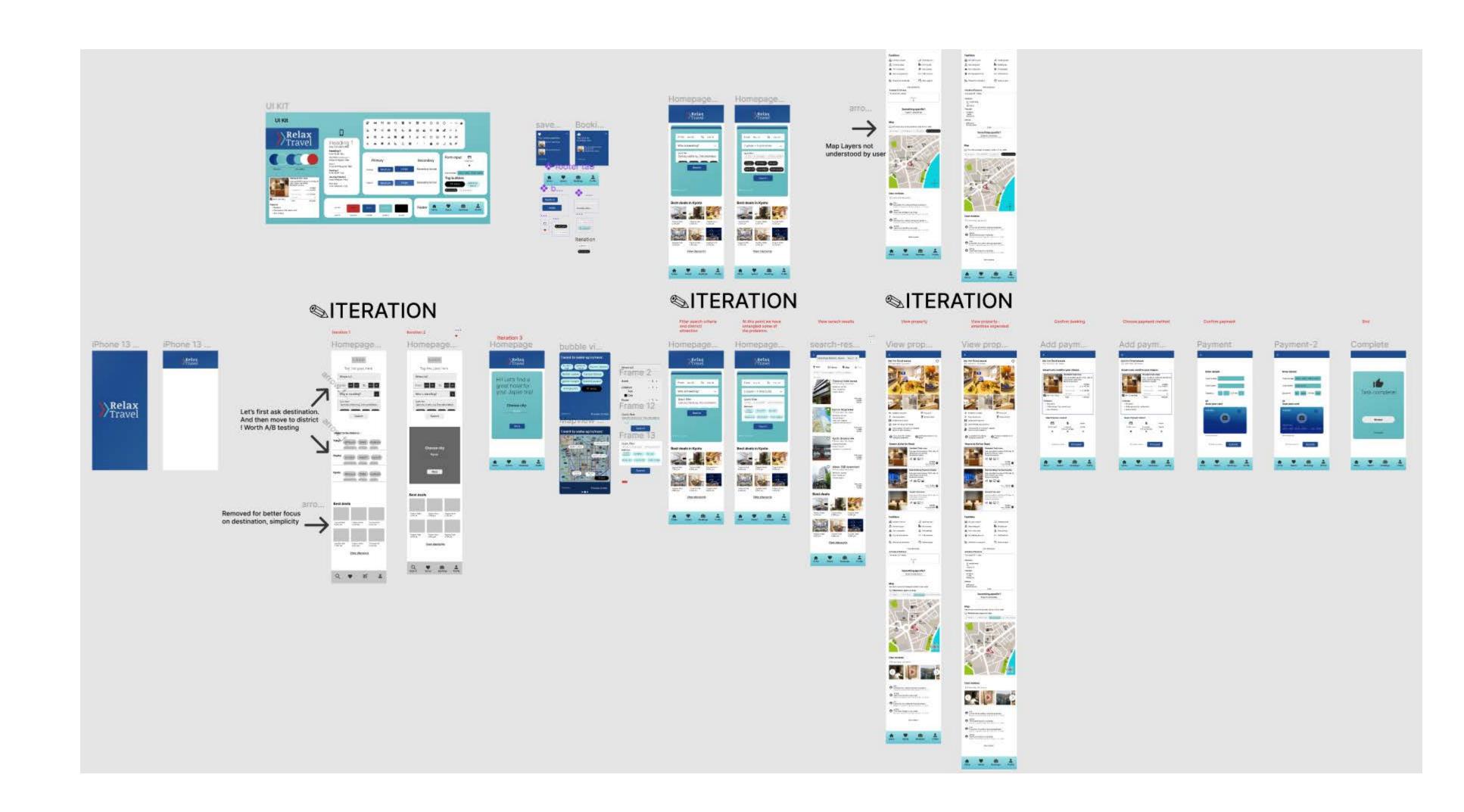
# Fintech website transaction tracking



#### **Freelance project:**

# Hotel booking app

A hotel booking project I designed for a customer.





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