EMBRACING NEURODIVERSITY IN DESIGN TEAMS



Aayushi Gupta Embracing Neurodiversity in Design Teams 18th July 2024 MSc Design for Interaction Committee

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WHY?

Design teams are increasingly recognized for their potential to drive innovation through diversity. However, while diversity in gender, nationality, and expertise has been embraced, neurodiversity remains an overlooked dimension. Neurodiversity refers to the variation in cognitive functioning that naturally occurs within the human population.

Design teams often overlook neurodiversity, missing out on unique perspectives and innovative solutions. Neurodiverse individuals posses unique traits in the form of challenges and strengths which impact team dynamics and performance. This toolkit is designed to help design teams understand and leverage each other's unique strengths and challenges to foster a more inclusive and collaborative team environment.

WHAT?

KICK-START YOUR TEAMWORK: Toolkit designed to enhance teamwork and collaboration.

The final design concept of this toolkit revolves around creating a structured yet flexible framework that enables design teams to recognize, discuss, and leverage neurodiverse traits. The toolkit consists of trait cards, prompt cards, puzzle pieces, a comic, an instruction sheet, and a sticker sheet, each serving a specific purpose in facilitating meaningful conversations and fostering a collaborative environment.

POTENTIAL IMPACT

By fostering open dialogue and mutual understanding, the toolkit aims to improve team dynamics and enhance collaboration. Leveraging diverse cognitive styles can lead to more innovative solutions and a richer design process. Creating a supportive environment where all team members feel valued can boost morale and productivity. The ultimate impact is a more inclusive and innovative design team that harnesses the full potential of its members.



