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JEFF JOHNSON

GUI Bloopers

Don'ts and Do's
for Software
Developers and
Web Designers

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Web Designers

Blooper 1

Hidden links

► **PROBLEM**

Images that aren't clearly links. Where to click?



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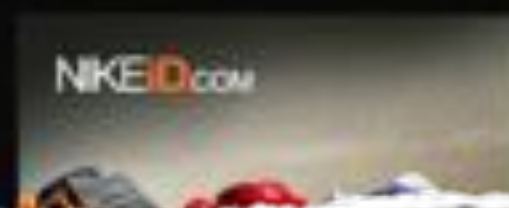
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NIKEiD
CUSTOMISE YOURS



The Nike+
Human race 10K



NikeFootball
BOOTCAMP



NikeWomen
TRAIN TO BE STRONG



NikeBasketball
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Blooper I

Hidden links

► **PROBLEM**

Images that aren't clearly links. Where to click?

► **SOLUTIONS**

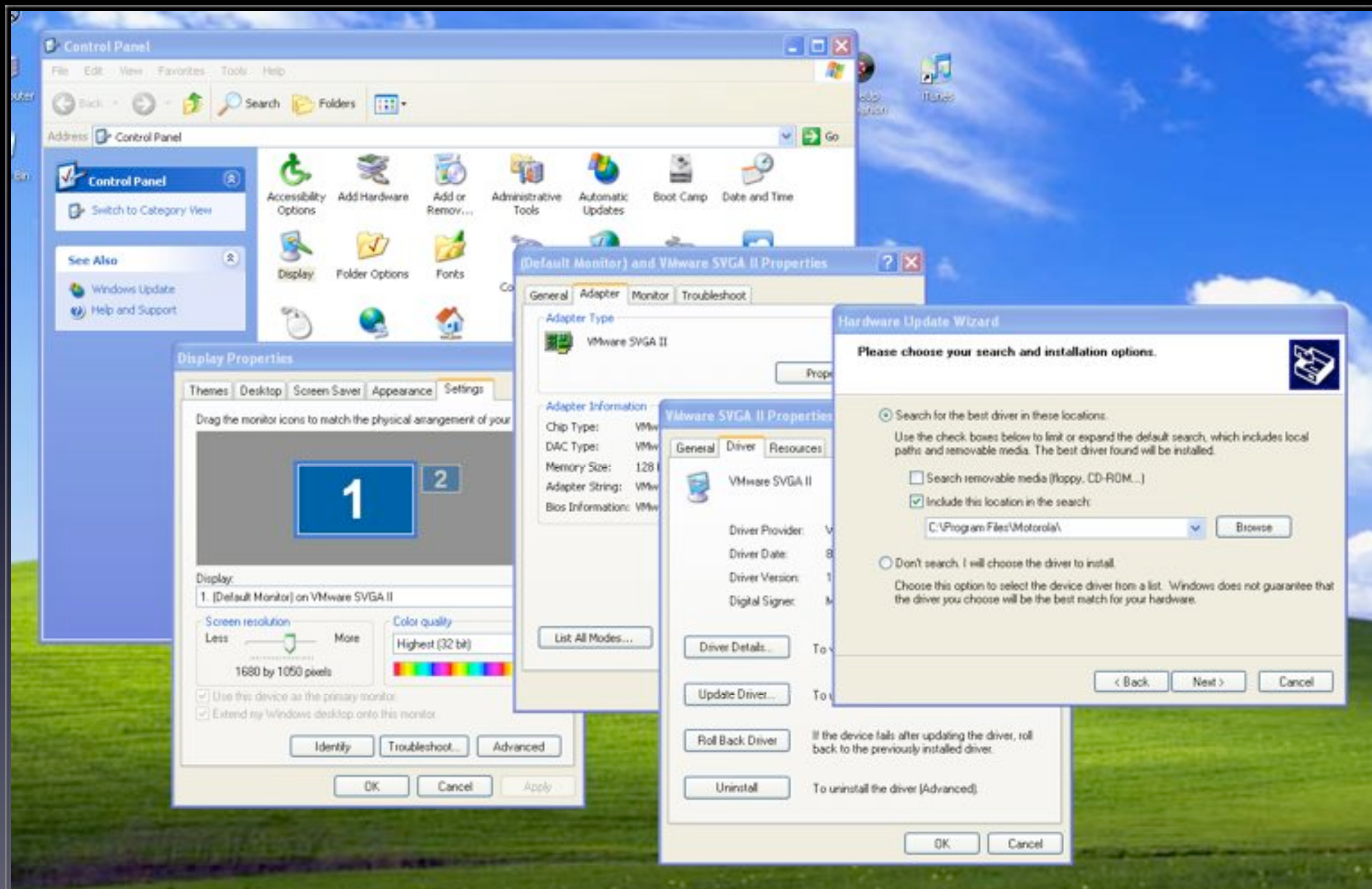
- Add a border.
- Make it look like a button visually.
- Add text.
- Graphical change or animation on hover over.

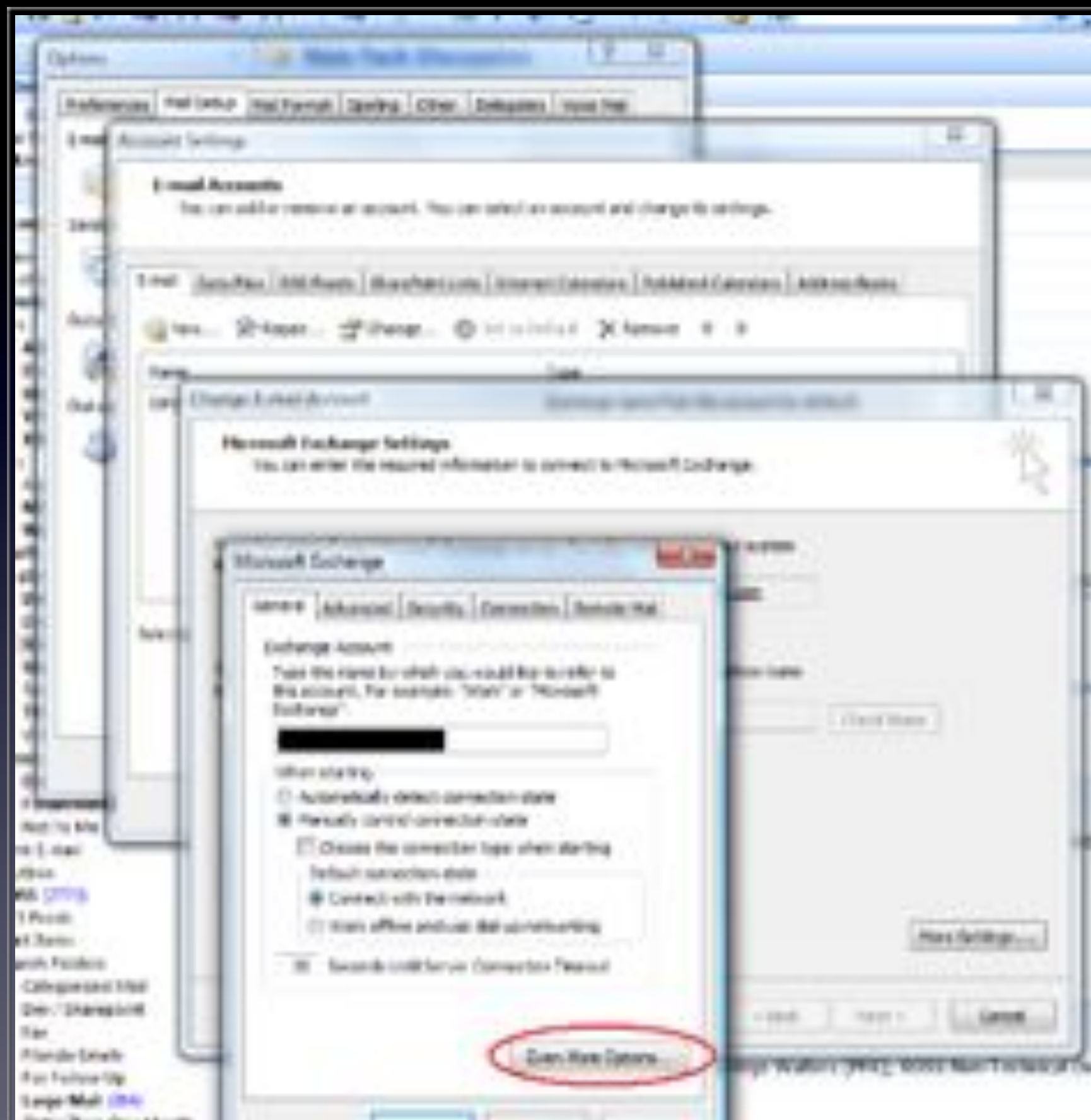
Blooper 2

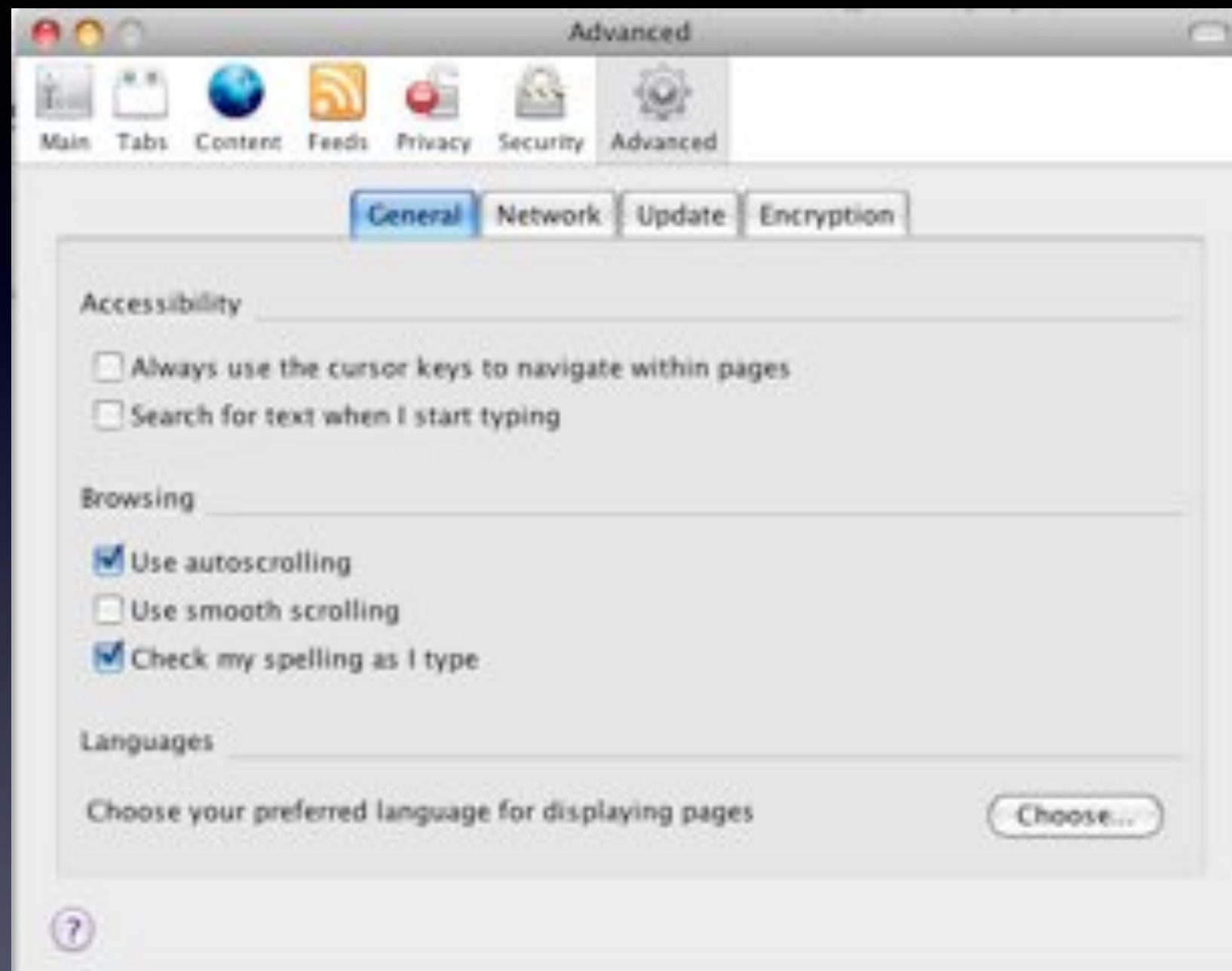
Too many levels of dialog boxes

► **PROBLEM**

Users get lost when there are too many dialog boxes.



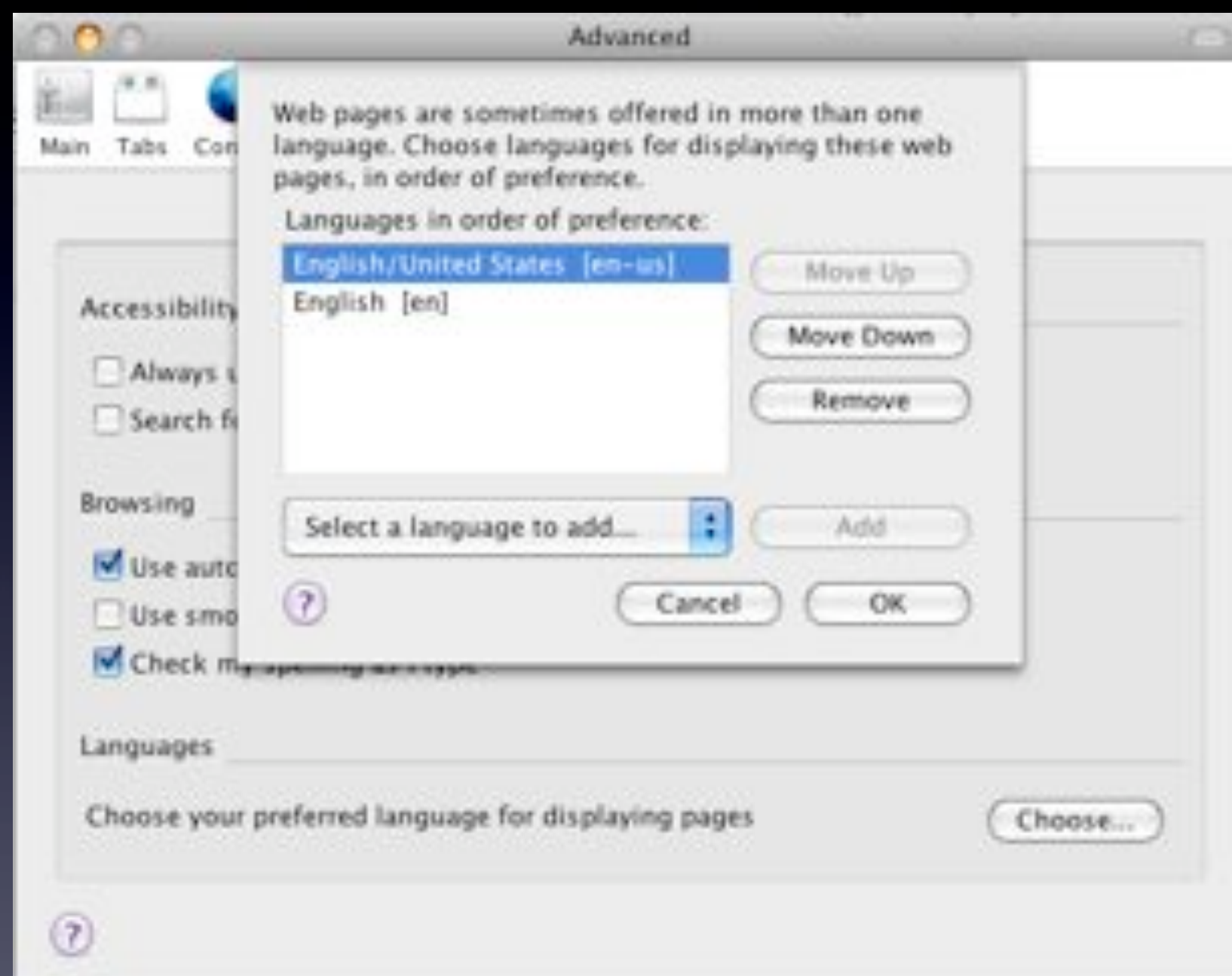




Choose your preferred language for displaying pages

Choose...

Choose...



Choose your preferred language for displaying pages

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Blooper 2

Too many levels of dialog boxes

► **PROBLEM**

Users get lost when there are too many dialog boxes.

► **SOLUTIONS**

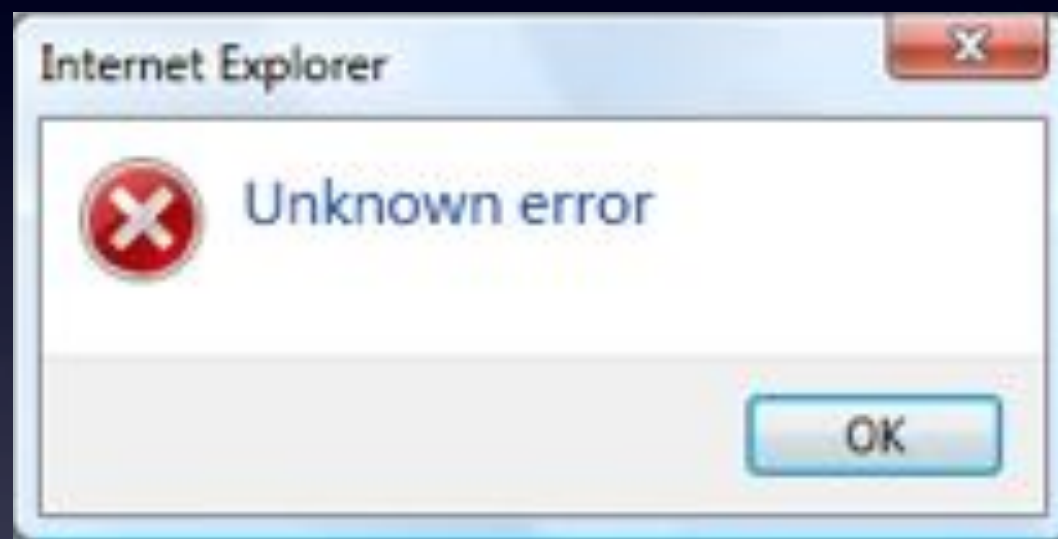
- General rule: avoid more than two levels of dialog boxes.
- Give less options.

Blooper 3

Clueless error messages

► **PROBLEM**

Error message does not help the user further.



Windows Experience Index...



Cannot complete assessment.

The assessment or other operation did not complete successfully. This is due to an error being reported from the operating system, driver, or other component.

OK

OK

Windows - No Disk



Exception Processing Message 0xc0000013 Parameters 0x75BE023C
0x8343FCBC 0x75BE023C 0x75BE023C

Cancel

Try Again

Continue





Microsoft .NET Framework



Unhandled exception has occurred in your application. If you click Continue, the application will ignore this error and attempt to continue. If you click Quit, the application will close immediately.

Details

Continue

Quit

See the end of this message for details on invoking just-in-time (JIT) debugging instead of this dialog box.

Exception Text

System.NullReferenceException: Object reference not set to an instance of an object
at FullArmor.WFStudio.i a(ControlCollection A_0)
at FullArmor.WFStudio.i u(Object A_0, EventArgs A_1)



at FullArmor.WFStudio.i u(Object A_0, EventArgs A_1)



The page isn't redirecting properly

Firefox has detected that the server is redirecting the request for this address in a way that will never complete.

- This problem can sometimes be caused by disabling or refusing to accept cookies.

Try Again

Try Again

Blooper 3

Clueless error messages

► **PROBLEM**

Error message does not help the user further.

► **SOLUTIONS**

- Identify the problem AND suggest a solution.
- Describe the choices.
- Be specific and to the point.
- No geek talk.

Thank you