

Where to go for more information

(and my references)

Minimalism (of the Nurnberg Funnel sort)

What it's about	Source
Robert Horn's review of <i>The Nurnberg Funnel</i> Thoughtful and well written comments by the master of information mapping.	http://www.stanford.edu/~rhorn/RvwOfNurnbrgFnnl.html
This is a great introduction to Carroll's minimalist principles	<i>Principles and heuristics for designing minimalist instruction</i> By Hans van der Meij and John M. Carroll http://forums.depaul.edu/HyperNews/get/W01/Eng-495-201-Naperville/28.html
Minimalist movement, the book that started it all John Carroll has a Ph.D in experimental Psychology from Columbia University and is now head of the Center for Human-Computer Interaction at Virginia Tech	<i>The Nurnberg Funnel: Designing Minimalist Instruction for Practical Computer Skill</i> By John M. Carroll Published in 1991 by M.I.T. Press
Son of the Nurnberg Funnel	<i>Minimalism beyond "The Nurnberg Funnel".</i> By John M. Carroll, (Editor) Published in 1998 by M.I.T. Press

Other language movements

What it's about	Source
Plain Language Association International home page	http://www.plainlanguagenetwork.org/
Government advice	http://www.plainlanguage.gov/
Online tutorial	http://www.web.net/~plain/PlainTrain/

Information Architecture

What it's about	Source
Here's some good advice for all documentation: Defining your users needs and expectations <ul style="list-style-type: none">– Chapter 2, pages 19-30– Chapter 3, pages 31-51 Categorizing type of information <ul style="list-style-type: none">– Chapter 4, pages 53-73	<i>Standards for Online Communication</i> By JoAnn T. Hackos and Dawn M. Stevens Published in 1997 by John Wiley & Sons
Although this book focuses on website design, you can use apply the author's advice to document design as well. Just substitute book for website as you read. But much of the information is web specific. Intro to information architecture Chapter 2, pages 10-1 <ul style="list-style-type: none">– Organizing information– Chapter 3, pages 33-46 Labeling information <ul style="list-style-type: none">– Chapter 5, pages 72-97 Defining your users needs and expectations <ul style="list-style-type: none">– Chapter 7, pages 131-147	<i>Information Architecture for the World Wide Web</i> By Louis Rosenfeld and Peter Morville Published in 1998 by O'Reilly & Associates

Good writing

What it's about	Source
<p>If you can get only one book on how to write clearly, this should be it.</p> <p>It has examples for everything, and exercises for you to work through.</p> <p>And his writing is an inspiration.</p> <p>Keep it at your desk. When you get your morning coffee, read through a few pages put some pencil to the paper. Fifteen or twenty minutes a day of your time is a great investment for you and your company. Show it to your boss and explain. I bet he or she will support you spending time this way.</p> <p>Clarity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">– Lessons 3-6, pages 39-137 <p>Trim the fat in 4 steps</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">– Lesson 7, pages 139-165	<p><i>Style Ten Lessons in Clarity and Grace</i></p> <p>By Joseph M. Williams</p> <p>The sixth edition was published in 2000 by Addison-Wesley Educational Publishers Inc.</p>
<p>This is the classic that serves as a bible for all types of writers and all types of writing</p>	<p>The Elements of Style</p> <p>By William Strunk Jr. and E.B. White</p> <p>I have the 3rd edition, published in 1979 by MacMillan Publishing Co.</p>

Communicating with graphics

What it's about	Source
<p>"An idea book...a conceptual approach to... mixing words and pictures."</p> <p>Keep your eyes out for this great book, it's now out of print.</p>	<p>Illustrating Computer Documentation</p> <p>Published in 1991 by John Wiley & Sons</p>
<p>A whole bunch of stuff crammed into one book.</p> <p>By the father of Information Mapping.</p>	<p>Robert E. Horn</p> <p>Visual Language: Global Communication for the 21st Century, published 1998 by Robert Horn</p>

Usability

What it's about	Source
This is a fun book to read about designing anything for usability. The points he makes are not particularly about documentation, but can certainly be applied.	The Design of Everyday Things By Donald A. Norman First published in 1988, now published in paperback by Doubleday Currency

Single sourcing seminars

What it's about	Source
Ann Rockley's seminars Great speaker, she gives very specific information on how-to-do it	You can get schedules from her website: http://www.rockley.com
JoAnn Hackos seminars Great speaker, gives great overviews and definitions	You can get schedules from her website: http://www.comtech-serv.com Also, she gives presentations at many STC seminars