

Strength of Evidence Scale

The following scale was used to evaluate each guideline. It is a modified version of the scale used by the NCI for their web design guidelines published at www.usability.org.

| Rating | Description |
|--------|--|
| ●●●●● | A universally-accepted foundation principle supported by numerous usability tests and/or studies and published in multiple peer-reviewed sources. |
| ●●●●○ | A strongly established recommendation based on a well-controlled usability study with numerous test subjects or multiple usability tests and/or studies validated by multiple researchers. Published in at least one peer-reviewed source. |
| ●●●○○ | A well-established recommendation based on a usability study or more than one usability tests and/or studies. Published in (or in press for) at least one source. |
| ●●○○○ | A recommendation supported by a small or non-rigorous usability test or study that is not well known or needs more supporting evidence. Unpublished but available, often through the Web. |
| ●○○○○ | A recommendation from an industry expert, style guide, or common practice, that has not been confirmed by usability tests or studies. |
| ○○○○○ | Relatively common practices that have not been validated by research. |

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