

Shaping Things

“New forms of design and manufacture are appearing that lack historical precedent”

“Our current scale/methods of manufacturing and consumption are not sustainable”

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“Effective intervention takes place not in the human, not in the object, but in the realm of the technosocial”

Human Computer Interaction duality



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What are Sterling's technosocial epochs?



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What separates epochs?

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“We know that this revolution has become the new status quo when even the fiercest proponents of the earlier technoculture cannot physically overwhelm and defeat the new one”

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“It is important to explicitly acknowledge the downsides of any technological transformation”

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“Tomorrow composts today”

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“What can you no longer earn a living without?”

“What technological feature would a country be completely conquerable if they lost it?”





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Designers in a GIZMO world must design for
cognitive load and opportunity cost

"...in an information-rich world, the wealth of information means a dearth of something else: a scarcity of whatever it is that information consumes. What information consumes is rather obvious: it consumes the attention of its recipients. Hence a wealth of information creates a poverty of attention and a need to allocate that attention efficiently among the overabundance of information sources that might consume it" (Simon 1971, p. 40-41).