

A system you can read

A PDF specimen in the Karadigm style — the same content as the Word file, exported and re-set, grayscale first with accents used sparingly.

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Good document design is mostly restraint. One typeface for reading, one for labels and code, a single spacing scale, and colour reserved for the few places it actually carries meaning.

The point of a specimen is to show the kit working together: headings, body copy, callouts, lists, quotes, tables and images, all from the same tokens.

One layer of truth

Name a colour by the role it plays, not by how it looks. An accent token called “primary” can change from grey to green without a single rename downstream; a token called “blue” traps you the moment the brand shifts.

NOTE

Callouts share one language

Note, tip and warning blocks differ only by their accent and label — the same shape, padding and type across every format.

- Name by role, not by look — one accent token, never “blue”.
- Keep a single spacing scale and never break it.
- Document the why next to the what.



Full-bleed imagery sits inside the same margins as the text.

Naming things

Sed ut perspiciatis unde omnis iste natus error sit voluptatem accusantium doloremque laudantium, totam rem aperiam, eaque ipsa quae ab illo inventore veritatis et quasi architecto beatae vitae dicta sunt explicabo.

- 1 Gather the requirements before touching a style.
- 2 Draft the structure, then the surface.
- 3 Review against the tokens, not against taste.

TIP

Re-skin from one file

Because every value is a token, switching the whole document from light to dark is a single change — this file ships in both.

“The system you can re-skin in one file is the one that survives the next redesign.”

— Karadigm

Colour & contrast

The palette is deliberately small. Neutral grey does the everyday work; blue, green and red appear only as information, success and warning.





A second image keeps the rhythm without breaking the grid.

Tables

Tabular data uses a quiet header, hairline rules and banded rows; the monospace figures line up on the right.

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One file to re-skin

Everything you have read sits on a handful of variables. Change them once and the headings, callouts, tables and captions all move together.

WARNING

Don't break the scale

The fastest way to wreck a system is an off-scale spacing value or a one-off colour. If a value isn't a token, it doesn't belong on the page.

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