keap

Spring Cleaning Daze

Let's clean up our Sketch Files!

Why are we here?

Our projects are kind of a mess.

This comes after periods of high productivity.

Engineers have "tech debt"

Cutting some corners to ship
it as "good enough"

We all do it.

No judgement ok?

It's time to pay back the debt

Which will save us
in the long run

Benefits

Designers can easily take up others' work

Easier to port into Figma when the time comes

Consistent usage of design system will improve developer handoff ease

Two things to focus on:

Archive old stuff

Align current files around
best practices

Day 1

Morning - Archive the old

Noon - Lunch

Afternoon - Naming and grouping

4pm - Recap

Day 2

Morning - Symbols

Noon - Lunch

Afternoon - Layer Styles

4pm - Recap

Archiving the old

Ways to know something should be archived

1 - The same file exists in multiple projects

2 - There are no current plans to build the thing that was designed

3 - It has old branding

4 - It's hidden in some way or marked "do not use" etc.

(yes, delete invisible layers-they waste space)

5 - It's been sitting in a "scraps" parking lot for more than a couple months.

Let's archive or merge ALL branches!

If you think you'll need something that was archived, save a copy of the file to Google Drive, since we're moving off of Abstract.

If you need help, ask!

Naming and Grouping

Best practices for naming and grouping things in our files

1 - Anything at the "root" should have a real name.

(not "group 6" or "symbols/thing/thing 2")

2 - No groups with only 1 thing in them

(Use the Automate Sketch plugin to clear this out)

2 - Always name your groups

"group 6" is not ok
but "Row 6" is probably fine

3 - Number your artboards

1.0.0 - Flow start page
2.0.0 - Another Flow start
2.1.0 - A step in a flow
2.1.1 - An interaction mockup on a step
2.1.1b - a temporary variant idea

4 - Organize your pages

Top pages are current
Put a page named "-----" to separate new prototypes from current ones.

Name your pages clearly
"Page 1" is not OK!

5 - Clean up the mess

Delete delete delete!

Abstract saves everything
(and if you're paranoid, save
a local copy)

How did we do?

Next steps

Put notes here

Symbols

Let's use symbols to keep things simple

1 - Switch your buttons, inputs, navigation, and icons to design system symbols

Use other symbols too,
but these are the big ones

2 - Create local symbols for repeated things in your file

Custom nav
Wizard header section
Tables and charts
Lists

3 - Remove references to non-keap libraries.

Check your library settings and turn off all the non-keap libraries.

Layer and Type Styles

Let's use layer styles to keep things consistent

1 - Look in your Document Layer and Type Styles

Delete document styles. If you get a warning, undo and use Automate Sketch to find and replace the style in bulk.

2 - Remove for one-off colors and type

Replace these with the closest design system style you can find.
In some cases, create a document layer style to reference.

3 - Fix alignment

When you update libraries old overridden alignments might get set to align left.

There are now centered and right-aligned styles to use.

4 - Fix spacing

After all this is done, you might have some spacing issues.

Reset the type sizing boxes and space everything on a multiple of 8px (sometimes 4px)

How did we do?

We cleaned some stuff up!

Archived 61 files (40%)
Archived 8 projects
Reduced file sizes by 47%
Removed 90 purple artboards
Removed 435,322 layers (61%)

We increased
Design System coverage!

From 25% to 44%

Awards!
(Anonymized)

The Archivists
(most archived projects)

```
Super Girl - 3
Wolverine - 2
Star Lord - 2
```

Filing Clerks
(Most files archived)

Doctor Strange - 31
Storm - 18
The Hulk - 13

Pizza Delivery!
(Most files added)

Mysterio - 4
Lex Luthor - 1

Honey, I Shrunk the Files!
(Biggest file size reduction)

```
Ant Man - 943 MB
Black Widow - 403 MB
Superman - 132 MB
```

Costco Size-It
(file size increases)

```
The Joker - +102 MB
 Doc Ock - +102 MB
```

Flaky, Layered Biscuits
(layer reduction)

```
Spider Man - 296,067
Green Lantern - 67,665
Captain Marvel - 46,949
```

Under Cover Operatives (Coverage percentage)

Sailor Moon - 85.9%
Batman - 79.1%
Captain America - 45.8%

Design System Coverage Reduction

Ultron: -13.1%

Purple Artboard Eater
(Old branding artboards)

```
Wasp - 37
Black Panther - 28
The Hulk - 25
```