

Examples to illustrate the difference between needs, behavior and design

Needs	Behavior	Design
Vision and Scope Document	Software Requirements Specification	Design or Architecture Document
The users need to be able to easily search and replace text.	A user indicates that search and replace is needed. The software responds by prompting for a search term and replacement text. The user enters the text and indicates that the software is to do a case-sensitive search to replace all occurrences.	A user selects “Search” from the “Edit” menu. The software pops up a window with a textbox for a search term, a textbox for the replacement text, a checkbox for case-sensitivity (defaulted to unchecked) and a button labeled “Replace All”. The user enters the search term and replacement text into the appropriate textboxes, checks the checkbox, and clicks the button to initiate the search.
A user composing e-mail needs to be able to look up contacts in an address book.	A user entering the header information in an e-mail being composed indicates that the current header field should be populated using the address book. The software responds by displaying a list of contacts, including full name and e-mail address. The user specifies one. The software responds by returning to the e-mail and adding the specified name and address to the header field.	The user has the “compose e-mail” window active, selects one of the textboxes that contain the To: or From: header, and clicks the address book button next to the textbox. The software responds by popping up a modal dialog that contains the address book entries in a listbox. The user scrolls down to the e-mail address to be added to the field, clicks on the name and clicks the “Add” button. The software closes the address book window and adds the name to the field that was being edited.
A user needs to search the internet for web pages that contain certain words.	A user indicates a search term to the search engine. The software responds by displaying a list of pages that match the criteria. The list is limited to 100 results. The user may indicate that the next 100 results are to be displayed, in which case the system displays those results instead.	A user navigates to the home page of the search engine. The software responds by displaying a textbox and a button labeled “Search”. The user enters the search term into the textbox and clicks the button. The software responds by displaying a page with 100 results, with one link per result. At the bottom of the page is a link labeled “Next 100 hits”. If the user clicks on that link, the search engine displays the next 100 hits, with a link labeled “Next 100 hits” and another labeled “Previous 100 hits”.