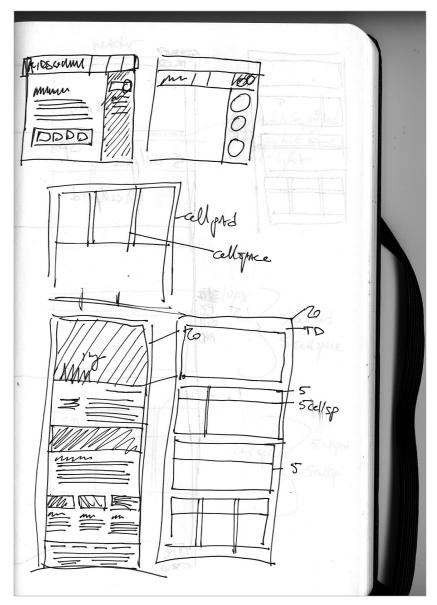
STUDIES AND THUMBNAILS: WHAT TO EXPECT



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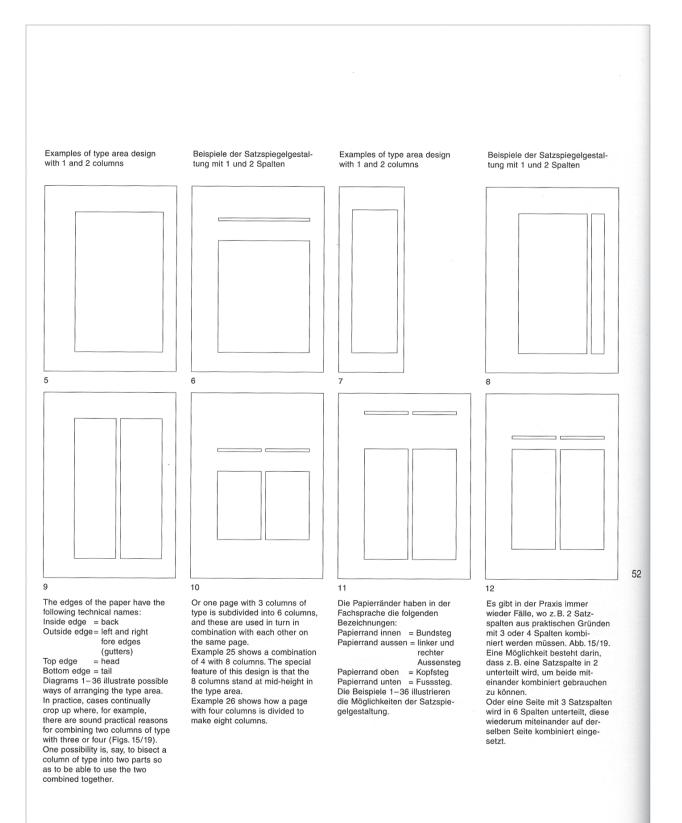
UNIVERSITY OF NORTH TEXAS SPRING 2012

## STUDIES AND THUMBNAILS: WHAT TO EXPECT

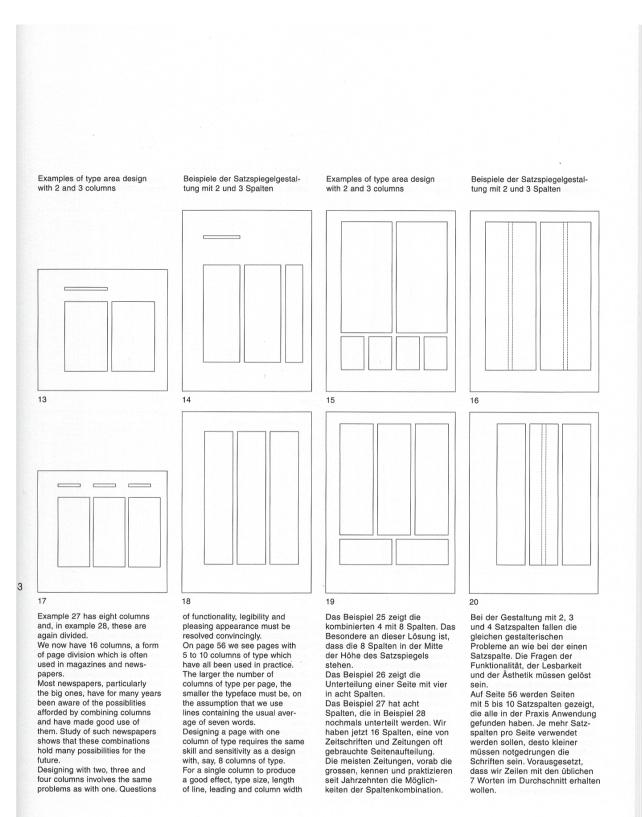


Regardless of *what* you're designing, the design process starts with thumbnails. *Lots of 'em.* As iterative thinkers, designers can sort out rough ideas and revisions of those ideas on paper very quickly before work on the computer ever begins.

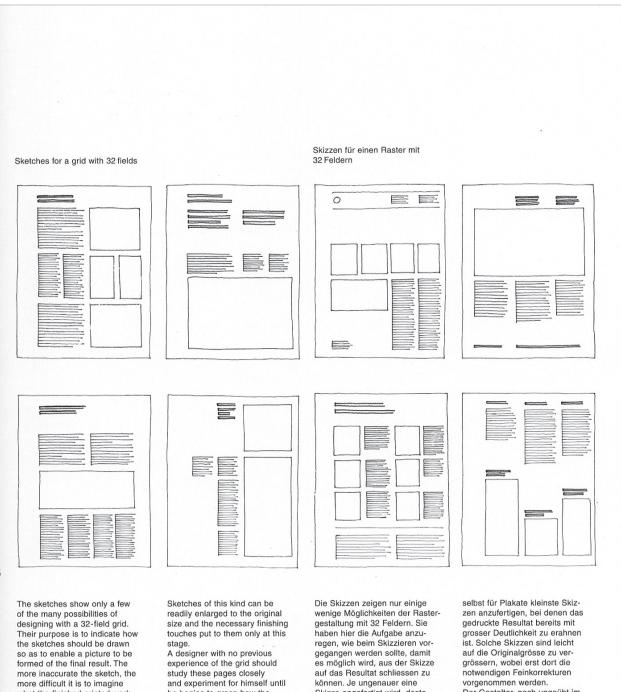
This is a very rough thumbnail from my sketchbook for an HTML e-letter.



In his book *Grid Systems in Graphic Design*, Josef Müller-Brockmann outlines rough grid studies much like the ones you will be expected to complete. Like my HTML e-letter sketch, these studies map out specific content areas roughly to help the designer determine the layout's success.

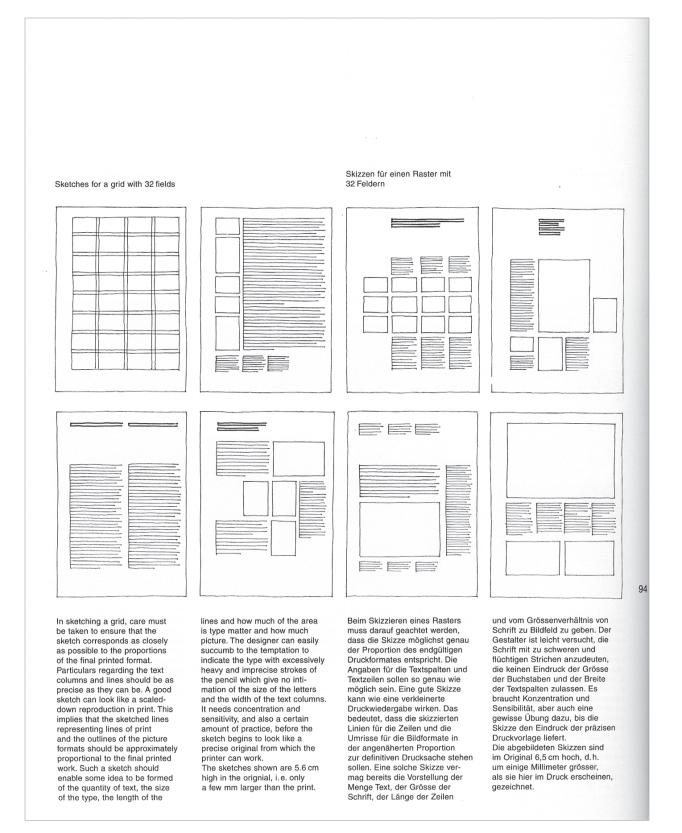


More from Brockmann's book. Notice how these are cleanly rendered (yours will be in pencil) and how they help identify the areas of the page to help you visualize the function each part and their relationships.



more inaccurate the sketch, the more difficult it is to imagine what the finished printed work will look like. The more accurate the sketch, the easier it will be for the designer to test the idea behind it for suitability. There are designers who can produce, even for posters, the tiniest sketches which nevertheless intimate quite clearly what the result will look like in print. A designer with no previous experience of the grid should study these pages closely and experiment for himself until he begins to grasp how the system works. Only then will he be able to benefit from thinking in terms of the grid and mathematics. wenige Möglichkeiten der Rastergestaltung mit 32 Feldern. Sie haben hier die Aufgabe anzuregen, wie beim Skizzieren vorgegangen werden sollte, damit es möglich wird, aus der Skizze auf das Resultat schliessen zu können. Je ungenauer eine Skizze angefertigt wird, desto weniger vermag sie eine Vorstellung davon zu geben, wie die Drucksache schlussendlich aussehen könnte. Je präziser die Skizze ist, desto leichter wird es dem Gestalter möglich, die dahinter liegende Idee auf ihre Verwendbarkeit zu prüfen. zen anzufertigen, bei denen das gedruckte Resultat bereits mit grosser Deutlichkeit zu erahnen ist. Solche Skizzen sind leicht auf die Originalgrösse zu vergrössern, wobei erst dort die notwendigen Feinkorrekturen vorgenommen werden. Der Gestalter, noch ungeübt im Umgang mit dem Raster, sollte diese Seiten genau studieren und eigene Versuche machen, bis ihm das Rastersystem verständlich geworden ist. Erst dann wird er mit Gewinn seine eigene Arbeit auf der Basis des Rasterdenkens, des mathematischen Denkens, erleben.

After grid studies are completed come thumbnails. The success of any page or publication design hinges on the success of the grid. Note the care taken to render these layouts faithfully and cleanly. Your attention to detail here will help you best determine which design will be the most successful.



Note Brockmann's charge for care to be taken when sketching. Use single lines (no hatching) and pay attention to the size relationships on the page. Work carefully completed here will save you time when you sit down to convert your work to electronic form.