Crafting a Multi-Themed Design System

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Sizing & spacing

Sizing and spacing tokens are used to create a consistent layout and to maintain proper alignment and spacing between elements in our interface. They define properties like width, height, margin, padding, and grid/flex layout. Use these tokens to ensure that our interface is well-structured and easy to navigate. For example, use larger spacing tokens for the gap between major sections and smaller ones for the gap between related elements.

General

xxxxx

PX Value	Rem Value	Variable
0	0	sizing-0
2	0.125rem	sizing-0,5
4	0.25rem	sizing-1
6	0.375rem	sizing-1,5
8	0.5rem	sizing-2
10	0.625rem	sizing-2,5
12	0.75rem	sizing-3
14	0.875rem	sizing-3,5
16	1rem	sizing-4
20	1.25rem	sizing-5
24	1.5rem	sizing-6
28	1.75rem	sizing-7
32	2rem	sizing-8
36	2.25rem	sizing-9
40	2.5rem	sizing-10
44	2.75rem	sizing-11
48	3rem	sizing-12
56	3.5rem	sizing-14
64	4rem	sizing-16
80	5rem	sizing-20
96	6rem	sizing-24
112	7rem	sizing-28
128	8rem	sizing-32
144	9rem	sizing-36
160	10rem	sizing-40
176	11rem	sizing-44
192	12rem	sizing-48
208	13rem	sizing-52
224	14rem	sizing-56
240	15rem	sizing-60
256	16rem	sizing-64
288	18rem	sizing-72
320	20rem	sizing-80
320	20rem	sizing-xs
384	24rem	sizing-96

Background colors

Use these semantic tokens to define the general background color of different areas within our interface. Distinguish between different sections, create visual hierarchy, or provide contrast for other elements.

Each token is available in Core, OAP and 2DIV and switches automatically by using Figma variables and modes.

Base

Use base tokens for the majority of our UI components and backgrounds. Base tokens are neutral and subtle, providing a clean and unobtrusive background for elements. Use them to create a sense of depth and layering in the interface.

Type
Strong
Base
Muted
Subtle
Disabled
Base Inverted
White
Dark

Brand

Brand colors are used to represent our brand identity
overwhelming the user. They might be used for key
be used subtly in the background to add a touch of

Type
Primary Strong
Primary Base
Primary Subtle
Secondary Strong
Secondary Base
Secondary Subtle
Accent Strong
Accent Base
Accent Subtle

Typography system

Typography tokens are used to maintain consistency in the text styles across our interface. They define properties like font family, font size, line height, font weight, and letter spacing. Use these tokens to ensure that our typography is consistent, legible, and effectively communicates the information hierarchy.

Font family

We use Monserrat as our typeface.

Type	Variable
Heading	font / family / heading
Body	font / family / body

Font weight

Medium
- Use medium font weight for body text, such as paragraphs and descriptions, to maintain readability.
- Use it for headers or subheadings when you want a less pronounced emphasis compared to bold.
- It's suitable for general content where you want a balance between emphasis and neutrality.

Semi-bold
- Semi-bold is ideal for creating contrast and hierarchy in your design without being as heavy as bold.
- Use it for headers, subheadings, or elements that need more emphasis than regular text but less than bold.
- It's great for highlighting important points or creating a visual hierarchy within your text.

Bold
- Bold font weight is best for emphasis and drawing attention to specific text elements.
- Use it for headings, titles, call-to-action buttons, or any text that needs to stand out prominently.
- Bold text is also effective for creating contrast and hierarchy in your design, especially when paired with lighter weights for body text.

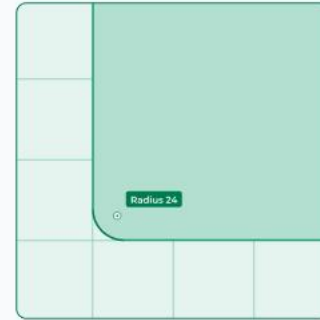| Type	Variable
400	font / weight / regular
500	font / weight / medium
600	font / weight / semibold
700	font / weight / bold

Agenda

1 Preparation

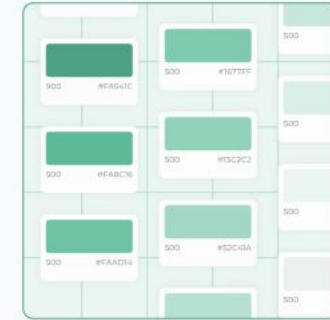**2** Building the Figma Library

3 Building Components and Variants

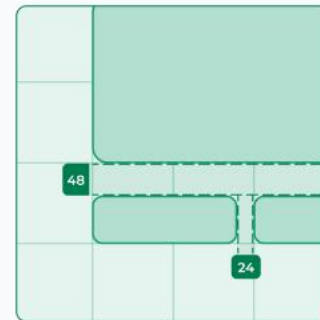**4** Documentation and Guidelines
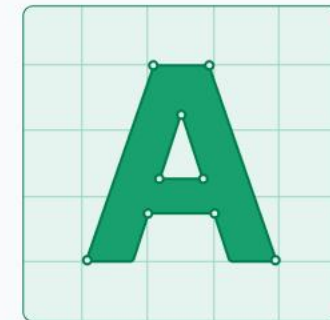

Borders • Complete

Colors • Complete

Res

Sizing and Spacing • Complete

Typography • Complete

Vis

Preparation

Context

The goal of this work was to build a system utilising Figma Library tokens to enable the team to work with three distinct colours branding.

1 Research and colour strategy

2 Typography choices

3 Icons and illustrations

4 Sizing & Spacing

Research Themes

Primary
#1A4B85

Secondary
#DEECFA

Primary
#1A4B85
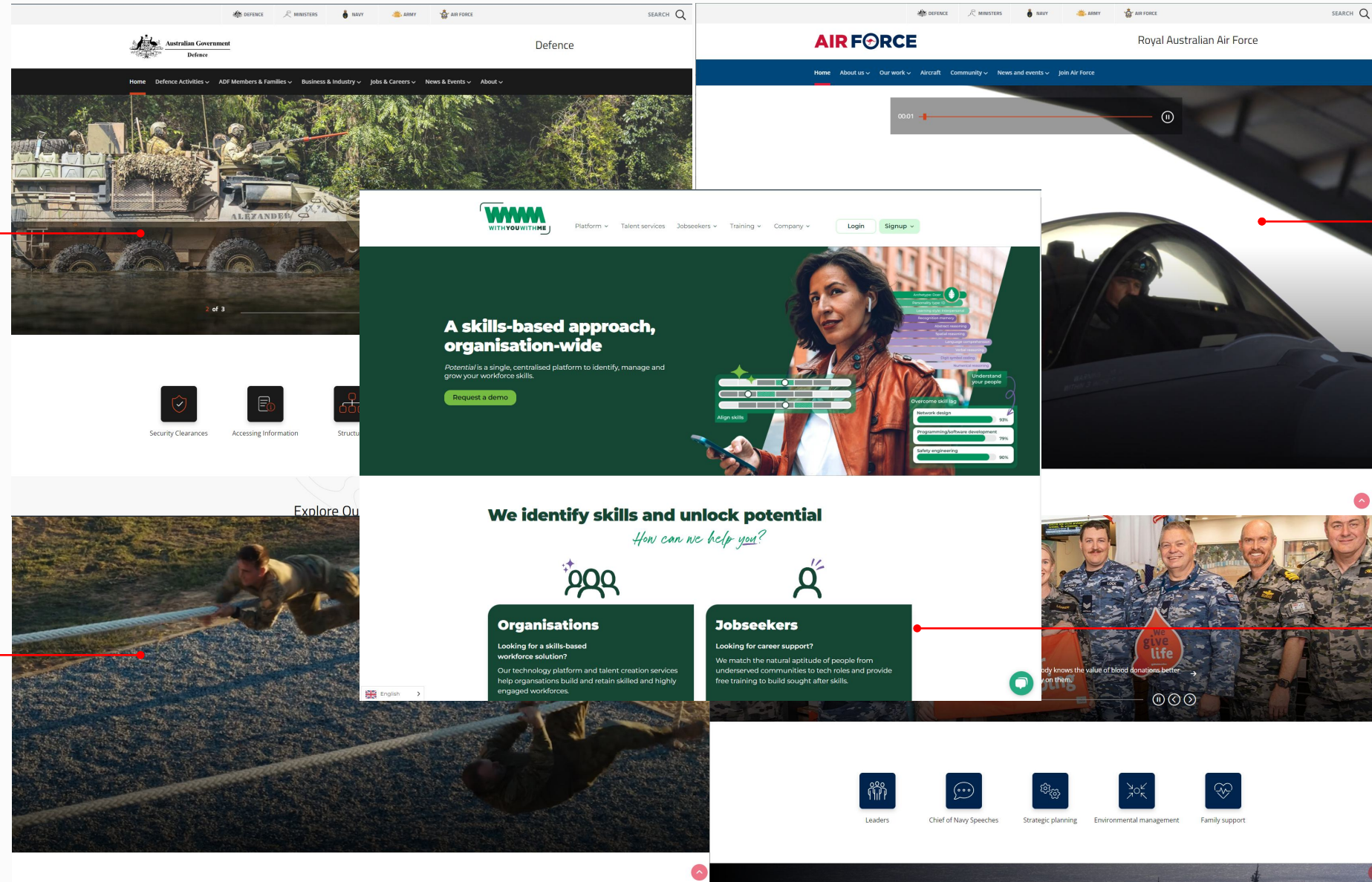
Secondary
#DEECFA

Primary
#1A4B85

Secondary
#DEECFA

Primary
#1A4B85

Secondary
#DEECFA

Foundations

State

Type	Variable	Color
Danger Strong	background / danger / strong	
Danger Base	background / danger / base	
Danger Subtle	background / danger / subtle	
Warning Strong	background / warning / strong	
Warning Base	background / warning / base	
Warning Subtle	background / warning / subtle	
Success Strong	background / success / strong	
Success Base	background / success / base	
Success Subtle	background / success / subtle	
Info Strong	background / info / strong	
Info Base	background / info / base	
Info Subtle	background / info / subtle	

Action

Type	Variable	Color
Neutral Normal	background / action / neutral / normal	
Neutral Hover	background / action / neutral / hover	
Neutral Focus	background / action / neutral / focus	

Type	Variable	Color
Link Normal	background / action / link / normal	
Link Hover	background / action / link / hover	
Link Focus	background / action / link / focus	

Type	Variable	Color
Primary Normal	background / action / primary / normal	
Primary Hover	background / action / primary / hover	
Primary Focus	background / action / primary / focus	

Type	Variable	Color
Secondary Normal	background / action / secondary / normal	
Secondary Hover	background / action / secondary / hover	
Secondary Focus	background / action / secondary / focus	

Type	Variable	Color
Danger Normal	background / action / danger / normal	
Danger Hover	background / action / danger / hover	

Type	Variable	Color
Primary Strong	background / primary / strong	
Primary Base	background / primary / base	

Type	Variable	Color
Primary Strong	background / primary / strong	
Primary Base	background / primary / base	

Type	Variable	Color
Primary Strong	background / primary / strong	
Primary Base	background / primary / base	

Type	Variable	Color
Primary Strong	background / primary / strong	
Primary Base	background / primary / base	
Primary Subtle	background / primary / subtle	
Secondary Strong	background / secondary / strong	
Secondary Base	background / secondary / base	
Secondary Subtle	background / secondary / subtle	
Accent Strong	background / accent / strong	
Accent Base	background / accent / base	
Accent Subtle	background / accent / subtle	

Brand Colours

Typography

Line height

Type	Variable	Mo
xs	line-height / xs	14
sm	line-height / sm	16
md	line-height / md	18
lg	line-height / lg	20
xl	line-height / xl	24
2xl	line-height / 2xl	32
3xl	line-height / 3xl	40
4xl	line-height / 4xl	48
5xl	line-height / 5xl	56

Font size

Type	Variable	
xs	font / size / xs	
sm	font / size / sm	
md	font / size / md	
lg	font / size / lg	
xl	font / size / xl	18
2xl	font / size / 2xl	20
3xl	font / size / 3xl	24
4xl	font / size / 4xl	32

Building the Figma Library

Thinking ahead

🟦 **#0047B3**	- - -	🟦 **blue/300**	- - -	🟦 **background/primary**
TOKEN		**PRIMITIVE**		**SEMANTIC**

Putting it all together

Name	core ①	oap ②	2div ③	defence ④
🎨 white	☐ colors/core/neutral/0	☐ colors/oap/neutral/0	☐ colors/2div/neutral/0	☐ ...lors/defence/neutral/0
🎨 dark	■ .../core/deep green/800	■ colors/oap/green/800	■ ...rs/2div/deep blue/800	■ ...defence/neutral/10700
background / primary				
🎨 background	■ .../core/deep green/900	■ colors/oap/green/900	■ ...rs/2div/deep blue/900	☐ .../defence/neutral/2700
🎨 strong	■ .../core/deep green/900	■ colors/oap/green/900	■ ...rs/2div/deep blue/900	■ ...defence/neutral/10700
🎨 base	■ .../core/deep green/800	■ colors/oap/green/800	■ ...rs/2div/deep blue/700	■ .../defence/neutral/9500
🎨 dark-subtle	■ .../core/deep green/400	■ colors/oap/green/200	■ ...rs/2div/deep blue/200	■ ...ors/defence/blue/1200
🎨 subtle	☐ ...rs/core/deep green/50	☐ colors/oap/green/50	☐ ...lors/2div/deep blue/50	☐ .../defence/neutral/2300
background / secondary				
🎨 strong	■ ...s/core/mint green/900	■ colors/oap/green/200	■ ...rs/2div/deep blue/200	☐ .../defence/neutral/2700
🎨 base	■ ...s/core/mint green/500	☐ colors/oap/green/50	☐ ...rs/2div/deep blue/100	☐ .../defence/neutral/2500
🎨 subtle	☐ ...rs/core/mint green/50	☐ colors/oap/green/25	☐ ...lors/2div/deep blue/50	☐ .../defence/neutral/1000

theme

All variables 141

background
  primary
  secondary
  accent
  danger
  warning
  success
  info
  action
    neutral
    link
    primary
    secondary
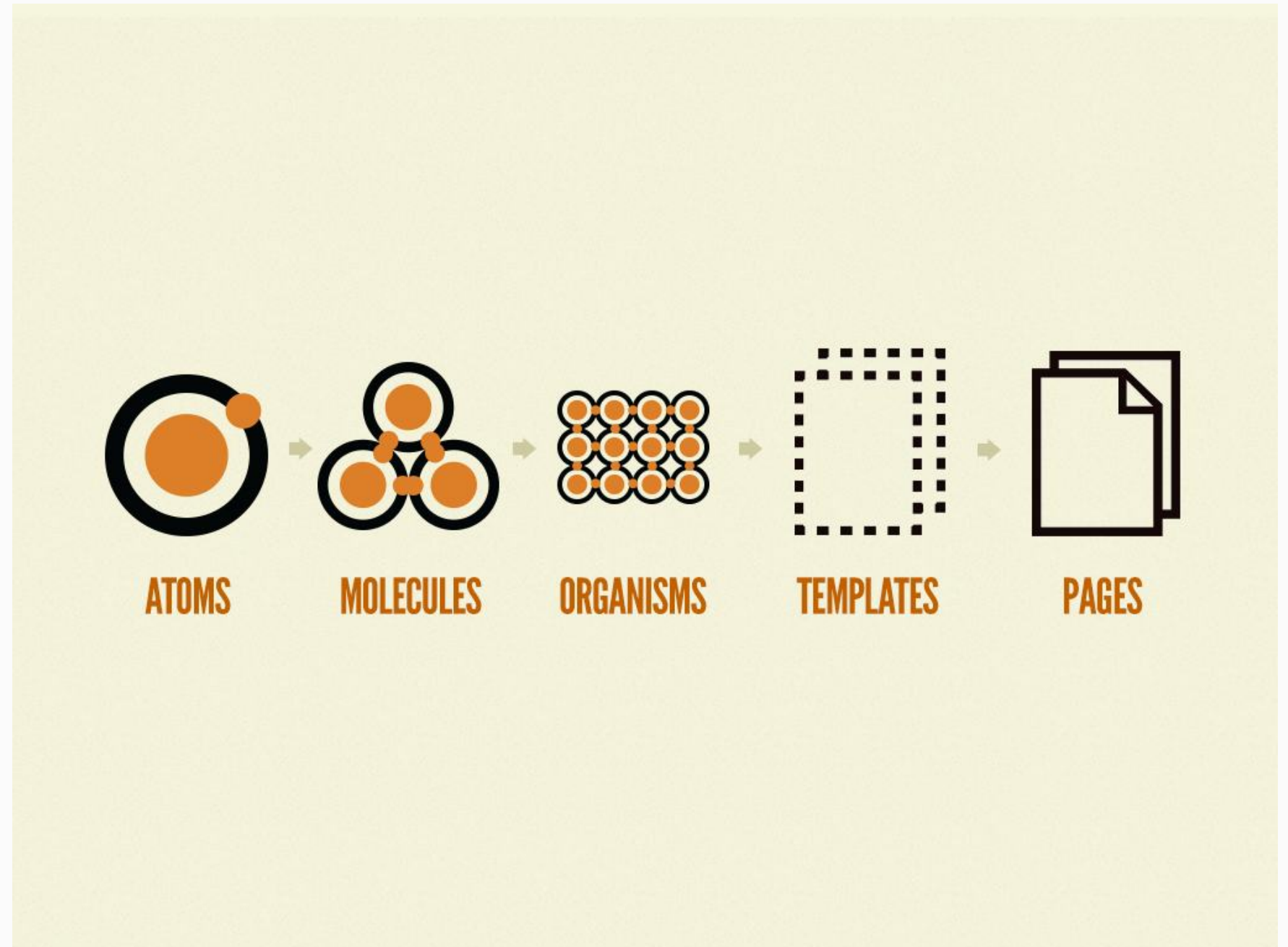   danger
    warning
    success

Building Components and Variants

Atomic Design Methodology

The goal was to create a **flexible design system** that could be easily modified and expanded upon while keep the design process efficient and organised.

Atomic Design was the perfect methodology to achieve this, as it breaks down complex elements into smaller and reusable parts.
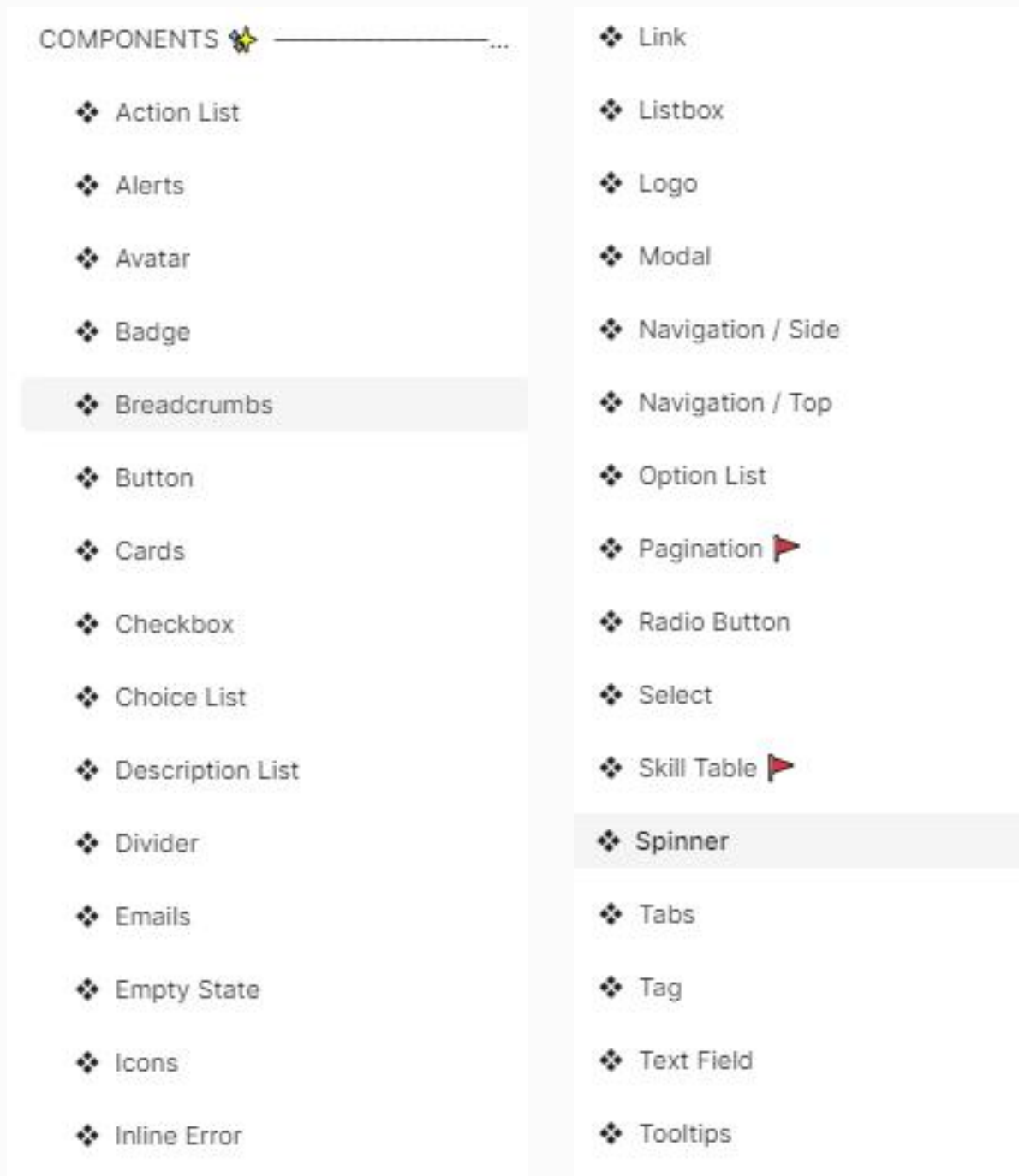
Example of how organisms are built

Atoms ———————————————————————→ Molecules ———————————————————————→ Organisms

Components list & Example

Components list

COMPONENTS ✦ ————————— ...

- ❖ Action List
- ❖ Alerts
- ❖ Avatar
- ❖ Badge
- ❖ Breadcrumbs
- ❖ Button
- ❖ Cards
- ❖ Checkbox
- ❖ Choice List
- ❖ Description List
- ❖ Divider
- ❖ Emails
- ❖ Empty State
- ❖ Icons
- ❖ Inline Error

- ❖ Link
- ❖ Listbox
- ❖ Logo
- ❖ Modal
- ❖ Navigation / Side
- ❖ Navigation / Top
- ❖ Option List
- ❖ Pagination 🚩
- ❖ Radio Button
- ❖ Select
- ❖ Skill Table 🚩
- ❖ Spinner
- ❖ Tabs
- ❖ Tag
- ❖ Text Field
- ❖ Tooltips

Components example

- 🔍 Search
- 📈 Dashboard
- 💼 Jobs
- 👥 Employees
- Projects
- Organisation
- Learning
- Training
- Activity
- Tasks
- Subscription
- FAQ

Skill

Description

Investigating business situations to define recommendations for improvement action.

ⓘ Full details

Level definition Level 3

- Investigates straightforward business situations to identify and analyse problems and opportunities.
- Contributes to the recommendation of improvements.
- Follows agreed standards and techniques to investigate, analyse and document business situations.
- Engages with stakeholders under direction.

More information on SFIA ↗

Remove skill   Update level

Next steps...

1 Continue documentation and guidelines

2 Testing

3 Open discussion