

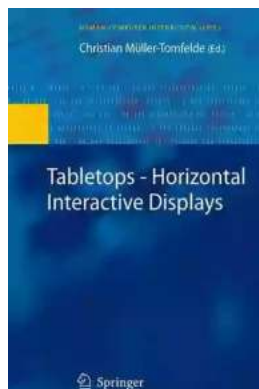
# Tabletops Horizontal Interactive Displays:

## The Future of Human-Computer Interaction

Tabletops horizontal interactive displays have been gaining immense popularity in recent years. These cutting-edge devices provide a new dimension to human-computer interaction (HCI) by merging the digital and physical worlds in a seamless and intuitive manner.

The concept of tabletops as interactive displays has been around for several decades, but recent advancements in technology have made them more affordable and accessible to a wider audience. These displays consist of large, flat surfaces that can detect multiple touch points simultaneously, allowing multiple users to interact with the content at the same time.

One of the major advantages of tabletop displays is their naturalness. As humans, we are accustomed to interacting with objects on a horizontal surface, such as a table. By replicating this interaction in the digital realm, tabletops provide a familiar and intuitive way of interacting with information and digital content.



## Tabletops - Horizontal Interactive Displays (Human-Computer Interaction Series)

by Ryen W. White(2010th Edition, Kindle Edition)

★★★★★ 5 out of 5

Language : English

File size : 5799 KB

Text-to-Speech : Enabled

Screen Reader : Supported

Enhanced typesetting : Enabled

Print length : 464 pages



## **How Tabletops Work:**

Tabletop displays utilize various technologies to enable interactivity. The most common approach involves using a combination of cameras and projectors. The cameras capture the touch inputs and gestures made by users, while the projectors display the interactive content onto the tabletop surface.

In addition to touch-based interactions, tabletops also support other input modalities, such as stylus input, object recognition, and even hand gestures. This versatility allows for a wide range of applications, from collaborative work environments to educational settings and entertainment experiences.

## **The Benefits of Tabletops:**

Tabletop displays offer several advantages over traditional computer interfaces:

### **1. Natural Interaction:**

As mentioned earlier, interacting with tabletop displays feels natural and familiar. Users can manipulate objects on the surface just like they would on a physical table, enabling a more engaging and immersive experience.

### **2. Collaboration:**

Tabletop displays are designed with collaboration in mind. Multiple users can simultaneously interact with the content, making them ideal for group activities and brainstorming sessions. This feature is particularly useful in educational and professional settings.

### **3. Tangible Object Manipulation:**

Tabletops allow for the manipulation of physical objects to control and interact with digital content. For example, users can move physical cards on the surface to play a virtual card game or place physical objects for augmented reality experiences, bridging the gap between the real and digital worlds.

#### **4. Intuitive Interface:**

Tabletop displays offer a highly intuitive interface that requires little to no prior training. This makes them accessible to users of all ages and skill levels, eliminating the barriers to entry typically associated with complex computer interfaces.

#### **Potential Applications:**

The versatility of tabletop displays opens up a wide range of potential applications:

##### **1. Education:**

Tabletop displays have the potential to revolutionize the way we learn. They can facilitate interactive and collaborative learning experiences by allowing students to engage with educational content in a more hands-on and immersive manner.

##### **2. Design and Creativity:**

Artists, designers, and architects can benefit greatly from tabletop displays. These devices offer a more intuitive and tactile way of exploring designs, creating prototypes, and collaborating on creative projects.

##### **3. Entertainment:**

Tabletop displays are ideal for multiplayer games and interactive entertainment experiences. They can turn any surface into a gaming platform, enabling users to engage in immersive and social gameplay.

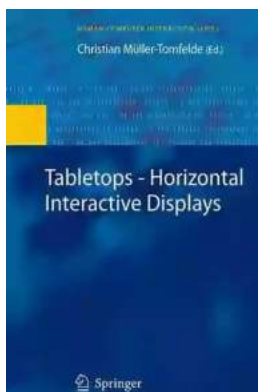
## 4. Business and Productivity:

Tabletop displays can enhance productivity in the workplace by enabling efficient collaboration and interactive presentations. They can be used for brainstorming sessions, project management, and data analysis.

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Tabletops horizontal interactive displays are rapidly transforming the way we interact with digital content. Their naturalness, versatility, and potential applications make them a compelling choice for a wide range of industries.

As technology continues to evolve, we can expect tabletop displays to become even more advanced and affordable, opening up new opportunities for innovation and creativity.



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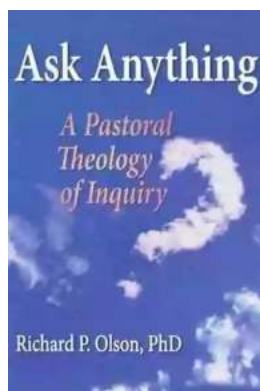
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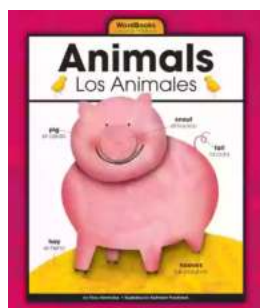
The objects displayed on a table can take multiple forms. In meetings, it is still very often printed paper although its content was originally created on a computer. The content can also be a “table”, but now in the mathematical sense, showing, e. g. , the budget of a project. Then, we have a “table” on the table.

Most often, the computer-generated contents are subject of frequent changes or dynamic in nature. It is a logical consequence to avoid the detour and the inherent media break by transforming the surface of the table into a display able to show media that are active and can be computer-generated and computer-controlled. At the same time, it is desirable to maintain the inherent features and affordances of working with the objects and the contents while sitting or standing around a table. Electronic Meeting Rooms On the basis of these and other elaborate considerations, we started to design in 1992/1993 an electronic meeting room in Darmstadt at GMD-IPSI (later Fraunhofer IPSI). The setup of our custom-built DOLPHIN-System consisted of a “traditional” large rectangular wooden table with four physically integrated workstation-like computers with at screens. This set-up was complemented by linking a large vertical pen-operated interactive display, at that time the first LiveBoard outside of Xerox PARC (two of which I was able to get to Darmstadt after my stay at Xerox PARC in 1990).



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