Easypaisa App — Usability & HCI Redesign

Reducing cognitive load and improving accessibility in fintech flows

HCI Figma UX Research Prototyping Accessibility



Academic project completed as part of an HCI course at IBA Karachi, not affiliated with or endorsed by Easypaisa or Telenor Microfinance Bank.

About This Project

- Easypaisa is one of Pakistan's most widely used fintech platforms — but for millions of users, the experience wasn't living up to its potential.
- Navigating the app was unnecessarily complex. Accessibility features were missing. Core flows like sending money or finding transaction history required too many steps.
- This project was an end-to-end HCI redesign: starting with user research, building a high-fidelity prototype in Figma, and validating the changes through structured usability evaluation.

What the research told me

I surveyed 63 Easypaisa users and ran in-depth interviews before touching Figma. Here's what I found.

40%
found navigation complex and unintuitive

33%
reported difficulty learning the interface

0
accessibility features for screen readers or seniors

3
extra steps to reach a basic transaction history

Three root causes emerged: information overload on the dashboard, no error recovery path, and a complete absence of accessibility support — leaving senior citizens and visually impaired users without a usable experience.

From insight to interface

The redesign followed a two-phase, iterative process grounded in established HCI frameworks.

Phase 1: Discover
Surveys, user interviews, and heuristic analysis of the existing app. We mapped pain points against Nielsen's 10 usability heuristics and Shneiderman's Eight Golden Rules to identify where the interface broke down.

Phase 2: Design & Evaluate

Low-fidelity wireframes → High-fidelity Figma prototype → Usability testing with real users

Principles Applied

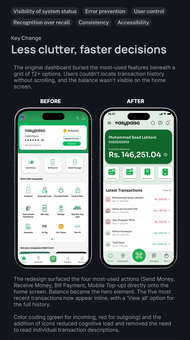
Visibility of system status · Error prevention · User control · Recognition over recall · Consistency · Accessibility

Key Change

Less clutter, faster decisions

The original dashboard buried the most-used features beneath a grid of 12+ options. Users couldn't locate transaction history without scrolling, and the balance wasn't visible on the home screen.

BEFORE **AFTER**



The redesign surfaced the four most-used actions (Send Money, Receive Money, Bill Payment, Mobile Top-up) directly onto the home screen. Balance became the hero element. The most recent transactions now appear inline, with a 'View all' option for the full history.

Color coding (green for incoming, red for outgoing) and the addition of icons reduced cognitive load and removed the need to read individual transaction descriptions.

Principle applied: Recognition over recall. Users see what they need rather than having to remember where it lives.

Key Change

Fewer steps. Clearer feedback.

Streamlined Transactions
The original 'Send Money' screen asked users to choose a transfer type (Bank, Raast, Wallet, etc.) before they could do anything else, an unnecessary decision that confused users. The redesign replaces this with a single unified list of all banks and wallets, searchable by name. Favourited contacts appear at the top.

BEFORE **AFTER**



Real-time Balance Feedback
As a user types an amount, the available balance updates in real time below the input field. If the amount exceeds the balance, it highlights in red with an 'Insufficient Balance' label — preventing errors before they happen rather than after.



Error cue redesign
The original PIN error flow showed a loading spinner, then a small vague message. The redesign surfaces a clear red 'Wrong PIN' label directly beneath the input, immediately on entry — no loading delay, no ambiguity.



Principles applied: Error prevention · Visibility of system status · User control

Key Change

Designed for everyone, not just the default user

Easypaisa serves one of Pakistan's most linguistically and demographically diverse user bases. The redesign introduced four accessibility features that were entirely absent from the original app.

Feature 1
Dark mode: moved from a buried menu to a persistent toggle in the top-right corner, accessible from every screen.

Feature 2
Urdu language toggle: Instant language switching between English and Urdu, available in the top navigation bar. No restart required.

Feature 3
Voice-over mode: A screen-reader mode for visually impaired users, activatable from the account settings screen or during first-time setup. Includes onboarding.

Feature 4
System font scaling: Instead of in-app font settings, the app now reads from the device's accessibility font size settings, so senior users who've increased their font size system-wide see the benefit automatically in Easypaisa too.

Three groups. One redesign.

Most fintech apps are designed with a single 'default' user in mind. I tested and iterated with three groups who are routinely excluded from that default.

Group 1: Disabled users
Consistent use of a single green shade across the UI reduces confusion for users with colour blindness. Voice-over mode provides screen reader functionality for blind users, activated with assistance from Easypaisa's in-person agent network.

Group 2: Senior citizens
Rather than adding an in-app font size control (which would require users to find and configure it), the app now inherits font size from system-level accessibility settings, meeting seniors where they already are.

Group 3: Non-English / Urdu speakers
One-tap language switching to Urdu removes a significant literacy barrier for users who are more comfortable in their native language. The toggle is permanently visible in the top navigation — not buried in a settings menu.

What this project taught me

This project was my first experience taking a live product through a full HCI redesign cycle — from user research and pain point mapping through to a tested, high-fidelity prototype.

The most valuable lesson: good design isn't about adding features. The most impactful changes in this project were things we removed or simplified — a transfer type selection screen, a redundant notification action, a buried support button. Reducing friction is the work.