Affordance and Metaphores
Affordance

- The properties of an object that allow people to know how to use it

- To afford = “give a clue”

- It should be obvious how to interact with an object - e.g. mouse buttons look like they should be clicked down

Cup handles are an obvious affordance. They afford (“are for”) grasping and lifting.
Handles on doors afford pulling

Plates on doors afford pushing

No signs required
Metaphors vs affordances

**Metaphor**
Matching the real world pause button of tape players

**Affordance**
The button shape is an affordance, it affords pressing

**Affordance**
Affords grasping the circle to pull it side to side