

Research on Emotional Design of Furniture for the Aged: How to make design closer to users

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Abstract: With the development of the aging society, the furniture design concept to meet the needs of the elderly has become an important trend in the development of the elderly furniture industry. Furniture not only has a close connection with People's Daily life, but also in the process of use can show the user's emotional pursuit and character, so the elderly furniture to be close to the distance with the user, must use emotional design ideas, and then according to the physiological and psychological characteristics of the elderly and emotional needs, design furniture products with spiritual care and emotional satisfaction characteristics. This paper is in this background to carry out research, through the analysis of the elderly furniture emotional design performance and emotional design appeals of the elderly furniture, and then put forward the elderly furniture emotional design path.

Key words: elderly furniture; Emotional design; Close to users; demand

With the rapid development of society and economy, people's living standards are constantly improving, so they have higher material requirements and hope to obtain more spiritual and emotional satisfaction. Furniture is an indispensable and important product in people's life. It not only has beautiful appearance and practical function, but also should meet the needs of users in all aspects. Therefore, for the emotional design of furniture for the elderly, the designer needs to start from the aspects of security, convenience, comfort and aging style.

1. The emotional design performance of the elderly furniture

Emotional design is an important guiding concept for the design of furniture for the elderly. It can use visible or invisible design language to place users' emotions in it, so as to achieve the purpose and effect of conveying emotions, and thus meet the spiritual and psychological needs of users. Specifically, the emotional design of furniture for the elderly should be manifested in the following aspects:

First, soft curves and large surfaces should be chosen in the modeling design, avoiding straight lines and sharp corners. At the same time, elements or symbols with traditional cultural characteristics should be matched, so as to show the characteristics of the primitive and nostalgic atmosphere, so as to meet the physical and mental characteristics of the elderly and meet their emotional needs. Second, the color design should highlight the applicability of the effect, pay attention to the harmonious relationship of color collocation. Third, function design should start from the old people's living habits and ideas, highlight the simplicity and convenience of furniture use, to ensure that the elderly can be widely used. Fourthly, the material design should take into account the old people's feel when they touch the furniture. On the one hand, the use of high-tech materials should be reduced, on the other hand, mainstream materials should be used in line with the old people when they are young, so as to give the old people good visual and tactile feelings through the surface characteristics of the furniture, and give the old people healthy and positive psychological association. Thus, the recessive interaction between furniture product design and the elderly can be realized.

2. The emotional design appeal of the elderly furniture

The elderly are a special group in modern society, and with the development of aging constantly expanding. On the whole, the living conditions of the elderly are relatively poor, but most of them are satisfied with it. The fundamental reason is that they have experienced difficult life difficulties and feel happy about the good life they have won. However, this does not mean that the elderly do not have a higher demand for life. More elderly people's material is declining, but their spiritual needs are improving. Therefore, in the emotional design of furniture for the elderly, in order to get close to the elderly users through the design elements, it is necessary to dig deeply and understand the living conditions and real needs of the elderly. The emotional characteristics of contemporary elderly people are mainly manifested in fear of loneliness and loneliness, hope to belong to, and desire to be cared by their children. It can be concluded that the emotional design appeal of elderly furniture needs to pay attention to the following aspects.

(1) Pay attention to safety

For the elderly, their physical and psychological states have undergone great changes. Psychologically speaking, the elderly are afraid of loneliness, especially in the process of living alone, it is more likely to produce negative emotions, and the negative emotions of the elderly last for a long time, which is easy to affect their physical health. Physically, the physical strength, endurance, balance and physical coordination of the elderly have declined, and some elderly people still have various diseases, so the safety requirements of the elderly furniture design are higher. On the one hand, its safety design should meet the practical needs of the elderly, which is simple and convenient, convenient and applicable, in line with the different life scenes of the elderly, and can provide certain life help and care for the elderly. On the other hand, its safety features can also give the elderly certain comfort psychologically, so that the elderly can rest assured of life.

(2) Pay attention to comfort

Modern emotional design philosophy holds that "attractive things are better to use". Furniture as a high frequency of daily use of objects, attractiveness has become a key element of design. In the design of furniture for the aged, comfort is the first element to gain the

appeal of the elderly. Because the elderly are older, height and body have changed to a certain extent, so in the home design to meet its special size requirements, so that the elderly feel comfortable in the process of use. Through this design idea, not only can enhance the use experience of the elderly, but also can obtain the trust of the elderly.

(3) Pay attention to convenience

Generally speaking, the older people get, the less mobility they have. Therefore, convenience is also one of the key points of emotional design of furniture for the elderly. In addition to the traditional convenience design, in the modern social environment, should also give full play to the advantages of intelligent design. On the one hand, the simplicity of intelligent design should be highlighted. The elderly can adjust and use the furniture with the help of simple remote control button operation, which can reduce the number of sitting up and walking for the elderly. On the other hand, the design of intelligent furniture should be simplified and convenient. It should not only let the elderly accept intelligent services from the psychological level, but also ensure that the elderly can accurately use the furniture to achieve the purpose of convenience.

(4) Highlight individuation

In the emotional design of elderly furniture, it is also necessary to highlight its "individuation". The "individuation" here refers to the "personality of the elderly", that is, the unique design style of the elderly, especially in the aspects of color, structure, form and so on, can be retro design to a certain extent, in order to fit the furniture style characteristics of the elderly when they were young. Thus, it can not only meet the emotional and psychological needs of the elderly, but also achieve the purpose of attracting the elderly to buy and use.

3. The emotional design path of the elderly furniture

Through the analysis of the design appeal of the elderly furniture, it can be found that in order to realize the purpose of making the design closer to the user, it must comply with the actual needs of the user. In the design of furniture for the elderly, it is necessary to expand from the aspects of security, convenience, comfort and aging style.

(1) Meet the needs of the elderly and pay attention to the safety design

Through the behavior analysis of the elderly, it is not difficult to find that after entering the old age, most of the urban elderly live at home in the state of retirement, and generally spend a long time in the family, and are not used to sitting or lying down for a long time. Therefore, although faced with the physical quality decline, physical decline, balance and coordination of the practical problems, Most of the elderly still hope to exercise their body by walking. Therefore, in the form of the old furniture design, not only to cancel the design elements such as tough, sharp corners, but also to use more rounded without edges and corners design ideas, in order to avoid the elderly in the touch, fall and other links to be more serious injury, at the same time, psychologically can also give the elderly a higher sense of security, so as to achieve the purpose of caring and respecting the elderly from the design level.

In the dynamic design of furniture, it is necessary to move the handrail as far as possible for the furniture design, in order to not only make the elderly more easy to find the fulcrum when sitting up, to help it maintain the balance of the body does not fall, but also can give the elderly a certain sense of security.

In the process of independent living, the elderly are also faced with certain safety and disease risks. Therefore, in the furniture design, we can also add intelligent interactive equipment to carry out real-time supervision and early warning for the elderly. For example, in the toilet can design "monitoring cushion", automatic monitoring of the elderly's heart rate, breathing, blood pressure and other data indicators, but when there is a problem can be sent to the family phone information, in order to inform the timely help.

(2) In line with the preference of the elderly, pay attention to comfort design

The body shape of the elderly is quite different from that of the youth, so in the emotional design of the elderly furniture, it is also necessary to adhere to the basis of ergonomic design. In the furniture size design, to the elderly height, activity ability, weight, body width, chest waist circumference and other data to optimize the design, to ensure that the furniture conforms to the elderly body, and then achieve the effect of improving its comfort. For example, the normal sitting height of the general furniture is 40 cm, but the elderly will be short due to the curvature of the back, stiff feet and other problems, so in the sitting height design can be reduced to a moderate amount, instead of 37-38 cm is more appropriate.

On the other hand, the elderly home time is much more than the young, so in terms of psychological comfort, should choose the relative traditional Chinese style, so that not only can let the old people have nostalgic feelings and thoughts, but also the Chinese traditional furniture practicability and comfort is stronger, in line with the long-term experience and habits of the elderly. For example, the wooden matte sofa is more popular among the elderly, and with a soft and comfortable cushion and traditional wooden tea table, it can further enhance the physical and mental comfort of the elderly.

(3) Close to the old life, the use of convenience design

The function of the elderly in both psychological and physiological level is declining, for the psychological level, the elderly fear of loneliness is increasing, they want to be cared, but also hope that they can do it themselves, to deal with the things they think can be solved, thus forming a reality contradiction. In this regard, the elderly furniture in the design can be set high and low adjustment function, which can not only improve the convenience of use, but also to meet the psychological characteristics of the elderly to solve problems independently, so that the elderly can adjust the height of the furniture at any time according to their own needs.

For the physiological level, the layout of the elderly living room should be as simple as possible, reduce partition design, as far as possible to improve the convenience of action of the elderly. In order to meet the convenience needs of some elderly people, simple

intelligent auxiliary functions can also be added to the furniture. For example, the "lift" button can be set on the armrest, and the height of the furniture can be easily controlled by the elderly through the transmission of information through the intelligent device.

(4) Highlight the nostalgic style and implement the design of aging

The elderly group is different from other social groups, most of the elderly began to enter the period of facing death after retirement, so the fear of loneliness is naturally generated, they can not find the meaning of life in real life, so they are more willing to recall the people and things in the past, thus forming a nostalgic thought, to the old things and styles have a preference.

Therefore, in the emotional design of elderly furniture, it is also necessary to meet the nostalgic needs of the elderly and provide necessary spiritual support for the elderly. Under the contemporary environment, the elderly prefer to have a sense of time, simple style of furniture, pay attention to the color of elegant and simple, in the material pursuit of reality, do not like new materials, but for the traditional solid wood, ceramic, steel, glass and other materials have a preference, the overall show a simple and practical style needs. And the style of modern furniture continues to personalized development, not only in different forms, but also colorful, obviously does not meet the needs of the elderly, and even will bring psychological pressure to some of the elderly. Therefore, in the design of aging, we should try our best to reduce the psychological impact of the changes of The Times on the elderly, so we can choose to imitate and learn the furniture design characteristics of the 80's and 90's, which should not only highlight the gentle and concise, but also highlight the "golden mean", showing the unique characteristics of simple, smooth, stretch and vigorous furniture.

4. The conclusion

To sum up, with the development of modern society, the furniture industry for the elderly has sought new opportunities for development under the aging society and become an important pillar to help countless elderly people enjoy their old age peacefully. The development of modern furniture continues to diversify, showing different morphological characteristics and aesthetic styles, but obviously does not meet the actual needs of contemporary elderly people. Under the emotional design concept, the elderly furniture design must comply with the design principles of safety, convenience, comfort and aging style, in order to meet the needs of the elderly for furniture, and can thus have a positive impact on the body and mind of the elderly, help the elderly to enjoy the old life, secure, healthy, happy, happy living home environment and atmosphere.

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