

Lowe's Appliances

Empowering Customers To Make More Informed Decisions When Choosing The Right Project



TIMELINE

3 months
(Apr 2022 - Jul 2022)



TEAM

Designer x Researcher



CONTRIBUTION

- Heuristic Evaluation
- Competitive Analysis
- Information Architecture
- UX Design

PROJECT OVERVIEW: PROBLEM, SOLUTION, & IMPACT ↓



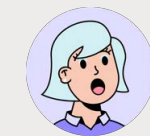
THE PROBLEM

“How might we help customers to **get to the product faster** even from the Super Category Page?”



REACTIVE CUSTOMERS

“How might we help customers make a more **informed decision?**”

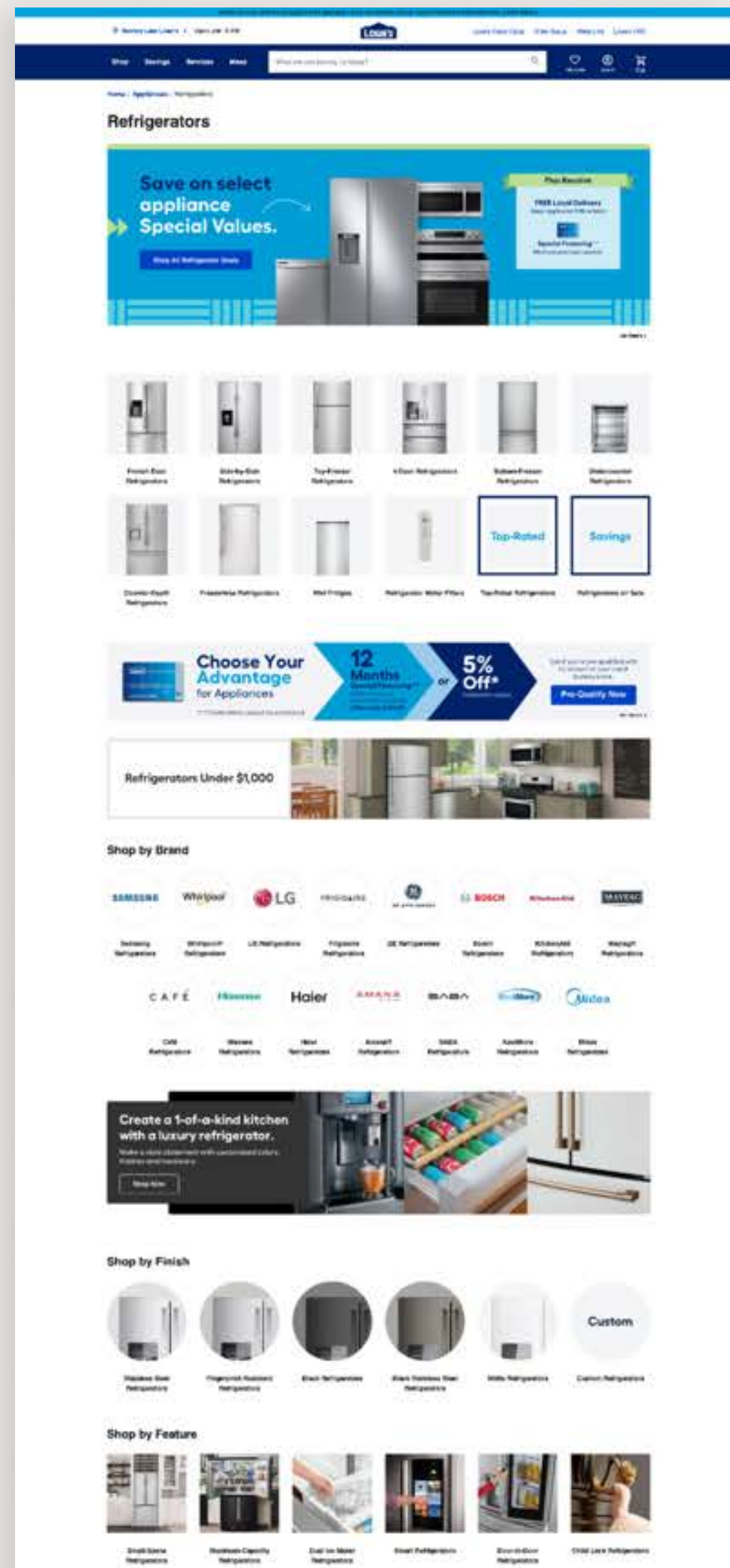


PROACTIVE CUSTOMERS

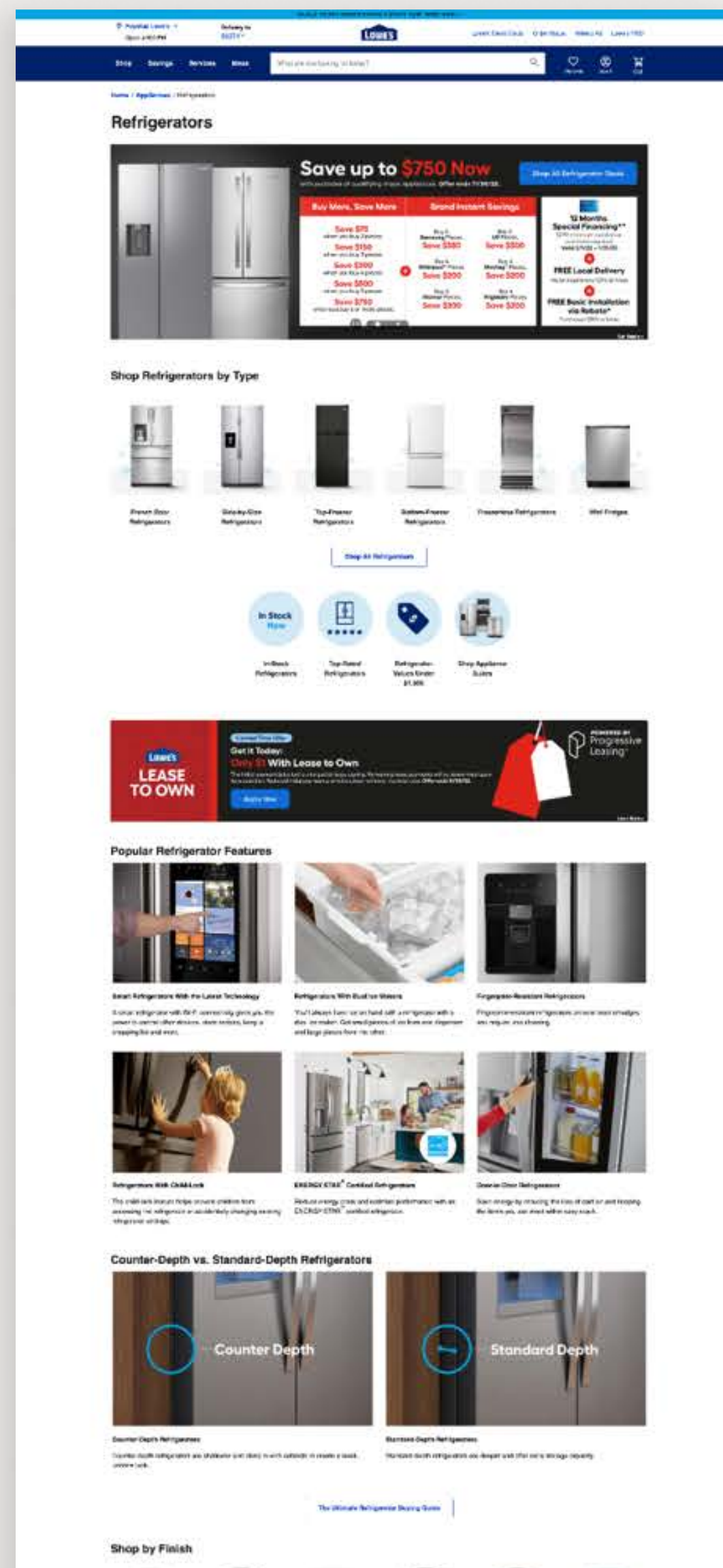


DESIGN SOLUTIONS

Before



After



FOR REACTIVE CUSTOMERS

- Reasonable Category Groupings
- Easier Scope Adjustment
- Filter by Desired Shopping Criteria



FOR PROACTIVE CUSTOMERS

- Content Prioritization
- Categories with Subtext
- Guided Selling (Concept)



THE IMPACT

IN JUST **2 WEEKS**
AFTER IMPLEMENTATION,

- **6%p** Increase in Funnel Progression
- Estimated to drive an incremental **\$21M** in annualized revenue

AND MORE!

A screenshot of a Slack message from Steve Roznowski. The message is dated 1:31 PM and says "Hey!!". Below it, a message from 1:31 PM (marked as "Edited") says "Appliances is going strong and yes I have had that on my list to share back with you all on how the pages are doing!". This message has a heart icon and the number "1". Below that, a message from 1:32 PM says "I pulled some data a while back -- its only 2 weeks worth but gives us a good indication." This message has a surprised face emoji icon and the number "1". Below that, a bulleted list item says "• **Appliances Reinvent:** Four Appliance Category Page redesigns drove +6pp increase in % to PLP in the last 2 weeks versus LY (77% vs. 71%). This funnel progression is estimated to drive an incremental \$21M in annualized Revenue. Redesigns included Appliances, Refrigerators, Washers & Dryers and Microwaves." Below the list, a message from 1:34 PM says "Dishwashers and cooktops is complete now as well" and has a thumbs up icon and the number "1".

Roznowski, Steve 1:31 PM
Hey!!

1:31 PM Edited 1
Appliances is going strong and yes I have had that on my list to share back with you all on how the pages are doing!

1:32 PM 1
I pulled some data a while back -- its only 2 weeks worth but gives us a good indication.

- **Appliances Reinvent:** Four Appliance Category Page redesigns drove +6pp increase in % to PLP in the last 2 weeks versus LY (77% vs. 71%). This funnel progression is estimated to drive an incremental \$21M in annualized Revenue. Redesigns included Appliances, Refrigerators, Washers & Dryers and Microwaves.

1:34 PM 1
Dishwashers and cooktops is complete now as well

Gather

Primary & Secondary Research



I WAS IN CHARGE OF THIS!



INITIAL DISCOVERY - STAKEHOLDER OBJECTIVES

“This page is just fine, but we’d want to know what can we do more with this page”

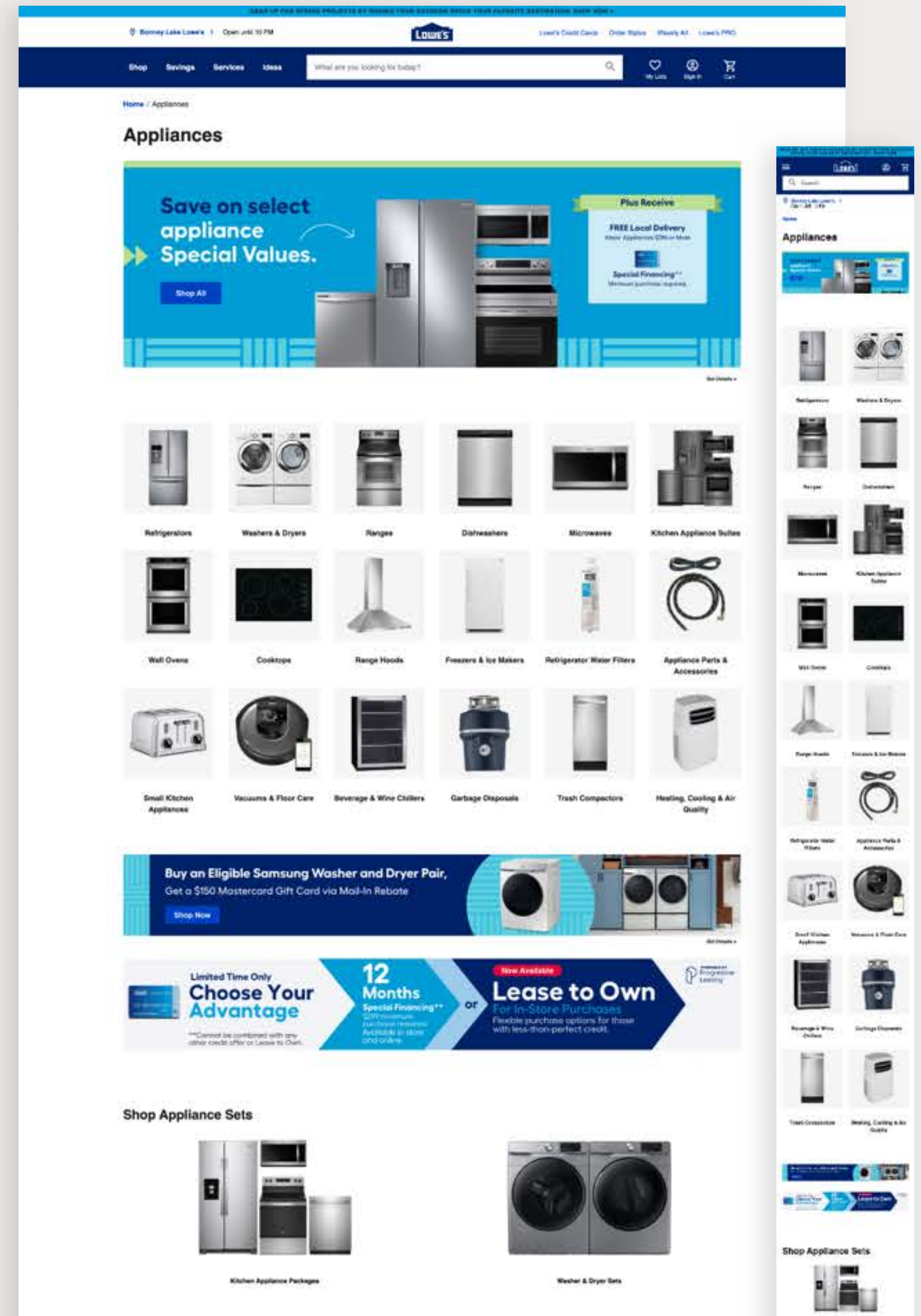
BY THE WAY

- Reduce % of customers who search from Category Pages
- Reduce Exit Rate for Category Pages
- Increase RPV (Revenue Per Visitor) who visits a Category Page

BUT KEEP IN MIND

- Remove unnecessary clicks to product
- Do more with the same space

‘Appliance’ Category Page (Before)





**INITIAL DISCOVERY -
USER'S GOALS AND NEEDS**



REACTIVE CUSTOMERS

"I need a new refrigerator
ASAP"



PROACTIVE CUSTOMERS

"I need to know what's the
best refrigerator for me"



PRIMARY RESEARCH

REACTIVE

Takes Customers to another Category Page, not the product



Overwhelmed by Popular Categories

- 36 sessions of Card Sorting

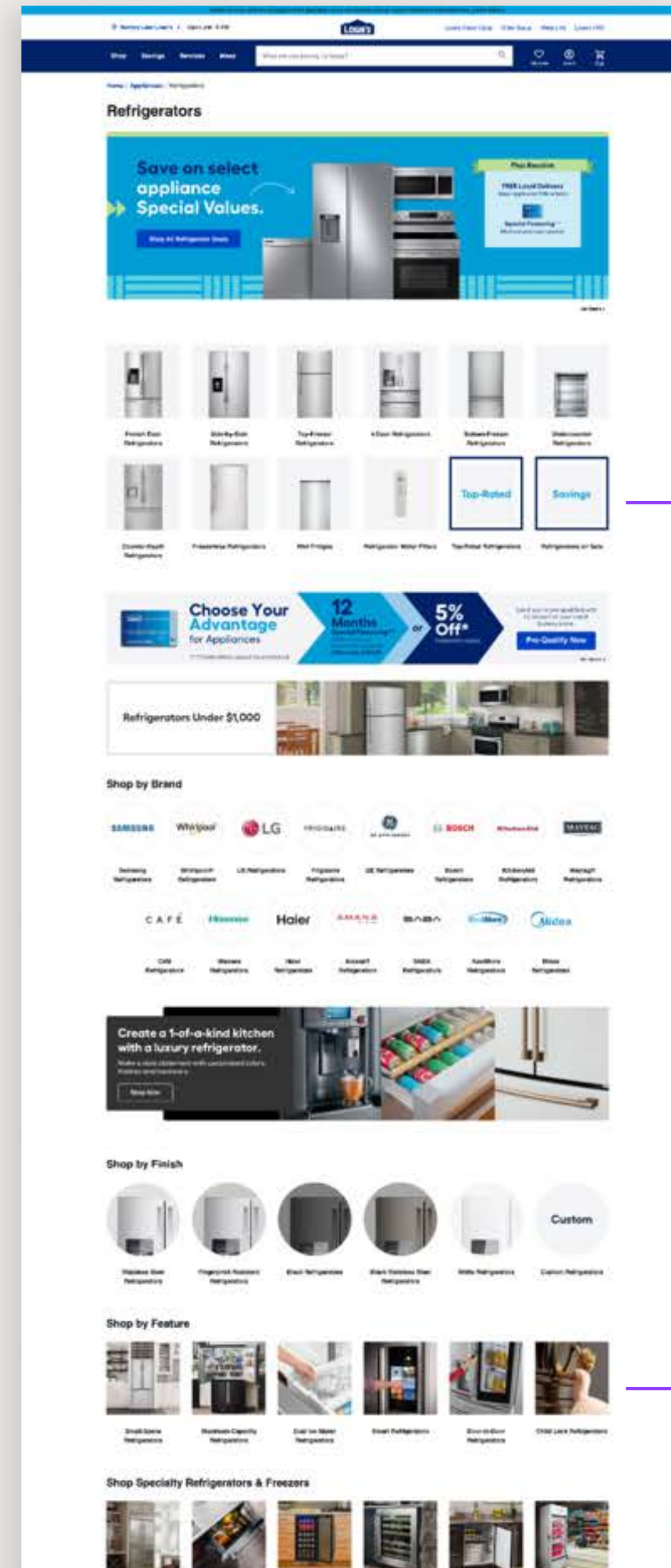


Banner doesn't add any values

'Appliance' Category Page



'Refrigerators' Category Page



36 Sessions of User Testing

- 18 Mobile
- 18 Desktop
- 18 Reactive
- 18 Proactive

CONDUCTED BY UX RESEARCHER

REACTIVE

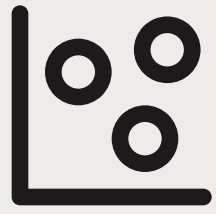
Wants to see In-Stock only items



Guided Experience

PROACTIVE

Feature Education is not enough



SECONDARY RESEARCH 1

COMMON THEMES

- Subcategories are organized into groups (Kitchen Appliances, Laundry, etc.)
- There is a way to 'Shop All'.
- Additional context is given to help customers understand better the category/features.

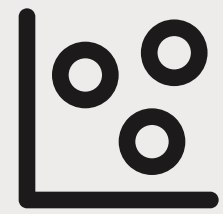
NOT SO COMMON THEME

- Have 'In-stock' filter-based category on the Category Page

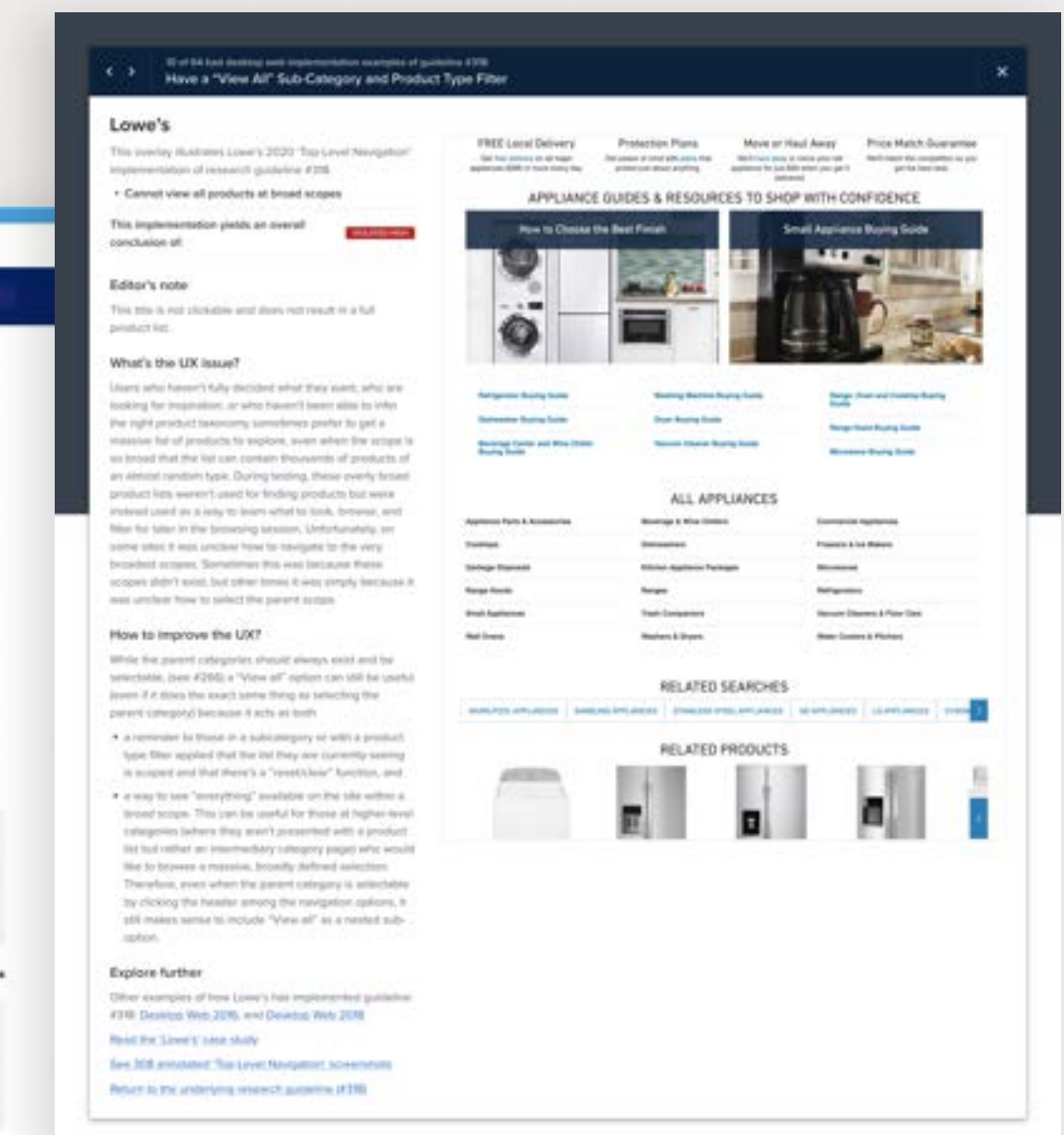
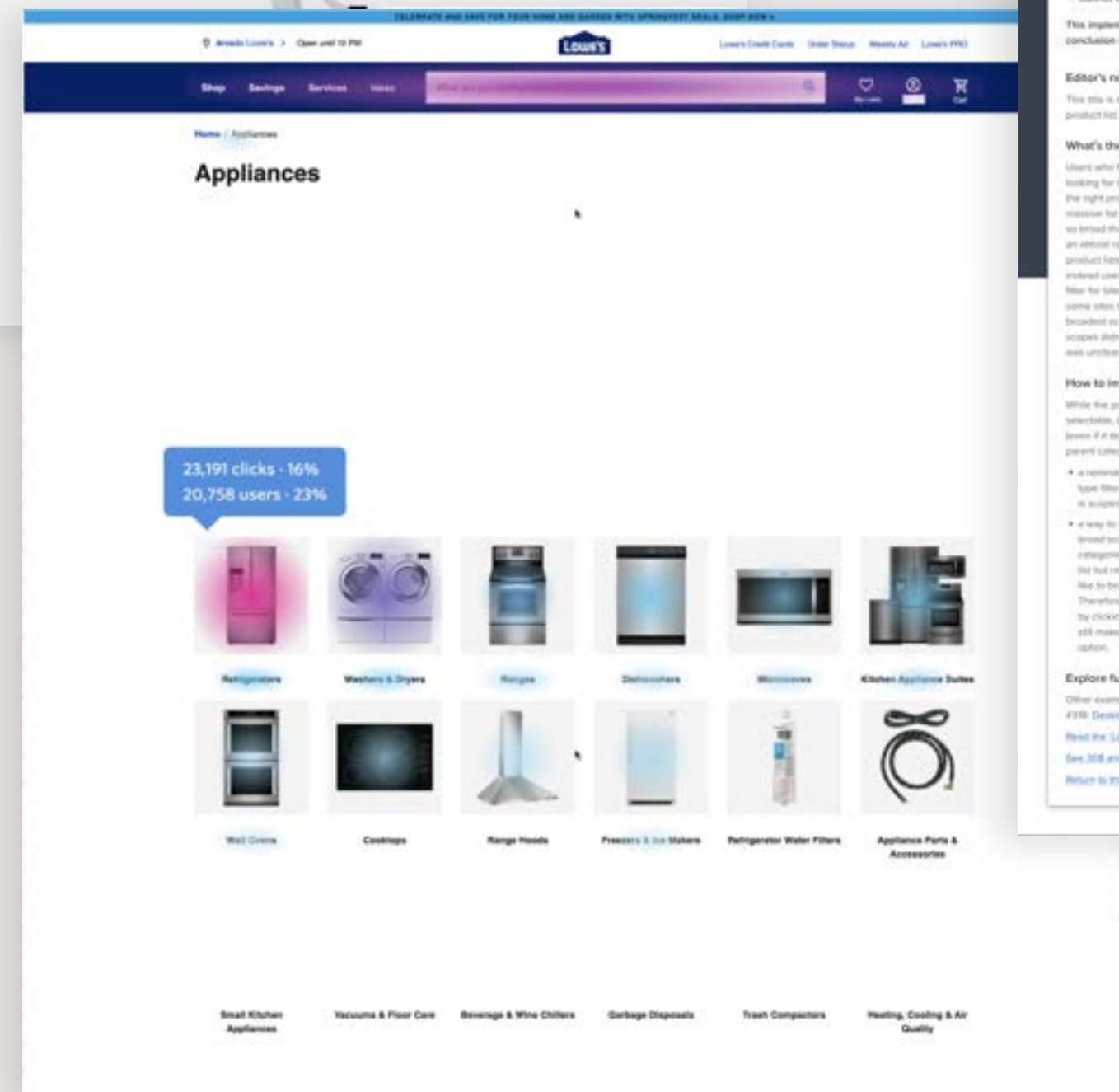
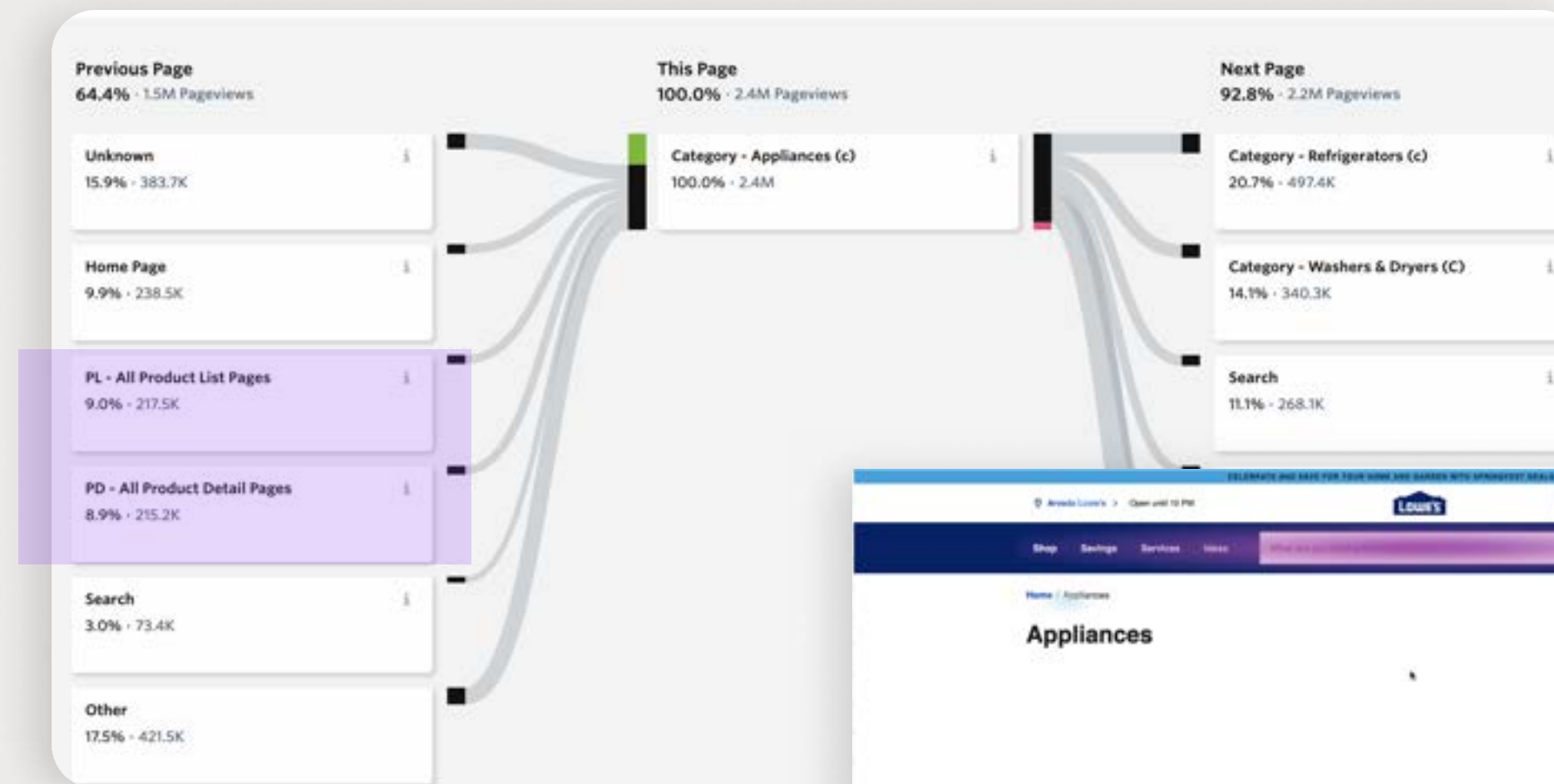
🌟 **THIS COULD BE OUR OPPORTUNITY TO LEAD THE MARKET!**

AREAS WHERE LOWE'S IS NOT MEETING INDUSTRY STANDARDS!

| | on Cat Page | LOWE'S | BEST BUY | THE HOME DEPOT | wayfair | sears |
|-------------------|---|----------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| Hierarchy | Grouped Category | ✗ | ✓ | ✓ Yes, Separated Accessories | ✓ | ✗ Not enough category |
| Navigation | Quick Link to the Product | ✗ | ✗ | ✓ | ✓ | ✗ No Subcategory Page |
| | Can Filter by 'In-Stock' | ✗ | ✓ Yes, but not always | ✗ | ✗ | ✓ |
| | Can Filter by 'Savings' | ✓ Yes, but not all categories | ✓ Yes, from the Banner | ✓ Yes, from the Banner | ✓ | ✓ |
| | Can 'View All' or 'Shop All' | ✗ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| Content | Consistently Mention Services and Install | ✗ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ Yes, but inconsistent | ✗ |
| | Subtext on Feature or Popular Categories | ✗ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✗ No Subcategory Page |



SECONDARY RESEARCH 2



CONTENT & NAVIGATION IS THE KEY

- 18% of people start their journey via search but visited the category page afterward.
- Customers engage with the first and the second things they see on the Category Page.
- It is not easy to change the scope within sister categories or to see broader selections.

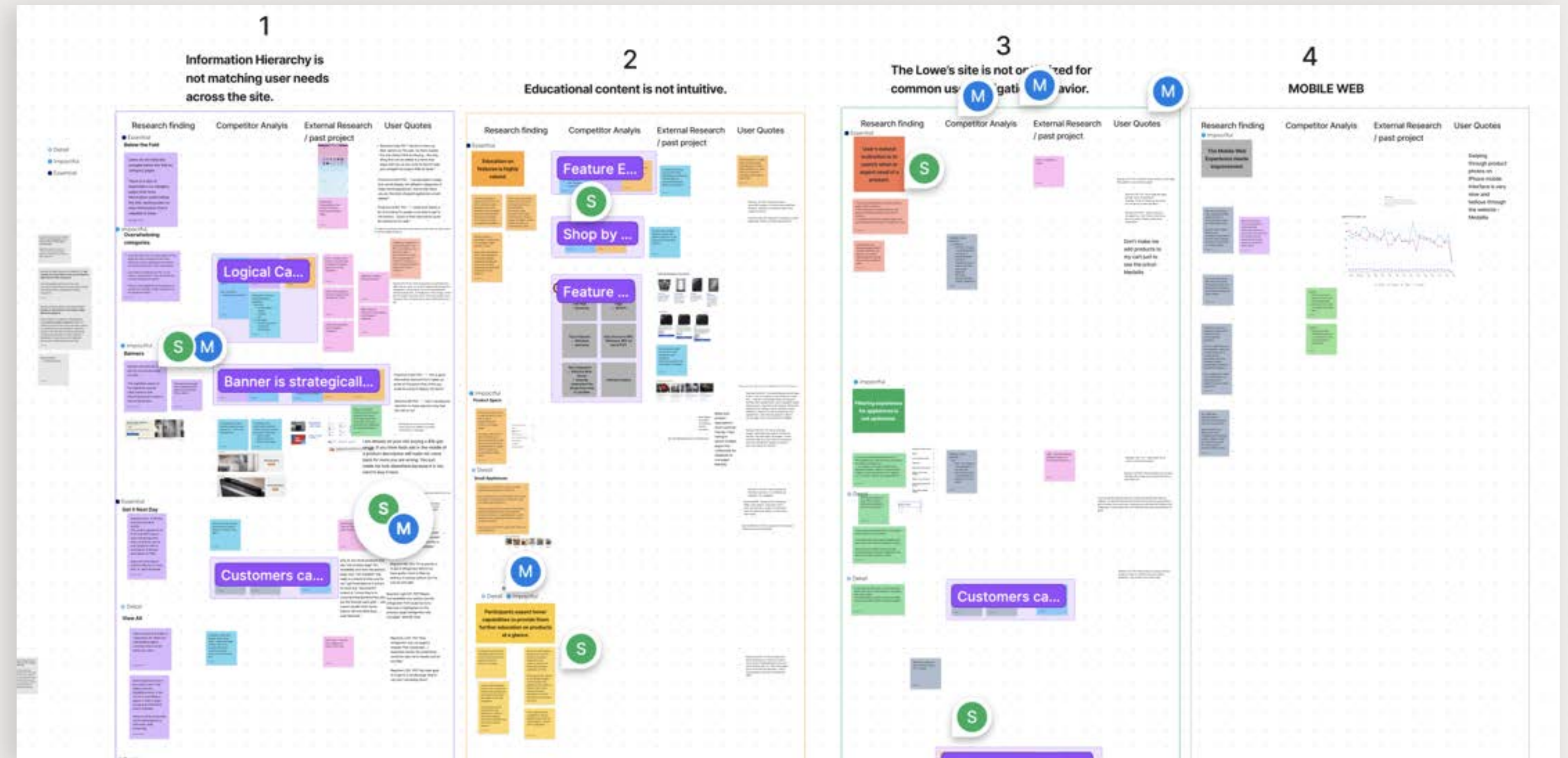
PEOPLE ONLY CARE ABOUT WHAT'S 'ABOVE THE FOLD'

*Resources: Fullstory, Adobe Analytics, Baymards Institute



WHEN THE 'PRIMARY RESEARCH' MEETS 'THE SECONDARY RESEARCH'!

- 01 Information is hard to find or overlooked.
- 02 Customers can't find enough educational resources when they need them.
- 03 Customers need better filtering experience and guided experience.
- 04 The mobile web experience is extra clunky when it comes to navigation.



Recap

So, HMW help customers...?



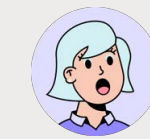
RE-IDENTIFYING THE **PROBLEM**

“How might we help customers to **get to the product faster** even from the Super Category Page?”



FOR REACTIVE CUSTOMERS

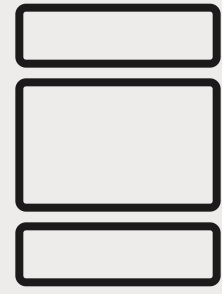
“How might we help customers make a more **informed decision?**”



FOR PROACTIVE CUSTOMERS

Design

Wireframe Explorations



DESIGN EXPLORATION (AND THE CHALLENGE)

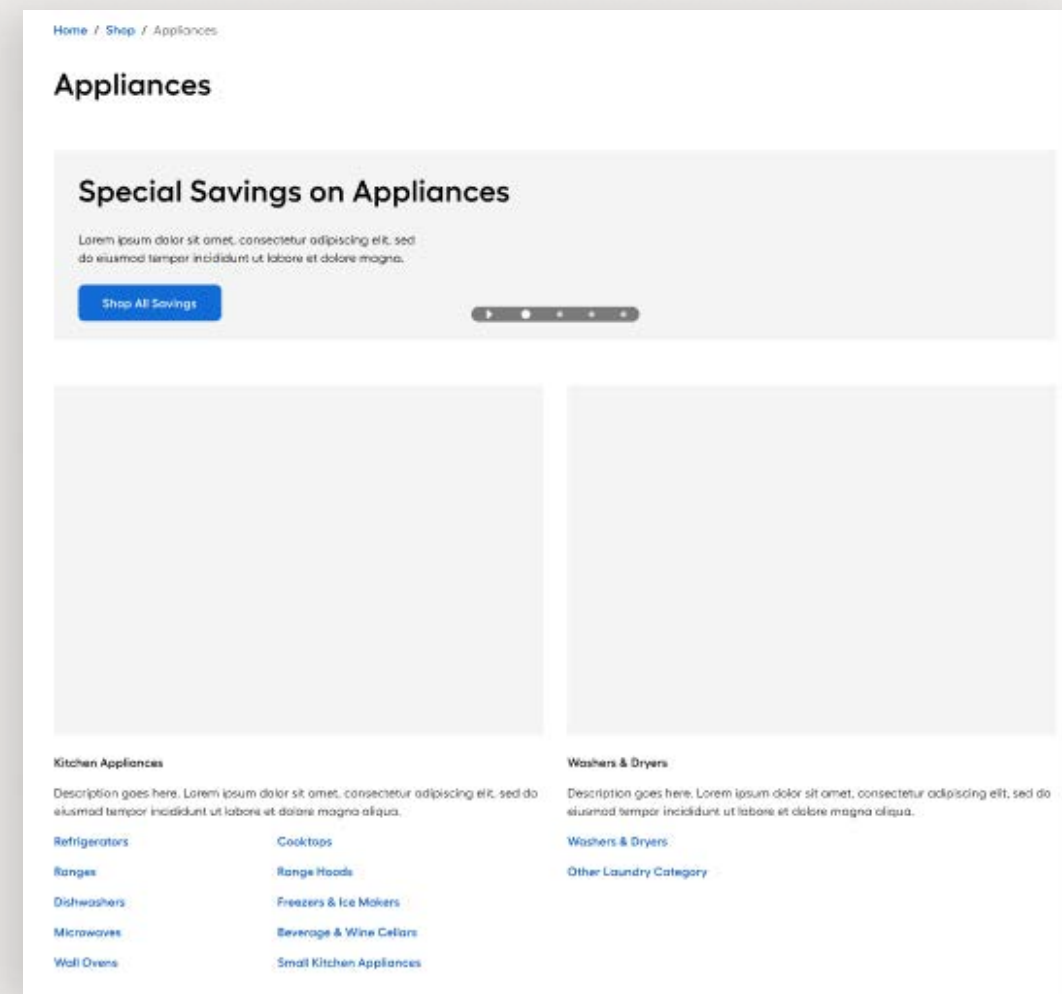
“What can we do with **current** capability?”

- Visually same weight for different categories
- Show more above the fold

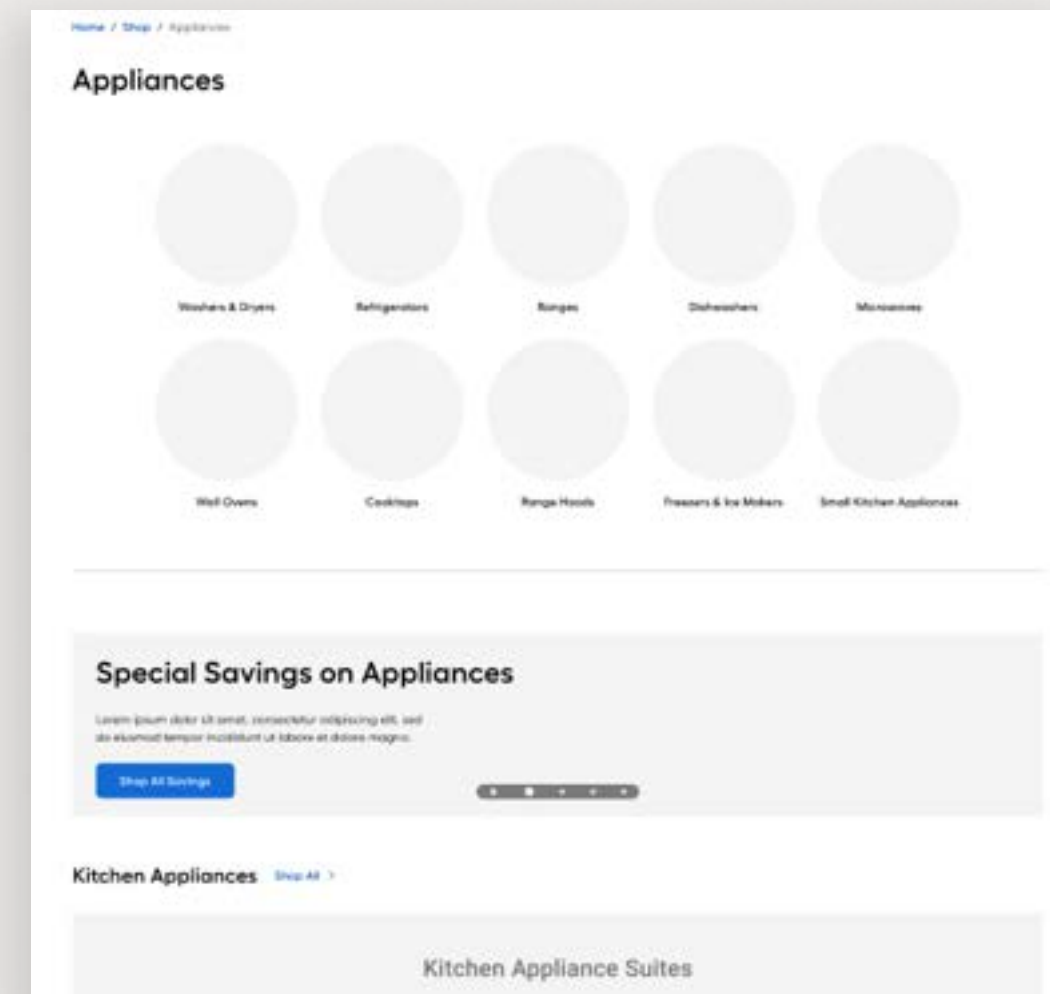
! CHALLENGE

- I asked for feedback, but then I had to ask for the same thing again a few days later.
- Spent too much time on one component.

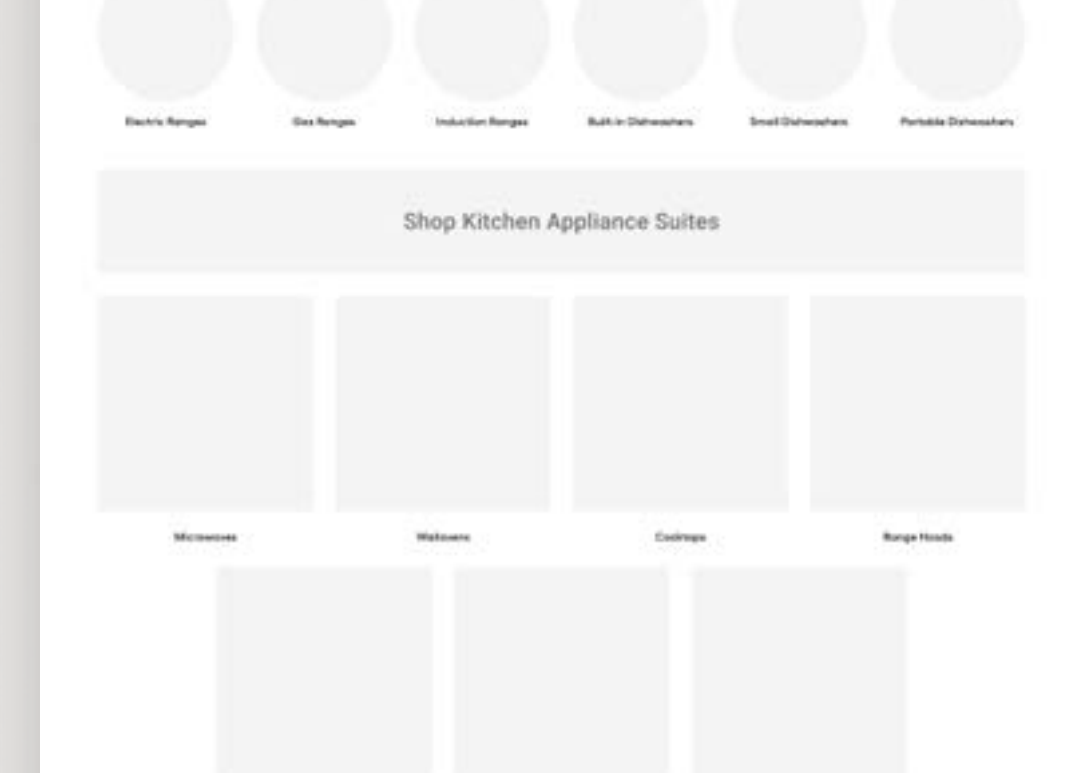
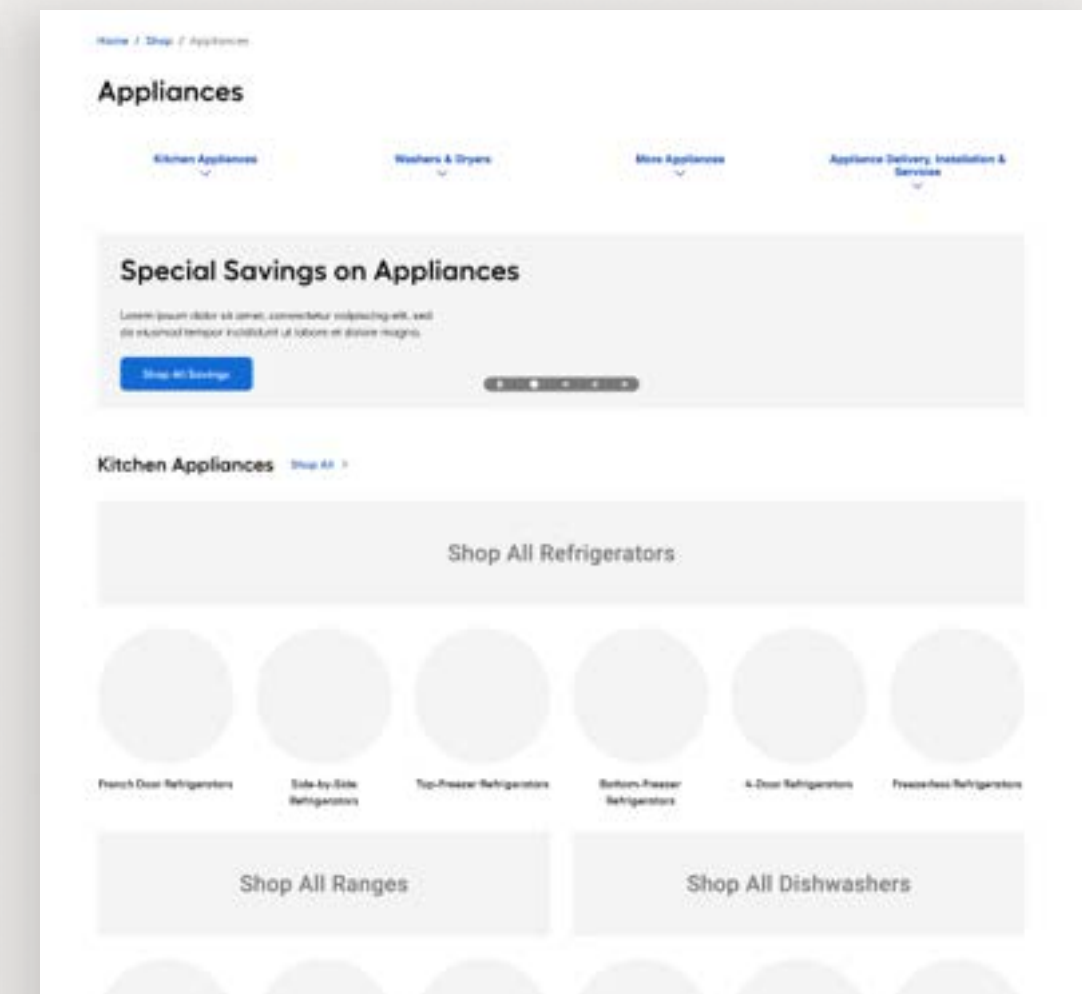
Exploration 1

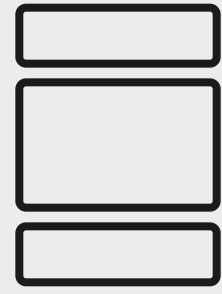


Exploration 2



Exploration 3



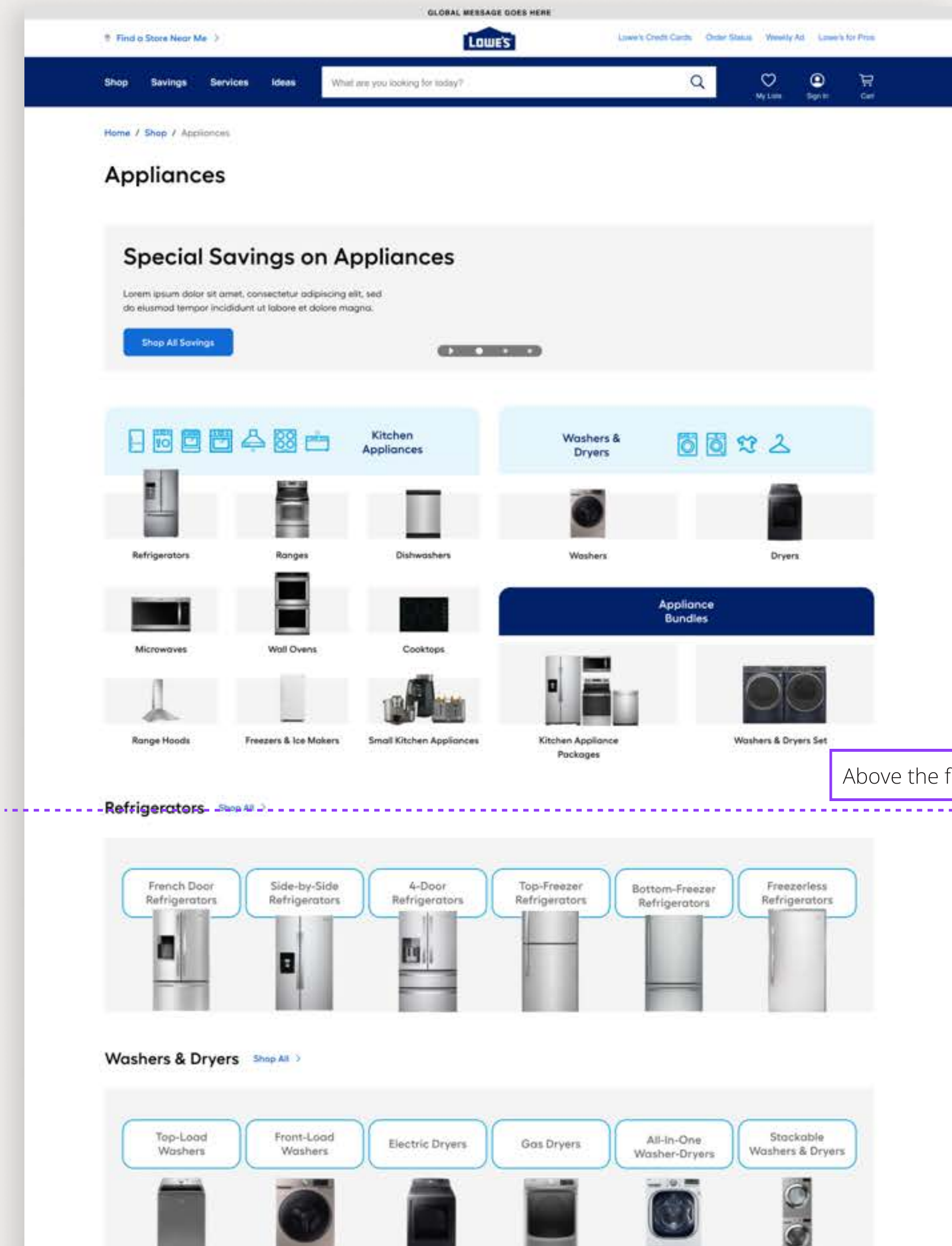


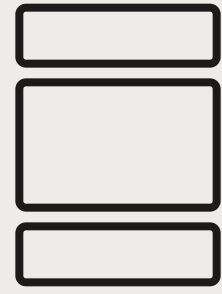
DESIGN EXPLORATION



NAVIGATION

- 01** Overwhelming popular category
↳ Now organized in a way that makes sense to the customers
- 02** Not easy to change or broaden the scope
↳ Included 'View All' for mutually exclusive categories





DESIGN EXPLORATION

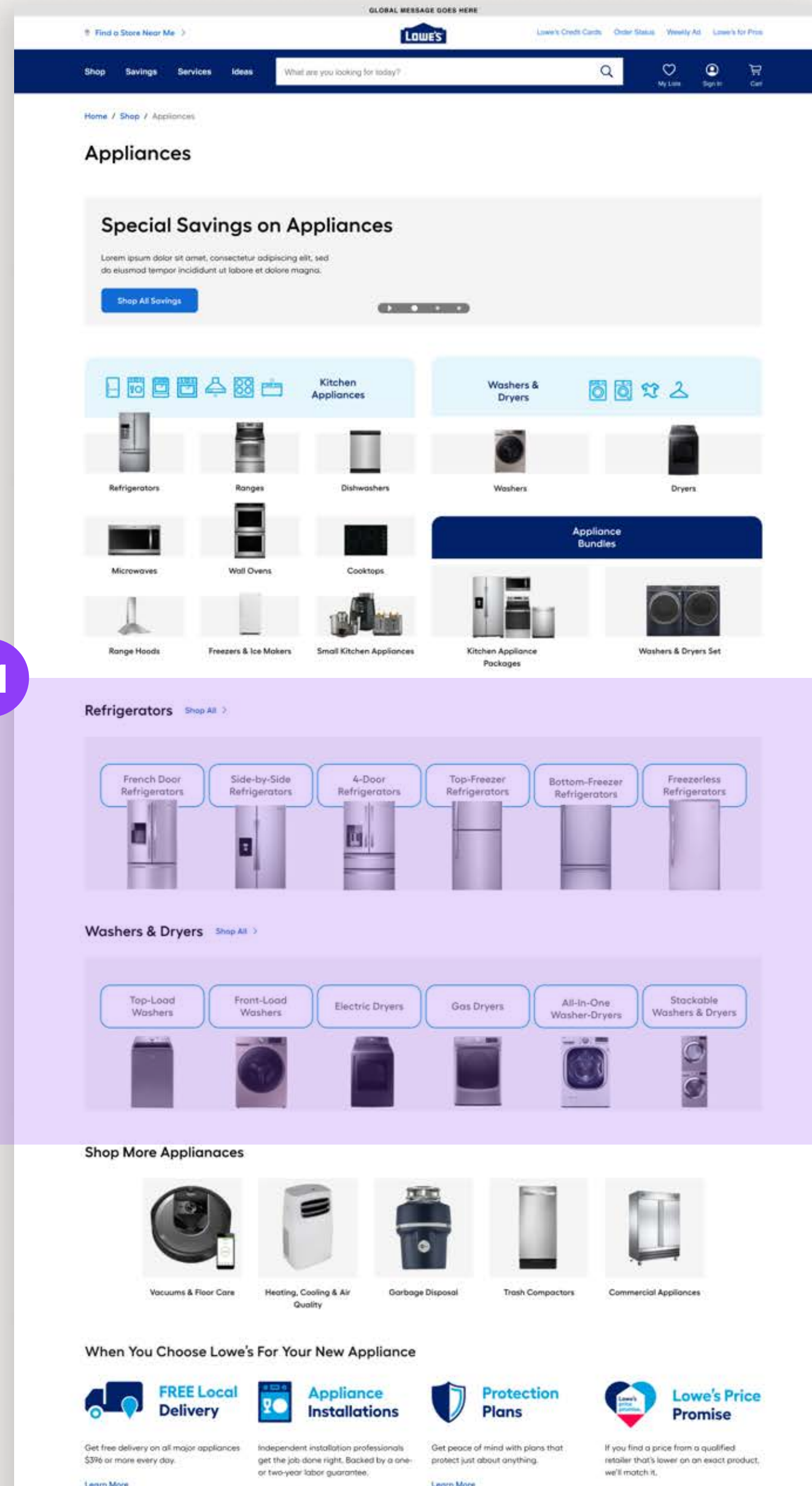


NAVIGATION

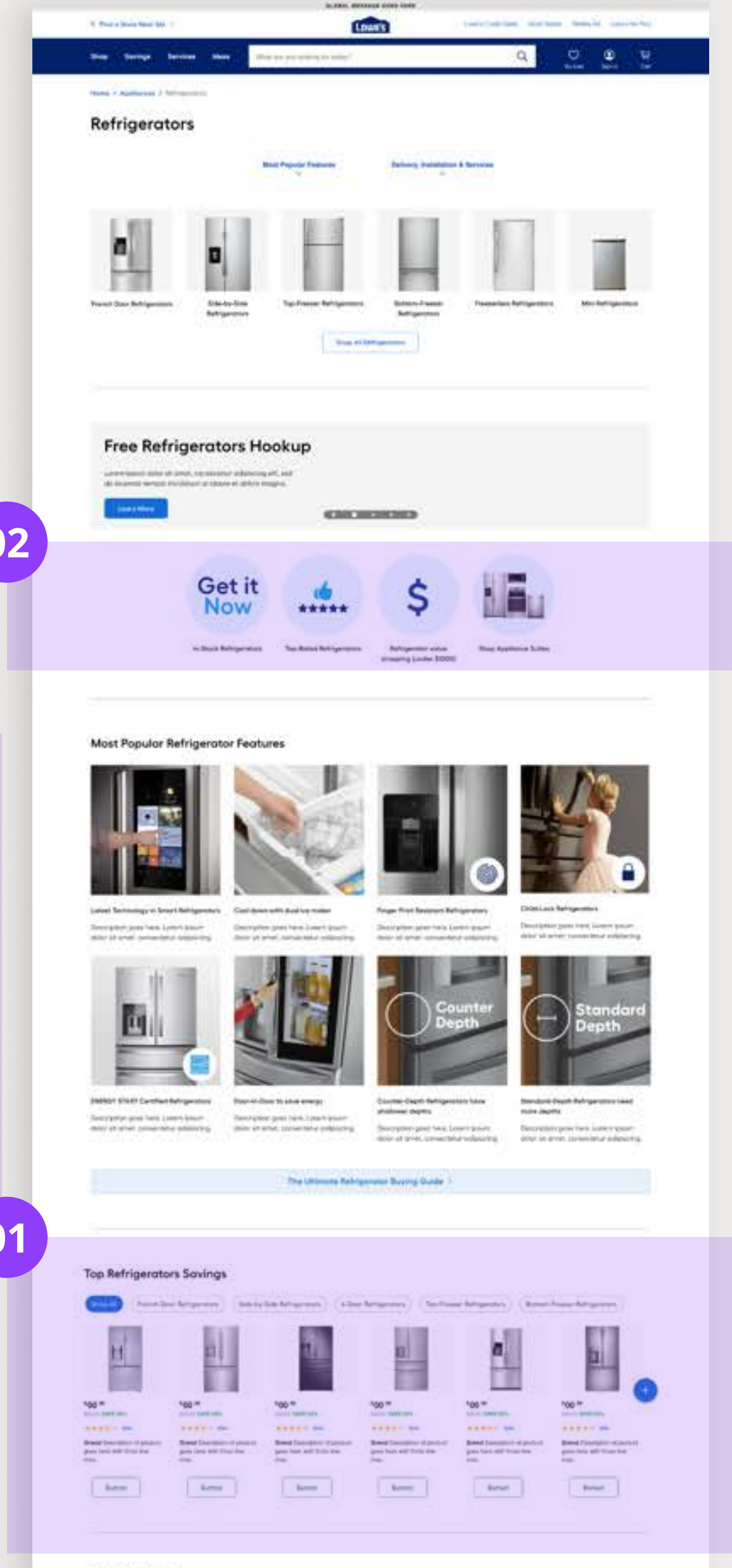
01 Several steps to get to the product
↳ Now can get to the product level while still can visit the category page

02 Filter-based paths
↳ Get the product by 'In-Stock' availability, Top-rated, and Price

Super Category Page



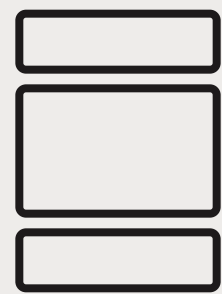
Sub Category Page



02

01

01



DESIGN EXPLORATION

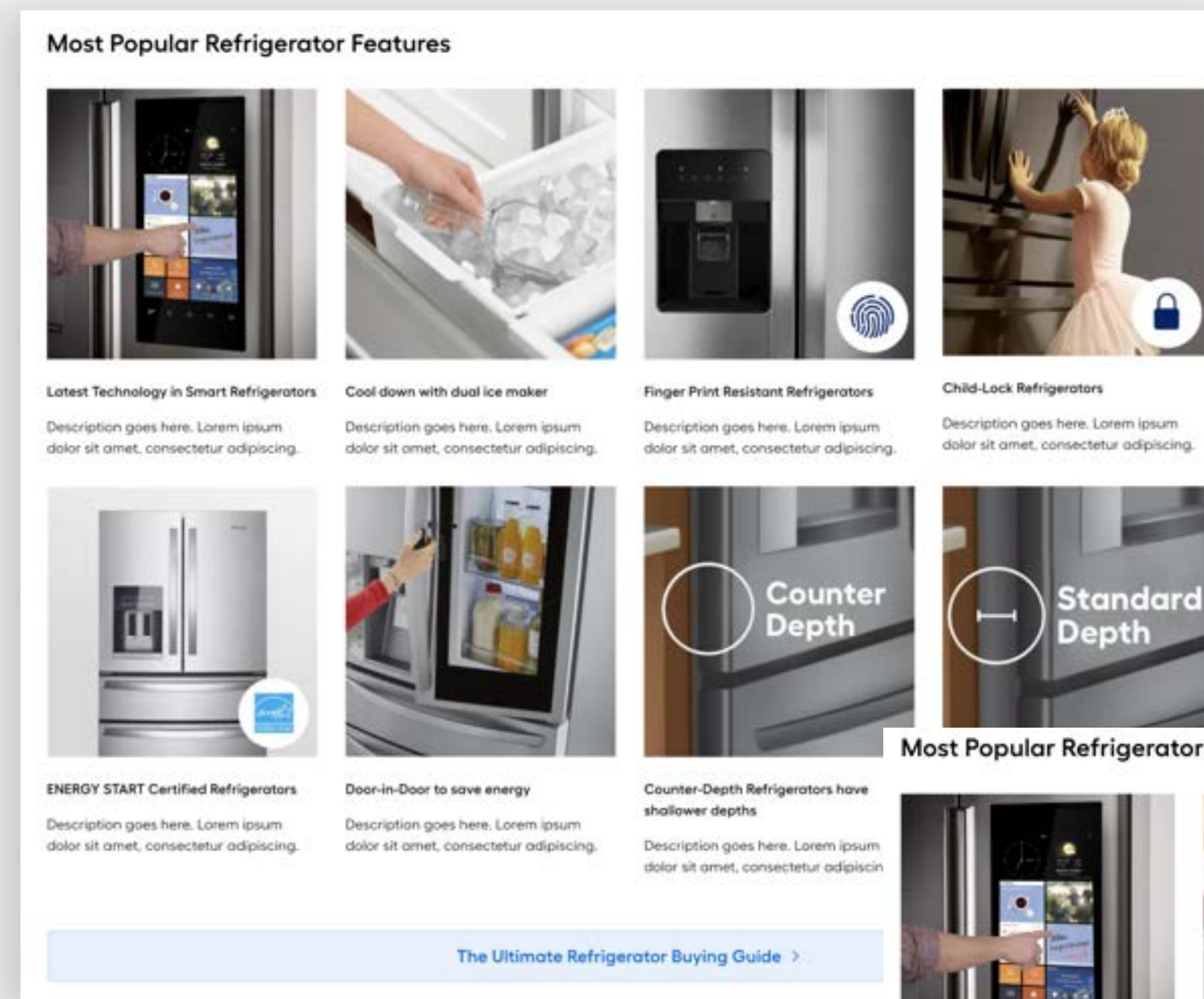


CONTENT

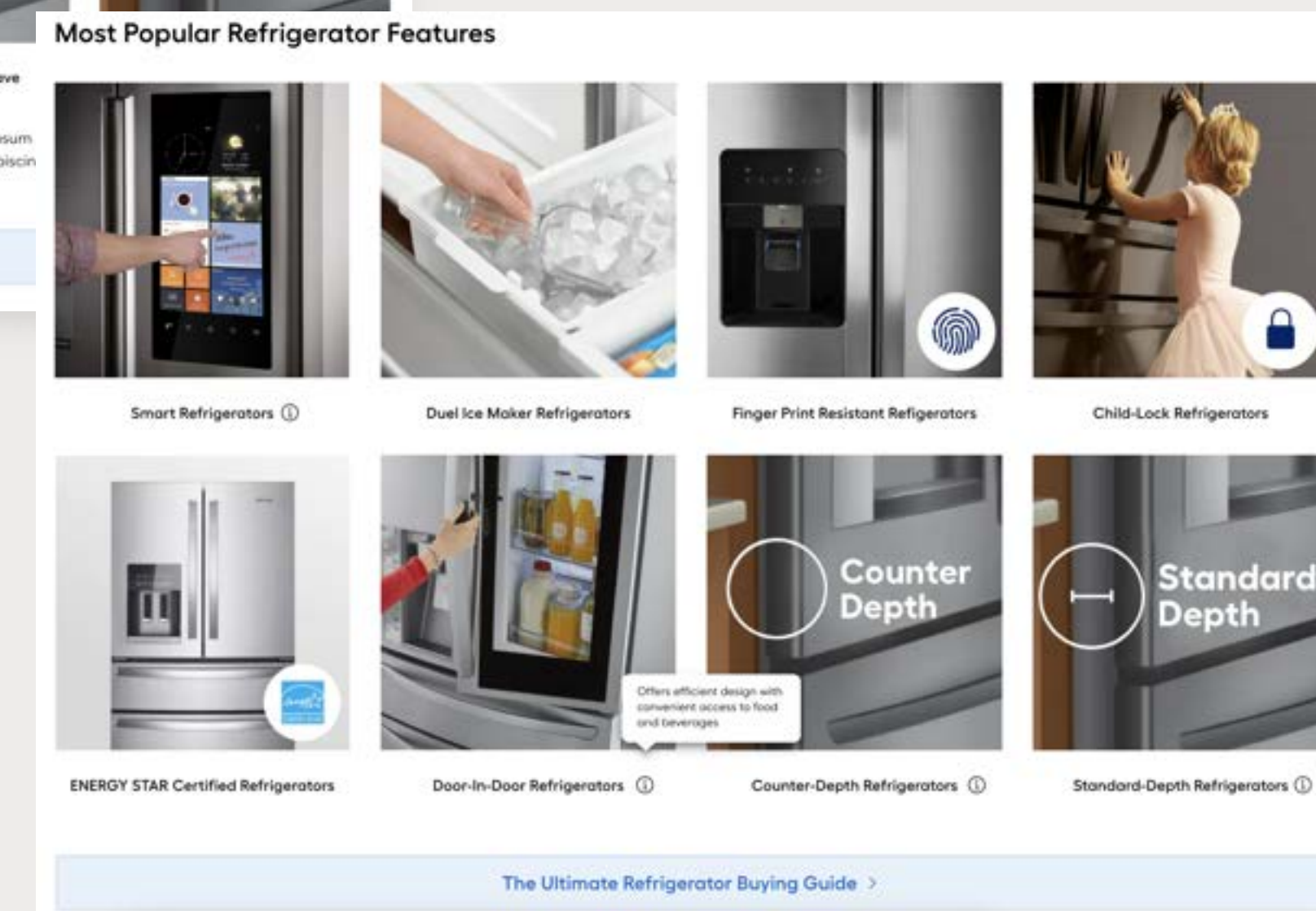
- 01 No educational content when needed
 - ↳ Provide the subtext to increase customer's buying confidence.
 - ↳ A/B test to find the best way to convey the information.

- 02 Need for more guided experience
 - ↳ Consider developing the 'product finder' component (Future State)

'Feature' Section -
Option 1. Revealed Test



'Feature' Section -
Option 2. Hover Text



Iterate

what can we do now

vs what should we do in the future?



VALIDATION

SUS (System Usability Scale)

11.5 PTS INCREASE

73.5 pts

'Before' State



85 pts

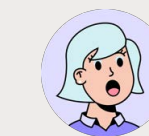
'After' State

"This feels better. I can see everything on a single screen which I like."

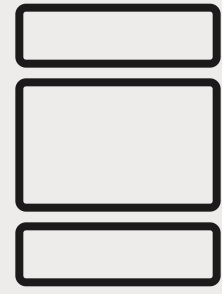


REACTIVE CUSTOMERS

"I preferred the prototype with the revealed text because I didn't have to think about it.."



PROACTIVE CUSTOMERS



THE ITERATED DESIGN

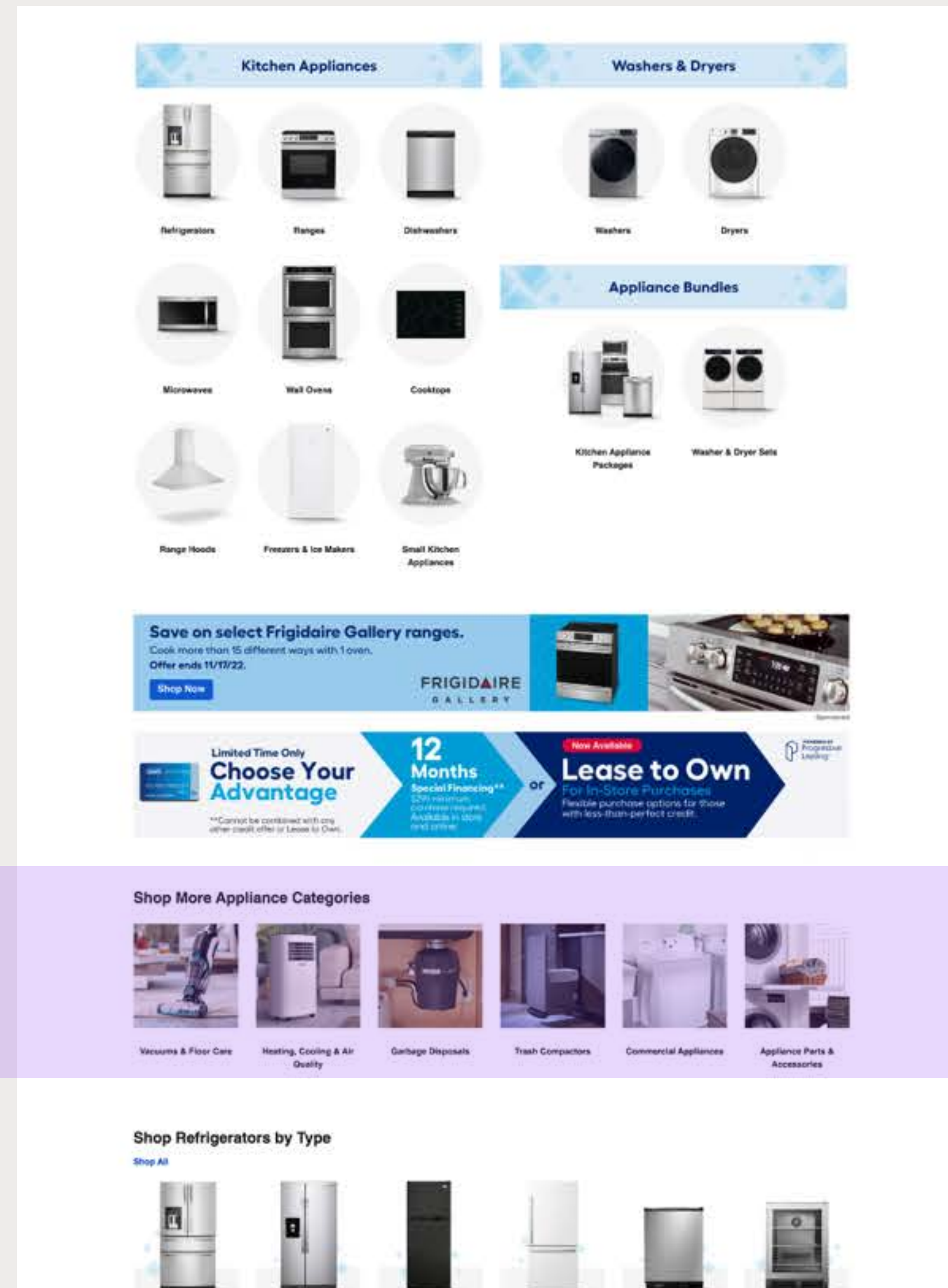
SUPER CATEGORY PAGE

- Placed additional categories more adjacent

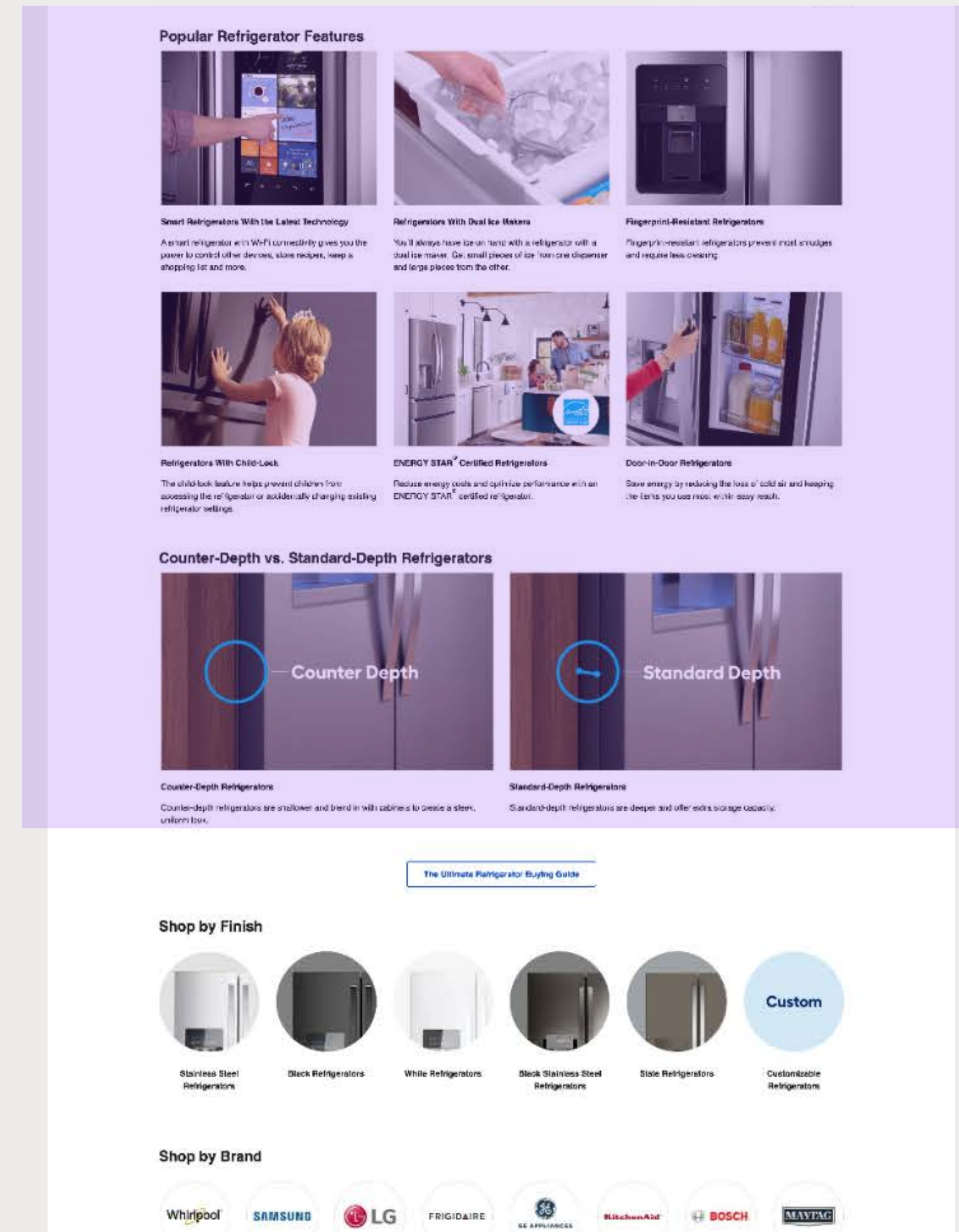
SUBCATEGORY PAGE

- Include text under product features to make educational content readily available.
- 57% of users preferred the revealed text over hover text.

Super Category



Subcategory





THE FUTURE STATE

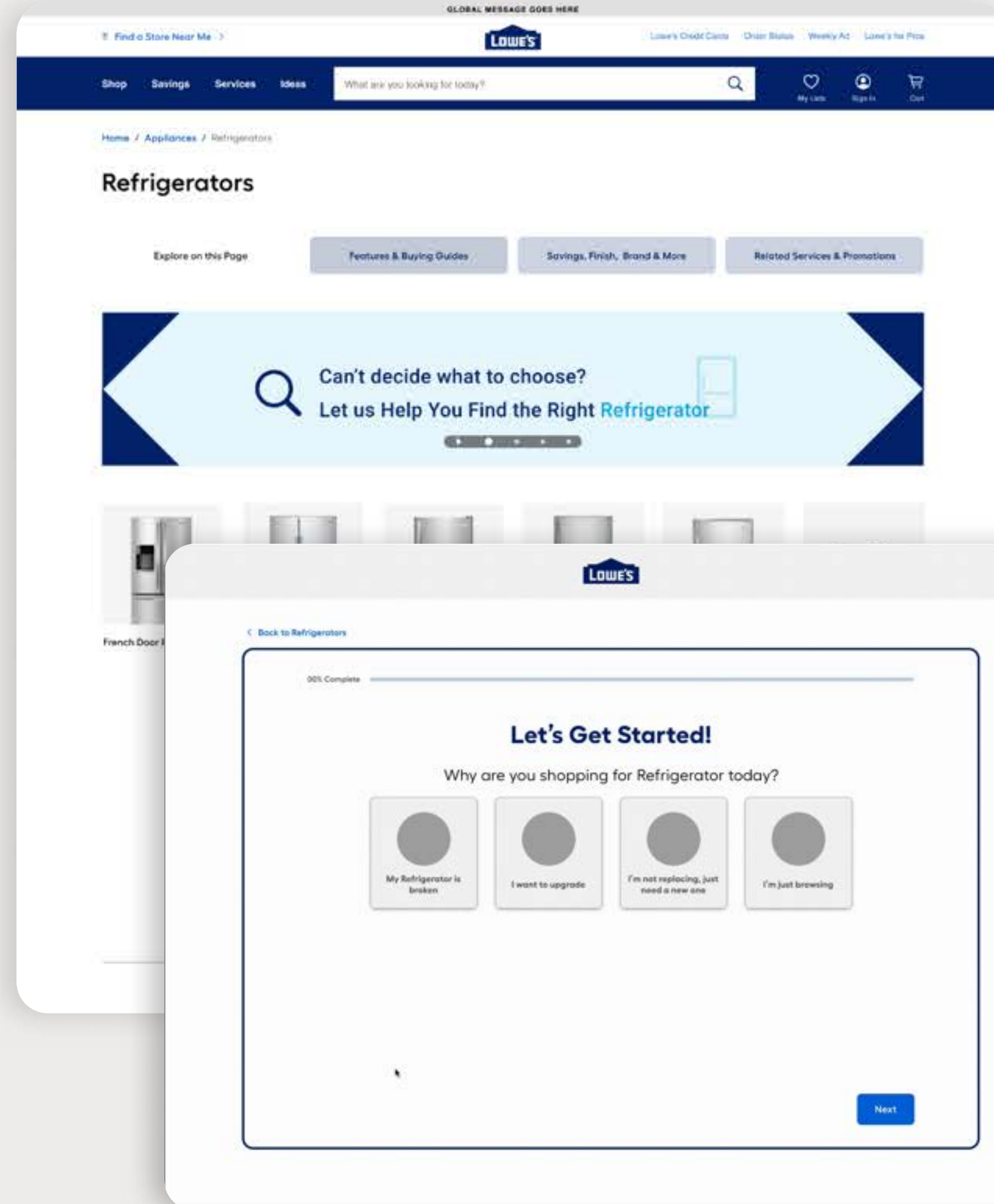
GUIDED SELLING

- Ideal experience include a product finder tool above the fold.
- Step-by-Step quiz format will not overwhelm users but to personalize the shopping experience.

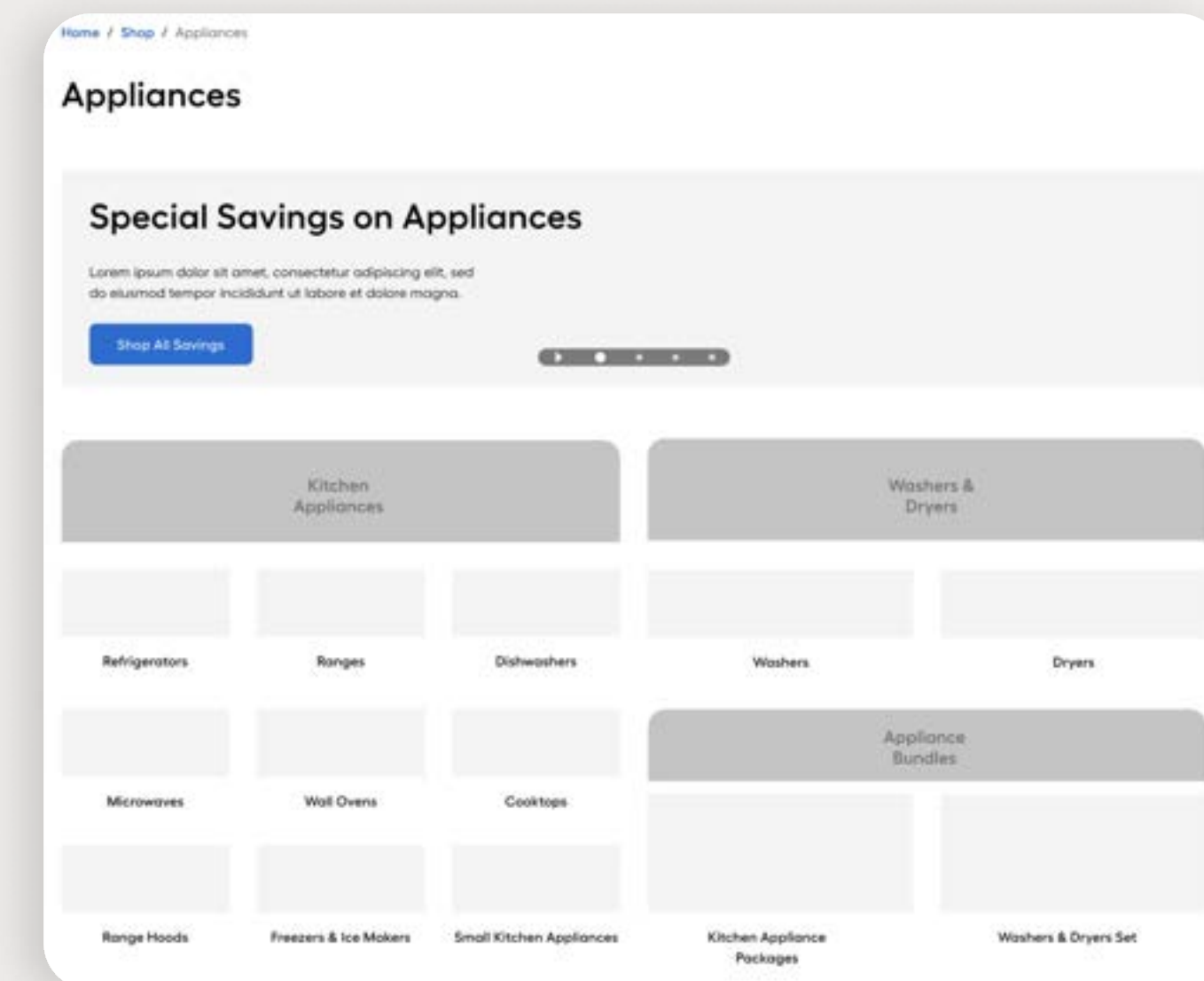
BANNER CAROUSEL

- Could shorten the page and make the promotional info more accessible/noticeable.
- Need more testing to validate.

Guided Selling



Banner Carousel



What's Next?

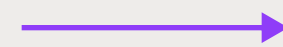
Next Step & Retrospective



NEXT STEP

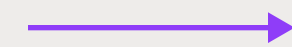
HAND OFF

- Hand off the structure of the page
- Follow-through with the UX strategy & visual design



VALIDATION

- A/B test to gather the metrics



ITERATION

- Update the page using the most recent '**category page template**'

SUCCESS METRICS

- Increased % of customers who go from Category Pages to Product Listing Page
- Reduced % of customers who search from category pages
- Reduced exit rates for category pages
- Increased RPV (Revenue Per Visitor) who visits a category page



RETROSPECTIVE



The Woods & The Tree

- Stick to the project scope and be strategic



Feedback

- Ask for feedback with clear intention



Initiative

- Take it even further (Guided Selling, Anchor Menu)