

Transcript

[first scenario – YourGlove]

G: Can I just ask you a question about it?

D: Sure

G: Do you actually put your hand in that, you don't...

D: You do

G: OK...

D: Creepy?

G: Not particularly, I'm just trying to work out how it works

[explain how it works]

D: So what are your first thoughts about this one?

G: It's a little bit strange... but I guess it's kind of sensitive in a way in that when you move your hand then it holds the other person's hand... it's quite a nice idea but for me I think it would be a little bit strange.

D: What is it about it you find strange? The idea of having a hand and an arm on your desk?

G: Yeah, perhaps... the fact that it's a little bit clunky, the fact that it's not real even though you're trying to recreate it... but the fact that it actually works is a nice idea. It's probably as close as you could come to it actually holding hands at a distance so it's a good way in terms of that but there's still something which isn't right

D: Almost like it's trying to be something it's not?

G: Perhaps... but it's as close as you could come to holding hands at a distance

[prototype]

G: It'll be a bit peculiar whatever I do [after talking about the grips]

[instinctively – interlace]

[try palm to palm]

D: Having seen and used it a little bit, have your thoughts changed at all or is it pretty much as you expected?

G: I'm not too keen on the noise but obviously the noise has to be there, doesn't it... the noise makes it more robot-like which makes it less human-like... it does grip reasonably well, still a bit strange

D: The feel of the hand, or the way it moves or both...?

G: It fairly grips well but I usually hand like that, it's never going to grip your hand fully... and the noise I said...

D: Do you think the noise would remind you that...

G: Yeah I think so, it makes you think more robot than human...

D: The way the scenario describes it is as a OTS product... if it was more of a kit that you decorated with a top a glove, a bracelet, do you think that would change...

G: Perhaps... because of whatever is underneath it, there has to be a glove, it can't be made to look like a hand?

D: Potentially it could be... we haven't because we thought it might be too creepy... is that something you'd go for then?

G: I'd actually wouldn't have said it was that creepy but maybe it would be... I'm not sure about the glove... I think if you could have your own sleeve it would be better....

G: I think it's interesting...

[second scenario – HotHand]

D: So what do you think about this one?

G: I prefer it to the other one... I think maybe, it's probably more sensitive, gives you more of a warm feeling anyway but I haven't seen it yet so I don't know whether there will be the same noise or whatever... I'm not sure why but for me there would be more of a connection there because rather than holding something which is fake, you're more putting your hand on a model of something which is creating a reaction on theirs is more like holding your hands together

[prototype]

[prefer resting on top]

D: So, you were kind of reserving judgement on it... what do you think now?

G: I think the idea of placing your hand on top is a bit more natural than actually having to grip something... it's more subtle... it doesn't feel so awkward... that's my instant reaction and because this is moulded like a human hand it feels more comfortable

D: With the subtlety; do you think you like that because it means you are focussing more on the connection than whatever is happening?

G: Yes. Because with the other one, if its not quite working or you're concentrating on that [the hand]

D: What do you think about how it looks visually?

G: I think it's nice... the way that it's actually solid like a real hand

D: On the other one, we talked about making it more hand like, with this one are you more comfortable...

G: Yes

D: On the first one we talked about decorating it; with this one we've been thinking about the couple going through the process of casting each other's hands... do you think that would change how you thought about it?

G: Yeah that's nice... it obviously then feels more like it's his hand whereas with the other one, you could decorate it but you couldn't make it there hand

[third scenario – HotMit]

D: So what are your initial thoughts about this one?

G: That perhaps even better than the last one because it's even more subtle, you just rest your hand rather than having to do anything specific... is it their imprint or a standard one?

D: Same question, it's being presented as standard but could be theirs... do you prefer...

G: possibly... but perhaps being an imprint it would make a smaller difference if it was theirs...

[prototype]

D: Pretty much what you were expecting?

G: Yep... it's for girls and boys? I was expecting it to be bigger but this is better than I thought because it's such a close fit

D: That's actually [girls] imprint

G: Ah, so it would be girl sized

D: Do you think if you did cast them, you'd be tempted to keep yours as it would be a better match?

G: ummm... I think ideally I'd prefer to have his; if it was a standard one and it was ridiculously big I'd rather have mine... but ideally I'd prefer to have his

D: At the moment the heat is in one small part of the hand; do you think it would be nicer if that heat was across the entire surface?

G: yes

D: This one is painted; the other one isn't. Do you have any preference...

G: I'm not sure about the blue... if it was cliché red or a skin colour I think it would be nicer...

D: What if it was painted your partner's favourite colour?

G: Then yes; if there was an actual link with your partner, it would be more personal

D: Would you be tempted to paint or decorate the other one [hothand]

G: Probably no because it would be more difficult to do it... and me being a perfectionist I wouldn't want to mess it up and then not use it whereas that one [hotmits] you wouldn't be able to make a mess

[wrap up]

D: Is this a system you might use

G: [yourglove - no], [hotmits - possibly] [hothands - yes]

D: So that links through to, which is your favourite?

G: [hotmits], [hothands], [yourglove] due to the increase in subtlety.

D: We talked a bit at the beginning about how they work; do you have any thoughts over which you would prefer

G: Probably just one because then it's more subconscious... when you're talking to them and wanting more of a connection you can just do it rather than having to both do it at the same time

D: Is hand holding something you actually miss?

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G: No... I think I would prefer to kiss someone than hold their hand... that's a very personal thing... but I think if there was something like that that you could buy, I probably would... but it's not something that I would particularly miss

D: With the kissing, do you think something similar could be made...

G: [laughs] no