A 'HANDY' GUIDE TO GESTURING

Perceptual computing will revolutionise the way we interact with computing devices. We're already familiar with touchscreens, but soon we'll be sharing images and browsing content with a wave of a finger. So before you start gesticulating to your laptop why not familiarise yourself with some commonly used gestures and their meaning...
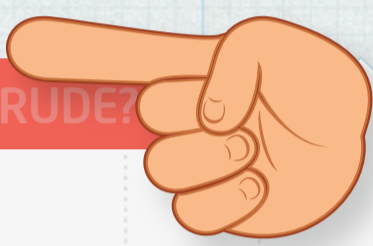
VICTORY / PEACE

In most european countries this is a derogatory gesture meaning 'you are a loser'. But in Poland it's a sign of allegiance for the Warsaw football team!

This sign is an iconic image of either victory or peace. But in the UK and Ireland be sure your palm is pointing outwards – otherwise it's very rude!

THE "LOSER"

POINTING

It's usually rude to point at a person. But pointing at an object, usually done with the index finger, directs attention to it. Be respectful in the Middle East however, where any use of the index finger to point is deemed offensive.

An inquiry in Italy, this hand gesture means "what is this?". Yet in Egypt it can mean "give me a minute", while in Turkey it affirms something is beautiful or good!

ROUNDED HAND

SOLIDARITY

The clenched fist, held aloft, can be a sign of solidarity. But be careful how you point your fist and who you point it at - it can also be a threat of violence in some countries.

THE LIKEABLE THUMB

Social media has taken the "thumbs-up" gesture and turned it into a way to 'like' something online. Although don't forget that in Turkey this signifies the number one when you are ordering something.

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WHICH DO YOU DO?

When gesturing to take a photo, we used to pull an imaginary camera to our faces and press a pretend button to mock capturing an image. Some people now do this by holding out an arm as if using a device to take the picture with. Which do you do?

Intel is developing technologies that will let people engage more naturally and intuitively with a variety of devices – from an Ultrabook™ or smartphone to everyday equipment like televisions and microwaves. Whether through short-range gesture recognition or tracking people's health, computing is set to become more immersive.

(intel)