

Usability Test – Jake

5/5/2014

After conducting this test there was one thing that really stood out to me. The user didn't really know what the site was for. When asked what he thought the site was about, Jake did not have a good answer. After some exploring and going through other tasks Jake became familiar with the purpose of the site. He was able to find everything relatively easily but had some suggestions regarding other aspects of the site.

Here are some recommendations pulled from the video:

1. Site purpose not clear. Have some description on the home page.
2. Make links stand out more. Switch up color scheme and make things pop.
3. Include some sort of scoring system for posts.
4. Have a picture next to each post.

I definitely agree that the purpose of the site may not be clear at first. Adding a small description is something that is easy to do. As long as the text is not too long I think users will gladly read it to gain more background information about the site. If a user is not clear about the purpose of the site, they may spend the time to try and find out, or they may just leave and never come back. Adding some description is definitely worth it.

The color scheme is pretty monochromatic. Adding some different colors in there to help distinguish links may help users navigate and find what they are looking for much easier. Not only for links but perhaps changing up the colors would make the site more aesthetically pleasing and comfortable to users.

A scoring system for posts is a cool idea. It would allow users to rate a post based on its content. We could then use that rating to organize posts by most popular to least popular, or use that information in any other way. This would be doable but not with the amount of time we have left. It would be a great project for the future.

Having a picture next to the post is something that we have been working a lot on but have been unsuccessful with. The idea was to automatically generate a thumbnail based on the site the post was linking to, and have that thumbnail display next to the title.