Charles B. Eaton
0878882
CIS 2336
Ms. Fofanova

Client-side vs. Server-side Coding

In today's online world, there exists two different sides and aspects to every website or script. More commonly referred to as Client-side or Front-end and Server-side or Back-end. What this indicates is that there is a lot more happening behind the scenes other than the status update that you're reading from your "BFF" that just had an "OMG" moment. As a developer, or anyone trying to get their message out to the world through a web based platform, there must be a conscious awareness of what you want to see, how you have to code it, and how others will interact with it.

On the client-side, front-end, user-end, we use our web browsers (application or client) to visit websites. The many web browsers are developed to interpret code like HTML, CSS, PHP, Flash, Java and so forth, so that it looks pretty, interactive, and keep us trapped to our computers forever. What this means is that your computer sends a request to a server with all of the website files, and then it is simply displayed on your end. Client-side programming allows for the users to input data to the website and request pages from the server. JavaScript has become increasingly popular in web development because it allows for scripts to run on the client side, or your computer. This is also why, more often than not, a notification on your computer pops up saying "New Java Updates Available!" Big shout out to ORACLE!

The server-side coding, back-end, refers to the code, scripts or programs, which run strictly on the server. Simply put, server-side programming is used to take users input, process that input on the server and return an output. Programming languages that usually run in the background, and are not apparent to the user are PHP, jsp, asp, Python, Ruby and Perl. These are only some examples. Depending on what the end-user is trying to accomplish, any input they provide the website will execute some code to return an output. The script may ask for credentials like a username and password, and once that input is submitted, the code may check a database or a list of directives to allow that user with that password to proceed to another part of the website.

As an example, you may visit http://ibeneaton.com/who and find a very simple script written in PHP. You enter the value into the box (client-side), and when you hit enter, it executes a code (server-side) to determine your input and provide an output.

Some link action:
http://www.codeconquest.com/website/client-side-vs-server-side/
http://programmers.stackexchange.com/questions/171203/what-are-the-differences-between-server-side-and-client-side-programming

Codecademy Progress: 25% completed