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Reflections

I would like to preface this document by saying that I already consider myself a full stack developer as I have made a few websites for personal purposes and I have made two big websites for companies local to where I live so much of this information that I read about was trivial as I was already opinionated on the topics being discussed. With that out of the way, there were some parts that were not trivial as the field of full stack development is constantly changing and I am learning new things.

I always knew there were a lot of frameworks out there to learn but I never realized until I watched the “*Web Development In 2022 - A Practical Guide*” video on YouTube that there are frameworks for CSS. It makes sense honestly, CSS is quite annoying to deal with at times, especially when I am trying to achieve a high-level animation or concept. I always worked around CSS and attempted to do as much as I could through JavaScript and HTML and only resorting to CSS when I wanted something to look nice. I also heard of “what you see is what you get” (WYSIWYG) software like JavaFX and Scene builder for apps on desktop and Squarespace for online websites and those tools seem nice but I feel that they can be restrictive.

Something that was touched on in the video was the principles of UI design which are helpful but I found that even though I am an artist, I am the worst at making a webpage look nice. I always work with a graphic designer who’s job and expertise suit this task very well. The process for which I design a website is figuring out the information that needs to be displayed and then dumping that information to my graphic designer and she/he/they would then be able to create a layout which I have to figure out how to display which should be easy as the wireframe would already have all the colors, scaling and visual hierarchies in place on a high level so I just have to go and slowly build them with CSS, HTML and then add in any scripts needed in JavaScript.

On the topic of browsers, I recently discovered how amazing Firefox is for front end work and I have been using for a year now. Genuinely, the most amazing tool in my arsenal has to be Firefox as it makes CSS incredibly easy and it also makes making changes and edits in my code all that much easier to implement.

I think there is a lot in web development that I do not know, even though I am quite knowledgeable about it already. That on it’s on is beautiful to me as it tells me that there are more ways that I can make my life easier while also making quality products.