

Personal Website

Website Design Document

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# Overview:

## Competitive Analysis (Website critique)

Here are three personal websites, each with a brief critique focusing on content design, visual design, usability, and accessibility. I will also highlight what I like and dislike about each of them.

**1. Personal Website: "Alice's Art Gallery"**

**Content Design:**

* *What I Like:* The website features a well-organized portfolio section showcasing Alice's artwork. It provides detailed descriptions for each piece and includes a blog where Alice shares her creative process.
* *What I Don't Like:* The "About Me" section is minimal and lacks personal details about Alice's background and journey as an artist.

**Visual Design:**

* *What I Like:* The website uses a minimalistic design with a white background, allowing the artwork to take center stage. It has a clean and uncluttered appearance.
* *What I Don't Like:* The navigation menu could be more prominent, and the color scheme is a bit monotonous, lacking visual contrast.

**Usability:**

* *What I Like:* Navigation is straightforward, with clear menu labels. The gallery is easy to browse, and the blog posts are organized by date.
* *What I Don't Like:* The mobile responsiveness could be improved for a better experience on smaller screens.

**Accessibility:**

* *What I Like:* Alt text is provided for all images, enhancing accessibility for users with visual impairments.
* *What I Don't Like:* There is no option for text resizing, and the contrast between text and background could be improved for better readability.

**Features Desired for My Website:**

* Clear and prominent navigation.
* Improved mobile responsiveness.
* Enhanced color contrast for readability.

**2. Personal Website: "Mark's Travel Adventures"**

**Content Design:**

* *What I Like:* The website features engaging travel stories with high-quality photos and interactive maps to show Mark's journey.
* *What I Don't Like:* The "Contact" section is buried deep within the site and could be more accessible.

**Visual Design:**

* *What I Like:* The website has a visually appealing design with vibrant images that capture the essence of each destination.
* *What I Don't Like:* The font size in some sections is too small, and there's limited use of white space.

**Usability:**

* *What I Like:* The interactive maps are a unique and useful feature for travelers to explore Mark's routes.
* *What I Don't Like:* Navigating to specific travel stories can be cumbersome, and the website lacks a search function.

**Accessibility:**

* *What I Like:* Alt text is provided for images, making the content accessible to all users.
* *What I Don't Like:* The text size and spacing need improvement for better readability.

**Features Desired for My Website:**

* A more accessible "Contact" section.
* Improved text size and spacing.
* Enhanced navigation.

**3. Personal Website: "Emily's Recipe Collection"**

**Content Design:**

* *What I Like:* The website offers a diverse collection of recipes, each with step-by-step instructions and nutritional information.
* *What I Don't Like:* The "About Me" section is brief and doesn't provide insight into Emily's culinary background.

**Visual Design:**

* *What I Like:* The website uses appetizing images for each recipe, and the color scheme is warm and inviting.
* *What I Don't Like:* The homepage could benefit from a more organized layout, and some text elements appear cluttered.

**Usability:**

* *What I Like:* The search and filter options for recipes are helpful for users looking for specific dishes or dietary preferences.
* *What I Don't Like:* The load times for recipe images can be slow, impacting the user experience.

**Accessibility:**

* *What I Like:* Alt text is included for recipe images, ensuring accessibility.
* *What I Don't Like:* The website's text could benefit from better contrast with the background for improved readability.

**Features Desired for My Website:**

* Improved homepage organization.
* Faster loading times for images.
* Enhanced text contrast for readability

# Content and Structure:

## Sitemap

Home

Portfolio

Hobbies

Experience

Education

Blog

Travel

## Content Inventory

Provide detailed content inventory in the following table.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Page Name | Content | Type |
| index.html | This is the home page. It’s the landing page of the website. It has an attractive appearance to attract users to my website | Text, images |
| education.html | It shows the education background. The university and secondary school attended. | Text only |
| experience.html | It shows the experiences that I have. There is a couple of companies that I have worked with. | Text only |
| Travel.html | It shows the travel information about me. There is a good number of places that I have visited. | Text only |
| Hobbies.html | It shows the my hobbies. Several hobbies are explained including photography and adventure travel. | Text only |
| Blog.html | This page contains some articles on the places I have visited | Text only |
| portfolio.html | Shows the projects I have worked on including mobile app development and an e-commerce website. | Text only |

# Content Design:

## Special effects

There are several CSS3 special effects and transitions used to enhance the visual appeal and interactivity of the website. Here's an explanation of some of the CSS3 special effects and transitions employed:

1. **Box Shadows:**

Box shadows are used to create depth and visual separation between elements. For example, in the header, navigation, biography, and contact sections, the box-shadow property is applied to elements. This property adds a subtle shadow effect, making the elements appear slightly elevated from the background.

1. **Hover Effects:**

Hover effects are applied to various elements throughout the website to provide interactive feedback when users hover their mouse over these elements. For instance:

In the header section, there's a hover effect applied to the logo image (header:hover .logo-img). When the header is hovered, the logo image rotates by -360deg, creating a spinning effect.

Navigation items in the header (nav ul li) change their background color to blue (background-color: blue;) when hovered, providing a visual indication of interactivity.

In the biography section, both the text and image elements within .biography-text-and-img have hover effects. When this section is hovered, the image scales up slightly (transform: scale(1.02);) and gains a box shadow, creating a subtle zoom effect and enhancing the image's prominence.

Similarly, the entire biography section also has a hover effect that scales it up slightly and adds a border (border: .5px solid;) for visual feedback.

These hover effects make the website feel more engaging and responsive, which is a common practice in modern web design.

1. **Transitions:**

Transitions are used to smoothly animate changes in CSS properties. In the provided code, the transition property is applied to several elements and properties. For example:

The submit button (#submit) has a transition for background-color and color, creating a smooth color change when hovered (transition: all .5s ease-in;).

The biography image (biography-img) and the entire biography section have a transition for transform and box-shadow. When hovered, these elements smoothly scale up and gain a shadow (transition: all .6s ease-in-out;).

Transitions improve the user experience by making visual changes appear more gradual and polished.

1. **Border Radius**:

The use of border-radius property in various sections, such as the header, biography, and contact form, adds rounded corners to elements, giving them a softer and more modern appearance.

These CSS3 special effects and transitions contribute to a visually appealing and interactive user experience on the website. They enhance the overall aesthetics, interactivity, and responsiveness of the site, making it more engaging for visitors.

## Wireframes

Home Page

navigation

Navigation

Navigation

Image

Text

Image

Text

Contact section

Footer

PORTFOLIO PAGE

navigation

navigation

navigation

Card

With

details

Card

With

details

Card

With

details

footer

# 4 Visual Design:

## . Color Scheme

The overall color scheme used is a combination of greens, grays, whites, and purples.

1. **Background Colors:**
   * **whitesmoke**: This sets the background color of the entire page to "whitesmoke," which is a very light gray color. It provides a neutral and clean background.
   * **rgb(0, 100, 0)**: This sets the background color of the header section to a shade of green using the RGB color notation. It gives the header a green background.
   * **#2bab0d**: This sets the background color of navigation items in the header to a different shade of green using a hexadecimal color code.
   * **rgb(214, 204, 204)**: This sets the background color for various sections like the biography and contact sections to a light grayish color.
2. **Text Colors:**
   * **white**: This sets the text color to white for elements inside the header and navigation items. White text on a green background creates a high contrast and is visually appealing.
   * **black**: This sets the text color to black for input fields and other elements. It provides good readability on the light gray background.
   * **purple**: This sets the text color to purple for some elements in the footer section.
   * **#777**: This sets a slightly lighter gray color for text in the footer and other sections.
3. **Button Colors:**
   * **rgb(0, 100, 0)**: This sets the background color of the submit button in the contact form to green. It changes to a different shade of green on hover **( #2bab0d;**).
   * **whitesmoke**: This sets the text color of the submit button to white.
4. **Box Shadows and Hover Effects:**
   * Various sections, like the header, biography, and cards, use box shadows and hover effects to create depth and interactivity. For example, when hovering over navigation items or cards, they change background color or scale slightly to provide visual feedback.
5. **Other Colors:**
   * There are some additional color-related properties used in the CSS, such as text shadows (**text-shadow**) and border colors (**border-color**), which add subtle visual effects.

## Typography

The fonts used in the website design are primarily sans-serif fonts for readability and a clean, modern look. Here's a discussion of the fonts used:

**Font Families:**

Throughout the website, various elements use different font families. The primary font family used is "sans-serif," which is a generic font category that includes modern, clean, and easy-to-read fonts. This choice is often preferred for websites because it ensures cross-platform compatibility and readability on different devices.

**Font Size and Weight:**

The CSS code specifies font sizes and weights for different elements.

For example, the titles are defined with a font size of 28px and a font weight of "bold." This is used for headings or titles to make them stand out and emphasize their importance.

Input fields and text areas (input and textarea) use a font size of 16px, which is a standard size for text input elements. This size ensures that the text is legible and user-friendly.

The description in the footer section uses a font size of 18px and is styled in purple. This provides additional information or a description in the footer.

**Font Stack:**

Although the CSS code specifies "sans-serif" as the preferred font family, it also includes a list of fallback fonts in case the preferred font is not available on the user's device. These fallback fonts ensure that the text remains readable even if the desired font is not supported.

The specified font stack includes commonly used system fonts like "system-ui," "Segoe UI," "Roboto," and others. This is a good practice for web development to provide a consistent and familiar reading experience for users across different platforms and browsers.

**Text Transform:**

Some text elements use the text-transform property to change the appearance of text. For example, the submit button text is transformed to uppercase with text-transform: capitalize;. This can be a design choice to enhance the button's appearance and make it more visually appealing.

Overall, the use of sans-serif fonts, appropriate font sizes, and font weights align with modern web design principles, focusing on readability and a clean, professional look. The inclusion of a font stack ensures that the website's text is accessible to a wide range of users.