Project 2 – Reflection

Benjamin Smith – April 4, 2024

* What applications did you use to complete the wireframes? Did you find the application simple to use or find an alternative to what was suggested?

I created the wireframes on a paper, so that I could create and experiment quickly without worrying too much about details. I’ve tried wireframing in Figma in the past, and my creativity was limited to my slow use of the software and the need for digital perfection. Drawing on paper allows me to make more mistakes while allowing for experimentation.

* Explain what you learned when building the flowchart diagram in the proposal?

I already expected it, but while building it, it really showed how complicated and interconnected my site will be. Since I’ll be making a similar site to Zillow but with added interactivity, there are going to be lots of strange connections. It’s not like a simple browse-select-purchase site. Though I may not be able to fully design it during this class, the pages would change depending on who the user is, (tenant or landlord).

* Did you use one of the listed applications to diagram the site? If not, what did you use and why?

I did not, I decided to use Figma instead since I’m already familiar with the software and I like it. Before then, I had already created a document which goes in depth into the details required on each site. This made the further planning easier.

* What challenges did you face in developing the main navigation for the final project? How did you resolve them?

The navigation will need to change slightly depending on a few factors. For example, once the user has logged in, they will no longer be presented with the login/create account buttons. Instead, they will need the “view account” and “log out” buttons. Additionally, it was a bit challenging determining how I would nest each button. The notification button in the nav bar is not going to navigate, but it will release a drop down of all the notifications. The messages when clicked will also open a drop down but can then also lead to an actual messaging page. There’s also going to be links within the page that lead to some of the pages. These pages may not reasonably appear in that main navigation bar. I’ll also need to develop some images to use for the notification and message buttons.

* If you did not face any challenges or issues in completing the project, what do you think are some issues or challenges someone new to creating web pages might face completing a project like this?

There are many different interconnected things that create a cohesive website. For someone like me who is not fully engulfed in web design every day, planning for all that complexity can be very difficult. It is important to take a step back and make more intricate plans, even if those plans are not required for this class. It can only help.