# Human Interface Computing Project Report

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Part One: Brief Description

Pixel Patch is a website that provides an interface for creating and posting pixel-art drawings. Logged in users are given the ability to create, title, tag, and post their own self-created drawings. Each drawing is made on a 16x16 pixel art canvas. The consistency of each drawing adds to experience since each user has the same limited size of canvas. The posts themselves are searchable by their tags and titles, and user accounts are searchable by username. The ability to search adds to the user experience by allowing them to view all posts with the same tags, titles, and users. The purpose of Pixel Patch is to provide an avenue for users to create art, and view other's artwork.

Part Two: Description and Purpose of Each Page

I. Header: Though technically not a page itself, the header appears at the same position on each page of the website. The purpose of the header is to provide easy and consistent navigation to each other page on the site.
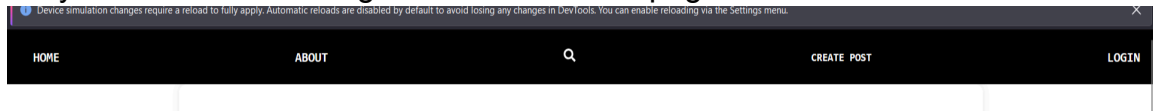
Header-non logged in ^^^

Header-Logged in ^^^

8 Rules Analysis: *Strive for Consistency:* by appearing at the top of each page the header acts as a menu for users to easily navigate the site's pages. *Reduce short time memory load:* by having easy access to navigation buttons on the top of each screen the user need not remember how to traverse the site or how to get between pages easily. *Informative feedback:* error when non-logged in users attempt to access information only available to logged in users. *Design Dialogue to Yield Closure and Easy Reversal of Action:* When clicking the logout button the are you sure dialogue pops up and gives user the opportunity to cancel.

Expectation: Users are expected to use the header to navigate between pages.

II. Home Page: The purpose of the home page is to provide a landing page for

new users unfamiliar with the site. This page displays the Logo with the name

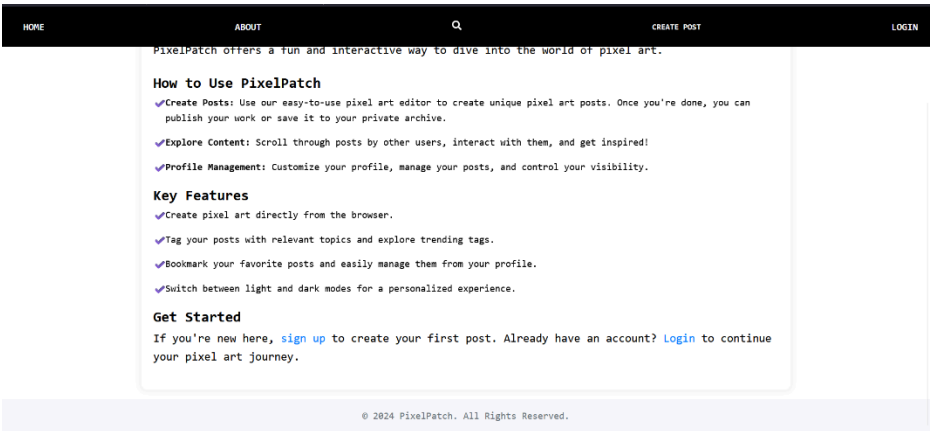Explore the latest posts and create your own pixel art!

of the site. The navigation bar on the top can guide new users to the about and login pages where they can learn more about the site. Logged in users will see new posts from other users on this page, while new users will see the site's tagline and copyright.

8 Rules Analysis: *Strive for Consistency:* The Home page follows the same color pallet as the rest of the site and functions as a home page is expected to (ie. Like home pages of other similar websites. *Support internal locus of control*: Logged in users have the ability to view their own drawings and log out by using the navigation bar buttons at the top of this page. *Permit easy reversal of actions:* When a user selects the 'logout' button they are greeted with an 'are you sure' pop-up with the ability to cancel.

Expectation: New User is expected to use the header navigation links to learn about the site and eventually sign-up. Logged in users are expected to use the Home page to view a feed of other user's posts.

III.   About Page: The purpose of the about page is to introduce new users to the concept of the website and how to get started using it. It consists of Black text, purple check marks to highlight information, and a white background. Each bullet point contains information about how to use the website. It also has buttons that lead to the login and signup pages.

8 Rules Analysis: *Strive for Consistency:* Uses the same color palette and overall theme as the rest of the site. The clickable links for signing up and logging are similar in appearance to links across other sites that the user would have experience with. *Reduce short time memory load:* By explaining in plain text how to use the site so users do not have to remember. Also provides buttons for easy navigation to logging in and signing up.

Expectation: The user is expected to use the about page to learn about the site and eventually log in or sign up.

IV.   Login and Sign-Up Pages: The purpose of the login and signup pages are to provide users with the ability to gain access to their existing account or to create an account if a new user. These pages employ simple input boxes with gray outlines and text, and bold login and create-account buttons to complete

| HOME | ABOUT | 🔍 | CREATE POST | LOGIN |

Login

username

password

LOGIN

Don't have an account? Sign up

login

| HOME | ABOUT | 🔍 | CREATE POST | LOGIN |

Sign Up

username

email

password

confirm password

CREATE ACCOUNT

signup

actions.

8 Rules Analysis: *Strive for Consistency:* Both pages look and behave similarly to each other and to other login/signup dialog pages on other sites, similar looking buttons are used to complete both actions. *Design dialogue to yield closure:* Both pages redirect when the action is completed successfully. *Offer informative feedback:* If actions are unsuccessful the user is notified with an error message. *Reduce short time memory load:* Login page has a link to the signup page for new users so they do not have to remember how to navigate to the signup page.

Expectation: New Users are expected to view the login page and navigate to the signup page to create an account. Returning users are expected to login on the login page.

V.   Search Page: The purpose of the search page is to allow users to search for site content including posts (by title and tag) and users (by username). The page includes a simple bold search box with the words 'search by username or hashtag' telling the user how to interact with the input box. The search button is the same style as all other button elements on the site.

HOME	ABOUT	🔍	CREATE POST	LOGIN

SEARCH BY USERNAME OR HASHTAG...   SEARCH
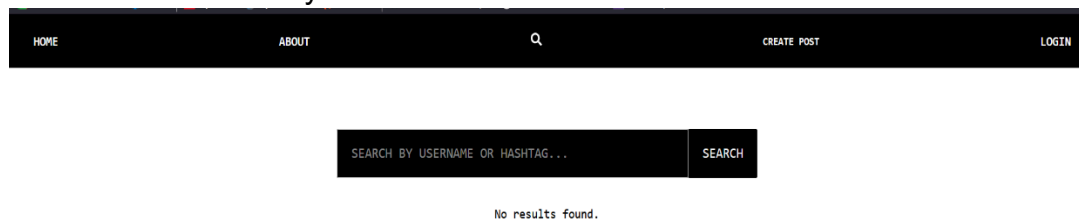
No results found.

8 Golden Rules Analysis: *Offer informative feedback:* user is told when a search yields no results. *Design dialogue to yield closure:* if content is found that matches the search the results load onto the page and the user can interact with them.

Expectation: Users are expected to use the search function to search for other users and their posts by username, tag, and titles.

VI.   Create Page: The purpose of the create page is to allow users to create posts associated with their profile that are also visible to the other visitors of the site. The page includes simple-to-use tools like a 3 channel color selector, undo button, fill area, clear grid and post button. The buttons and text are all styled the same as the rest of the site.

HOME	ABOUT	🔍	CREATE POST	LOGOUT	PROFILE

Create a New Pixel Art Post
Title:
Enter post title

Tags:
Enter tags (comma-separated)

Select Color:

8 Golden Rules Analysis: *Strive for Consistency:* operates similarly to other popular art tools like Microsoft Paint. *Offer informative feedback: the user selects pixels to color or sections to fill, every action on the canvas immediately displays visual feedback. Design dialogue to yield closure:* when a user is done with their work and post their art, it brings the user to their profile where they can immediately see their new artwork on the website

Expectation: The user is expected to reach this page and use it like they would for any other art program. Using right click to place a cell of a picked color, as well as the various other buttons.

VII.   User Page: The purpose of the user page is to allow users to view posts they have created for the site. The page also includes buttons to edit and delete their posts. The buttons and text are all styled the same as the rest of the site.
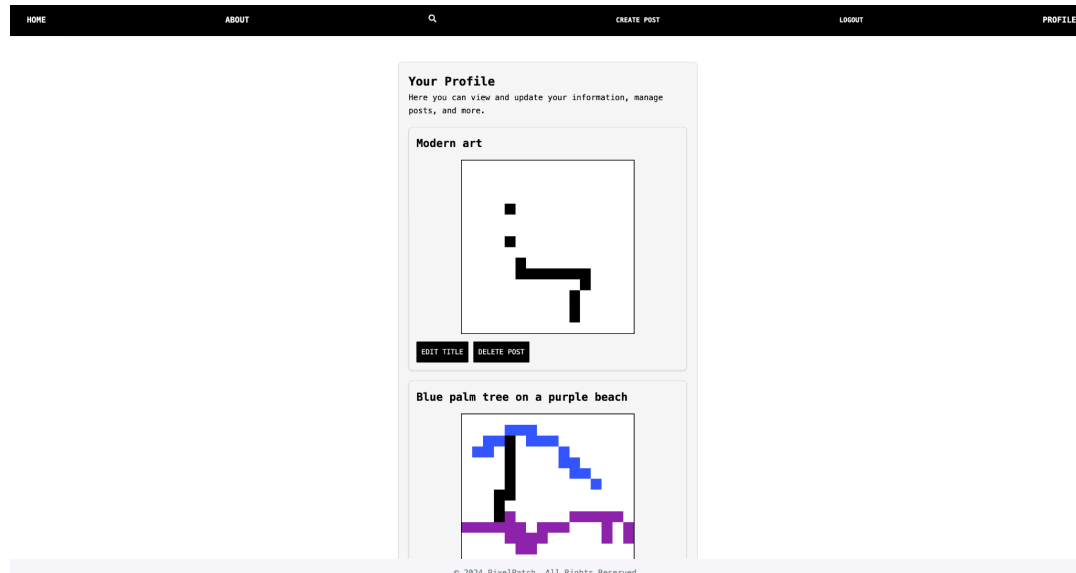
8 Golden Rules Analysis: *Strive for Consistency:* Consistent styling with the rest of the site. *Reduce Short Term Memory Load*, this page allows users to see their own artwork without remembering the titles and tags and having to search them. *Design Dialogue to Yield Closure:* Users can confirm their posts have been successfully posted.

Expectation: The user is expected to use this page to view their own artwork, delete unwanted posts, and to confirm a new post is successfully saved.

VIII.   Other User's User Page: The purpose of this variation of the User page is to allow users to view posts created by other users on the site. This is styled the same as the rest of the site.
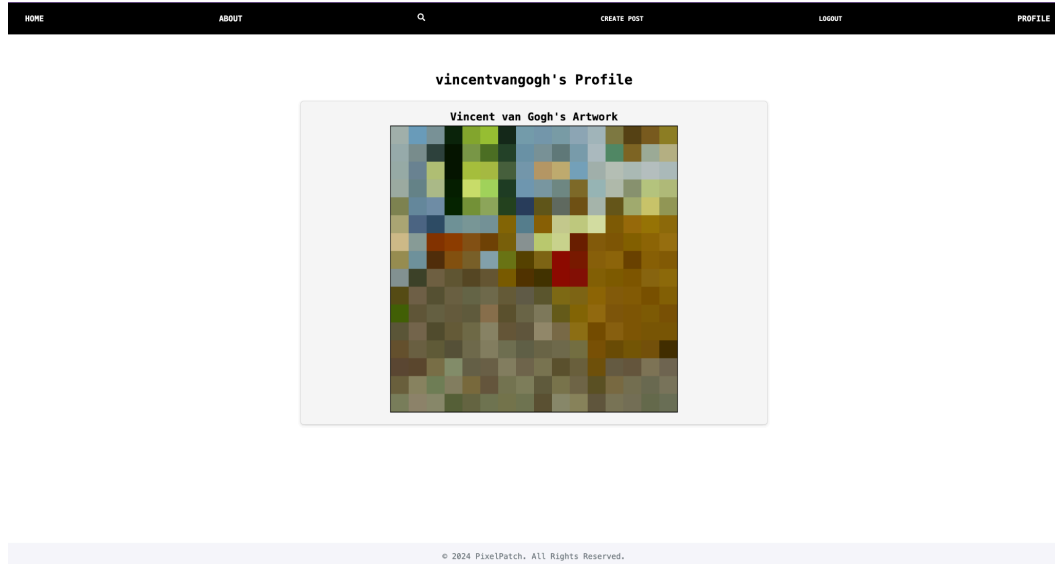
8 Golden Rules Analysis: *Strive For Consistency:* The layout of this page mimics the layout of the user's own account page so finding information is easy. *Reduce Short Term Memory Load:* The navigation bar at the top of the screen allows the user to navigate the site easily. *Design Dialogue to Yield Closure:* When the user clicks on the username of another user they are transported to the user's account page.

Expectation: The user is expected to view the other user's account page to see all of the posts that user has made.