



FRONT END NINJA

TRAINING

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HOW DO FRONT-END DEVELOPERS WORK EFFECTIVELY AND EFFICIENTLY?

A Real Front End Ninja:

- Will utilize powerful Preprocessors and Templating engines.
- Has the discipline to implement Frameworks and Libraries.
- Has a regimen of tools and practices to perform effectively and efficiently.

Sass



PREPROCESSORS

- HTML
 - HAML
 - SLIM
- CSS
 - SASS/SCSS
 - LESS /* And maybe Stylus */
- Javascript
 - Coffeescript



Bourbon



FRAMEWORKS AND LIBRARIES

- HTML
 - HTML5 Boilerplate
- CSS
 - Bootstrap or Foundation
 - Bourbon or Compass
 - Bourbon Neat or Susy Grids
- Javascript
 - jQuery, Prototype, Etc.
 - Underscore.js



TOOLS AND PRACTICES

- CSS Practices
 - Common add-ons
 - Clever SCSS
- Chrome Dev Tools or Firebug
 - Debugging
 - Optimizing
- Looking Back
 - Supporting IE

TOOLS AND PRACTICES

CSS PRACTICES - COMMON ADD-ONS

- CSS Resets or Normalize.css
 - Resets provide a clean slate.
 - Normalize provides a default look and feel.
- Style guides
 - Good for multiple ninjas.
 - Helps you create a disciplined style structure.

TOOLS AND PRACTICES

CSS PRACTICES - CLEVER SCSS

- In Rails use @imports for Sass files and not the asset pipeline.
- Use @extend and @mixin to clean up and modularize code.
 - Use extend to inherit base styles from another class.
 - Use a mixin to inject a custom set of styles based on arguments.

TOOLS AND PRACTICES

CHROME DEV TOOLS OR FIREBUG - DEBUGGING

- Elements Inspector
 - View, add, or edit the HTML markup and CSS Live.
- Sources Panel / Script Panel
 - Set breakpoints and step through your code.
- Javascript Console
 - Log diagnostic information.
 - Interact with the document and evaluate expressions.

TOOLS AND PRACTICES

CHROME DEV TOOLS OR FIREBUG - OPTIMIZING

- Network Tab
 - Tracks the load times for each asset on your page.
- Audits
 - Gives optimization hints and points out unused CSS.
- Pagespeed / Yslow
 - Grades the performance of the web page, and leaves tips for improvements.

TOOLS AND PRACTICES

LOOKING BACK - SUPPORTING IE

- Virtualbox
- CanIUse.com
- Modernizr.js
 - Respond.js
 - Fixes Media Queries in IE6 - IE8
 - Selectivizr.js
 - Enables Legacy browsers to use CSS3 selectors

CONCLUSION

