

Semester Package
Calvin Ong
DM2193 Spring 2015

The Semester package includes the midterm and final.
On my website: chque.com , everything is linked,
including this PDF.

Final
Calvin Ong
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My Final website

After creating and finishing my craigslist redesign midterm, I began to understand the thought process and amount of coding that was required for future web projects. In my midterm project, I aimed for a minimalist approach. I did not want to clutter the page with unnecessary text and unnecessary images and colors. Thus, in my final, I aimed to have an interesting background, with the user interacting with a box in the middle of the screen.

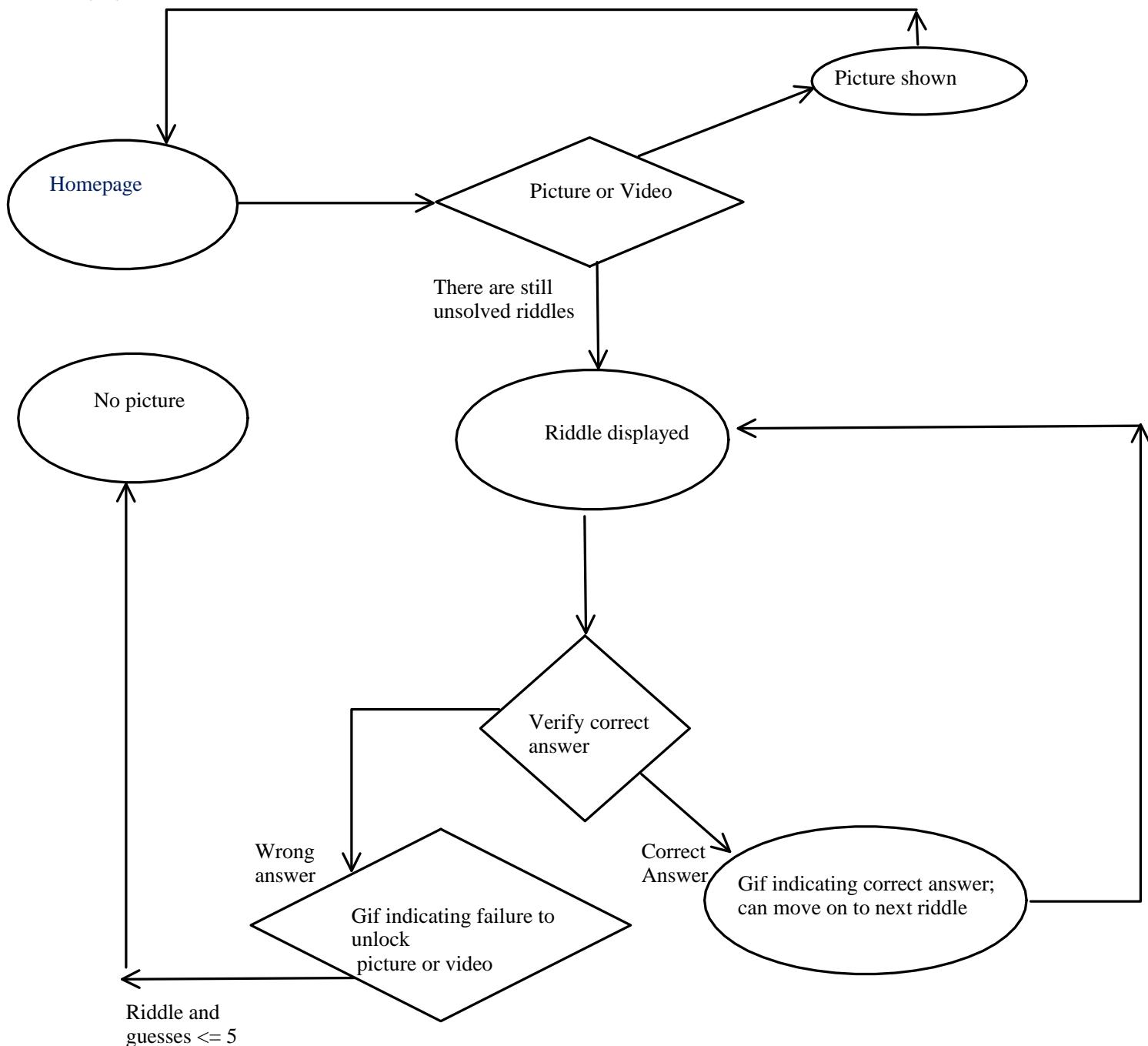
While the midterm did not require coding, the final did. Designing the layout (HTML and CSS) was not particularly difficult. After much coding during the semester, it was simply a matter of translating my sketches and wireframes into tags and selectors essentially. The main difficulty was translating my flowchart into code. This meant mastering JavaScript (jQuery) to make the page truly interactive. JavaScript was not an object-oriented language like C++. There were no objects in the sense of classes. However, there were branching statements, arrays, methods/functions, etc... like any other scripting language. Mastering these functions methods required a lot of research on the internet and experimenting.

Due to the short amount of time to work on the final and other obligations (work and other classes), it was necessary to revise my original complicated plan. In my original idea, I wanted to include puzzles. This would mean either actually coding the puzzle or incorporating a jQuery vendor into my code to do the puzzle for me. However, this took up too much time and the end result was a mess. I could not find a way to set a time limit for the user to finish these puzzles, so this plan was scrapped. However, this meant focusing exclusively on my riddle section. In my riddle section, the user gets five tries to solve each riddle and after solving all the riddles, they get a random picture. However, I had to introduce session cookies to keep track of the user's riddles since the page would refresh. Cookies were particularly difficult to master since they did not work on non-live sites. The sites had to be actually hosted on the web for the cookies to actually work.

The site was not as bad as I expected it to be. Although there may be some bugs in the website, for the amount of time allotted, it was good enough. In real-life, products will have bugs, but these are resolved later through patches or updates. My main concern was the fact that I had to resort to using a JavaScript prompt to ask the user for the answer to the riddle, instead of making them type in to the input field. It was difficult because of cookie and on click issues. Another issue was that sometimes the incorrect gif would pop up due to cookie issues again regarding answer histories. The design of the website was satisfactory. However, one design I wished to emulate was Stefon's quiz website since it took you to different pages, instead of leaving you on one page. Perhaps it could have solved the cookie problem, but it may be too late to tell.

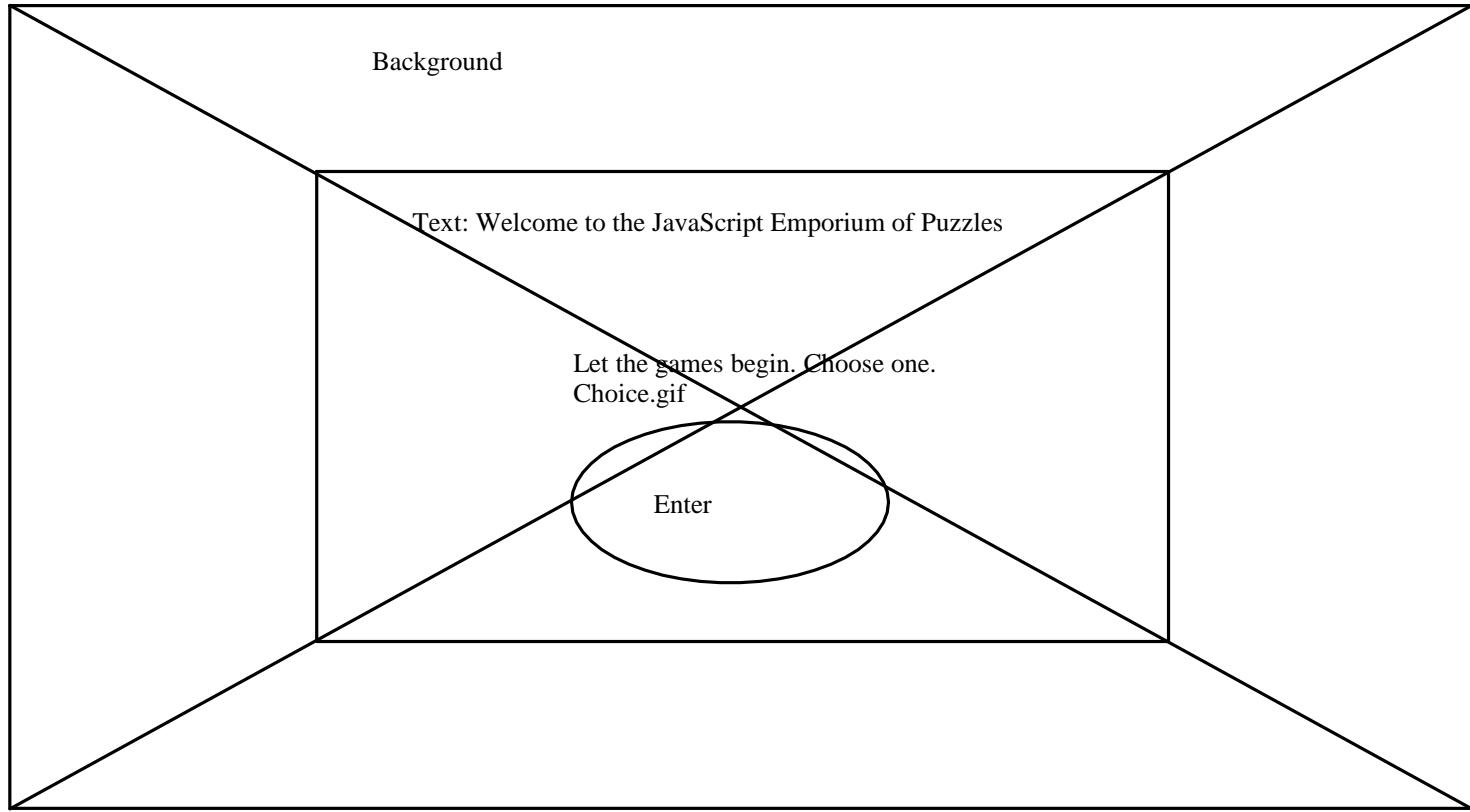
Flowchart

Thursday, April 16, 2015 1:34 PM



Homepage

Thursday, April 16, 2015 6:00 PM



Sample Riddle Page

Thursday, April 16, 2015 6:15 PM

Background is glass

Partially Covered Picture

Will only show if all 5 puzzles are correctly solved.

Welcome to the JavaScript Emporium of Puzzles

Let the games begin. Choose one.



Riddle

Puzzle



Albert and Bernard just met Cheryl. "When's your birthday?" Albert asked Cheryl.

Cheryl thought a second and said, "I'm not going to tell you, but I'll give you some clues." She wrote down a list of 10 dates:

May 15, May 16, May 19

June 17, June 18

July 14, July 16

August 14, August 15, August 17

"My birthday is one of these," she said.

Then Cheryl whispered in Albert's ear the month — and only the month — of her birthday. To Bernard, she whispered the day, and only the day.

Answer: August 14

Craigslist Redesigned Midterm

Calvin Ong

DM2193 Spring 2015

The Craigslist website is redesigned. There are 3 wireframe designs and 3 final designs to be submitted, along with a brief.

Calvin Ong
Craigslist Redesign

The Craigslist design so far is acceptable. The raw basic, text design makes it easy to navigate and fast to load on a browser, especially for places where wifi signal is bad. However, there are a lot of links that I would assume no one really goes to. Some of are even redundant. For example, on the homepage, the terms of service: the privacy, policy, etc... are repeated twice. One list is on the sidebar, and one is on the footer of the page. The search criteria can also be collapsed. For example, where the left sidebar says “nearby cl”, users will usually not search nearby places. They will look for products and services, and see how far away it is.

On the home page, the calendar can be improved by actually showing notable events, instead of simply linking to another page, which is a hassle on the user.

On the results page, it is a little better. It's less cluttered. However, if you go to a Google or even Bing results page, there are collapsible search criteria. You don't need every possible search criteria shown. You can simply select and choose. Also, at the top of the page,



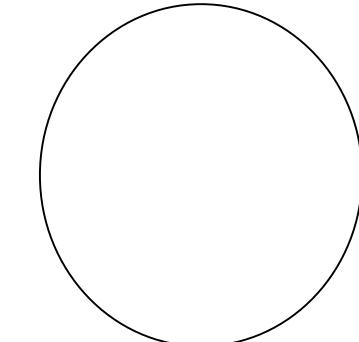
This is unnecessary since there is a search bar right below it. If they coded the search engine well, the user can simply enter key words and search there, or the search engine can offer suggestions as they type, like Google.

A map showing the where various same/similar products/services are located near the item a user is looking for is extremely useful as well.

On the item page, there is too much empty space to the right of the page.

These safety tips and other warnings should be gone, since the user does not have to be reminded on every page other than the homepage. The condition could stay.

★ Wilson Staff FG-51 golf irons



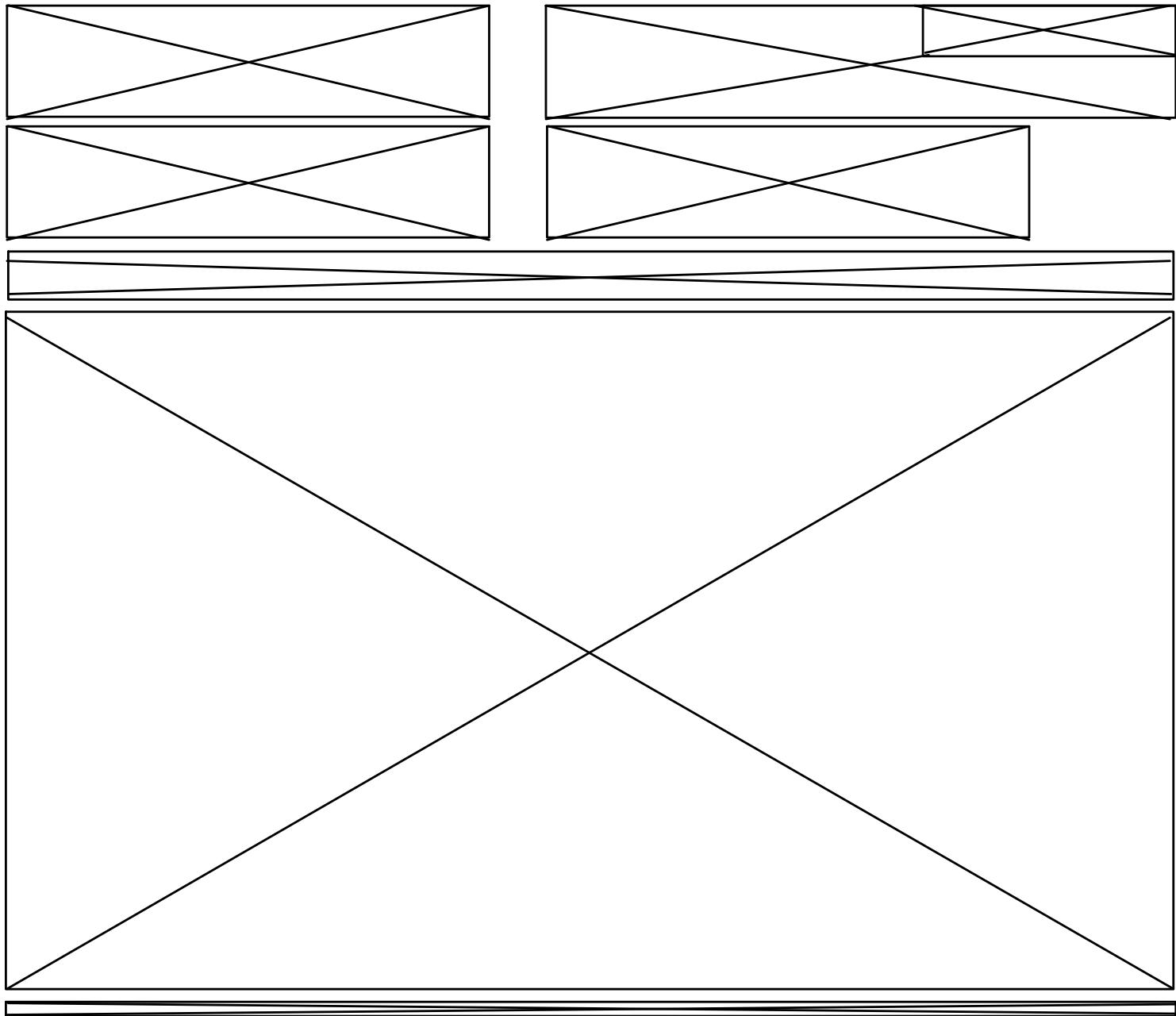
Calvin Ong
Craigslist Redesign

This space can be used to put another picture, so that the user can compare multiple pictures side by side. If someone was looking at an item, they would want to compare the different pictures. Furthermore, the description should not be so far down the page that the user has to scroll down to read it. Also, the search engine should be on this page as well, since I don't want to have to go back and reload the page just to search for another item.

*For mobile and tablet designs, the designs should roughly be similar. However, there would be much more collapsible tabs.

Craigslist Homepage Wireframe

Tuesday, March 24, 2015 5:00 PM



Craigslist Homepage Design

Tuesday, March 24, 2015 5:57 PM

*Note: The text in all pages should NOT be blue. It should be black to look for professional; only the links should be turning purple if clicked on already.

Craigslist Logo

Current Craigslist Region

Account login

Craigslist Region selector: Nation State/Province City

These search criteria are collapsible

Calendar

Important Calendar Events

Search Engine

community

- activities
- artists
- childcare
- classes
- events
- general groups
- local news
- lost+found
- musicians
- pets
- politics
- rideshare
- volunteers

personals

- strictly platonic
- women seek women
- women seeking men
- men seeking women
- men seeking men
- misc romance
- casual encounters
- missed connections
- rants and raves

discussion forums

- apple
- arts
- atheist
- autos
- beauty
- celebs
- comp
- crafts
- diet
- divorce
- dying
- eco
- educ
- help
- history
- housing
- jobs
- kink
- legal
- linux
- manners
- marriage
- media
- money
- motocv
- p.o.c.
- psych
- queer
- religion
- romance
- science
- sports
- tax
- travel
- tv

for sale

- antiques
- arts+crafts
- auto parts
- baby+kid
- barter
- bikes
- boats
- books
- business
- cars+trucks
- cds/dvd/vhs
- cell phones
- collectibles
- computers
- electronics
- farm+garden
- free
- furniture
- garage sale
- general
- heavy equip
- household
- jewelry
- materials
- motorcycles
- music instr
- photo+video
- rvs+camp
- sporting
- tickets
- toys+games
- video gaming
- wanted

jobs

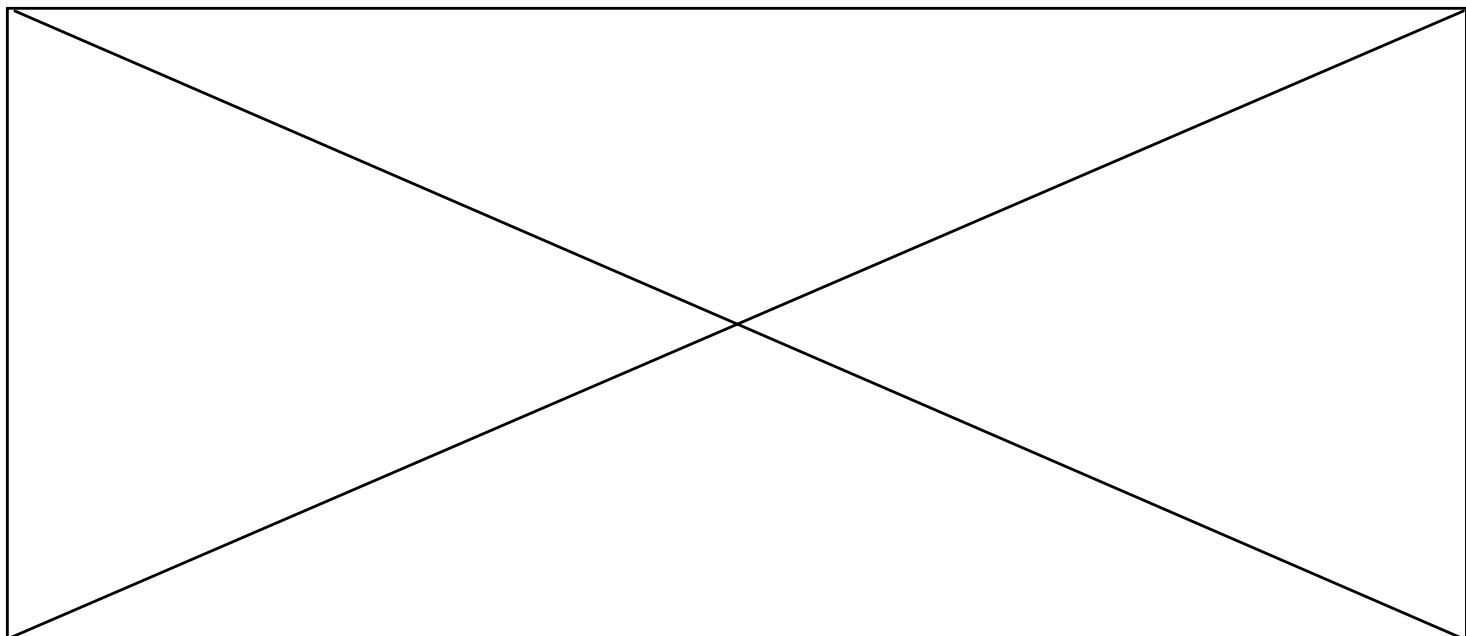
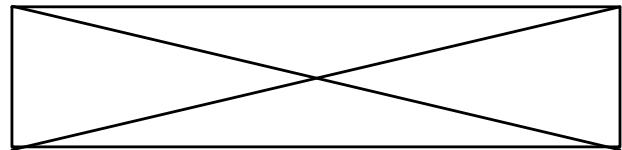
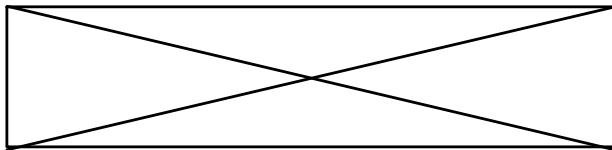
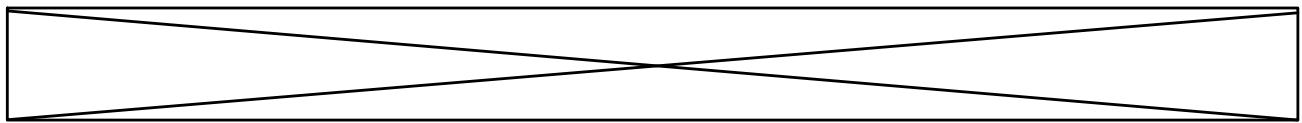
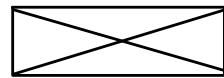
- accounting+finance
- admin / office
- arch / engineering
- art / media / design
- biotech / science
- business / mgmt
- customer service
- education
- food / bev / hosp
- general labor
- government
- human resources
- internet engineers
- legal / paralegal
- manufacturing
- marketing / pr / ad
- medical / health
- nonprofit sector
- real estate
- retail / wholesale
- sales / biz dev
- salon / spa / fitness
- security
- skilled trade / craft
- software / qa / dba
- systems / network
- technical support
- transport
- tv / film / video
- web / info design
- writing / editing
- (ETC)

This current design is fine. However, the list should be based on what people searched the most today. For example, people search for jobs a lot. So jobs will always be on the front page. However, one day people might search for mechanical engineering jobs a lot and some might search for biochemistry jobs. More priority should be given to jobs related to that specific category. Also, people do not go on Craigslist to search for jobs they don't know about usually. They have a specific idea on what jobs to look for. The front page should be based on what people usually searched for in the past, but not dominate the page with those results.

Terms of service and conditions, warnings, Craigslist jobs, about Craigslist, connects

Craigslist Results Page Wireframe

Tuesday, March 24, 2015 5:11 PM



Craigslist Results Page Design

Tuesday, March 24, 2015 5:57 PM

- search titles only
- has image
- posted today

PRICE
min max

reset

search



This should also go in the block as well.

Account login

Search Engine

[all](#) [owner](#) [dealer](#)

[list](#) [thumb](#) [gallery](#) [map](#)

<< < prev 1 - 100 of 4403 next >

newest \$S \$S\$

These options for navigating through the gallery are fine as it is. However, they should all be placed on the same block.



Google Maps for location of items

Lists locations of each items from the map



★ Mar 24 Wilson Staff FG-51 golf irons sporting goods - by owner



★ Mar 24 RAM FX "Tour Grind" nickel blade irons sporting goods - by owner



★ Mar 24 Swarovski Binoculars - Pre Owned ... FIND THEM AT (texasBINOMan dot com) sporting goods - by dealer



\$300



\$75

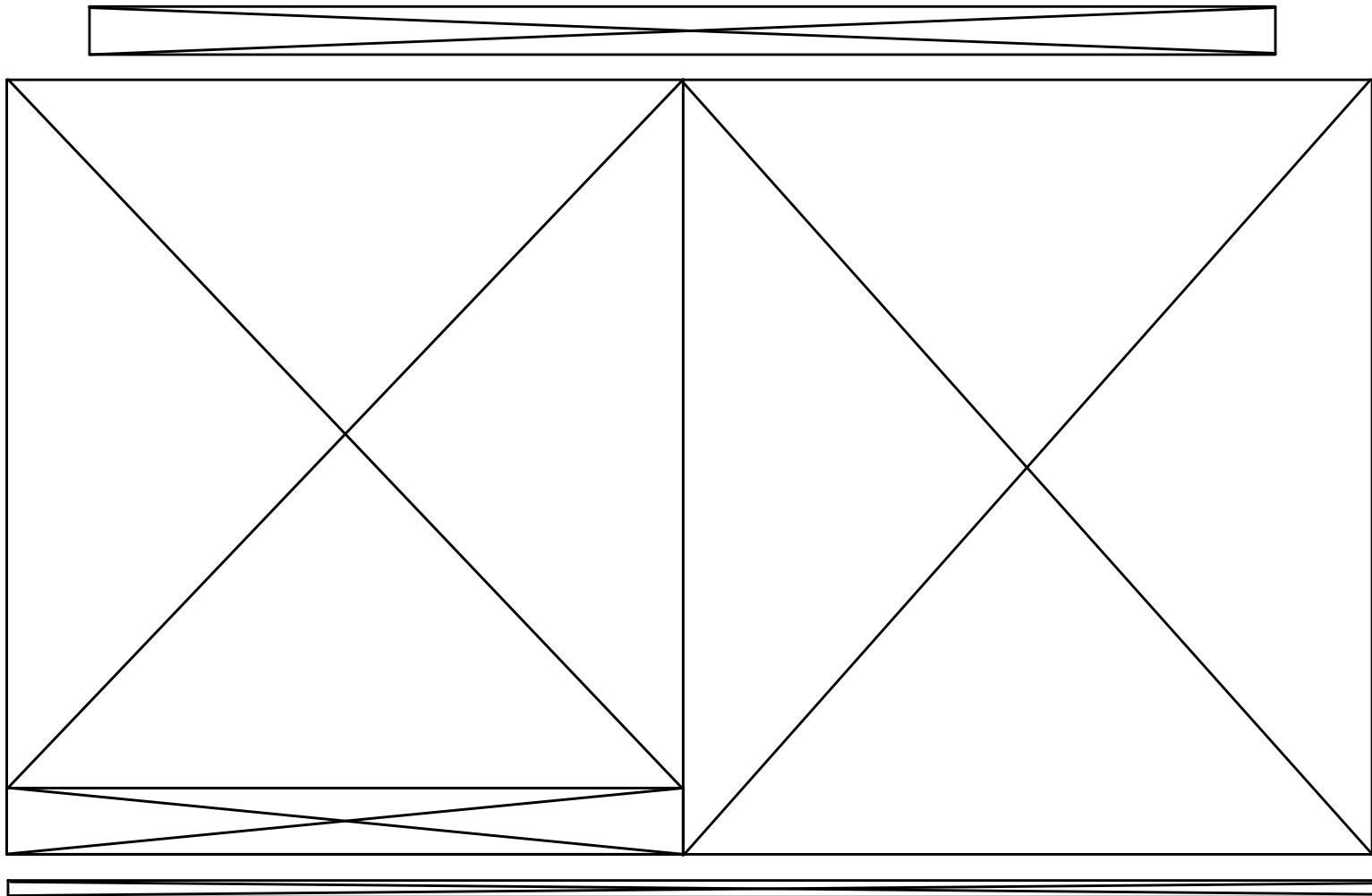
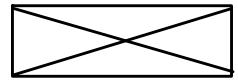


This gallery is fine as it is.

Terms of service and conditions, warnings, Craigslist jobs, about Craigslist, connects

Craigslist Item Page Wireframe

Tuesday, March 24, 2015 5:14 PM

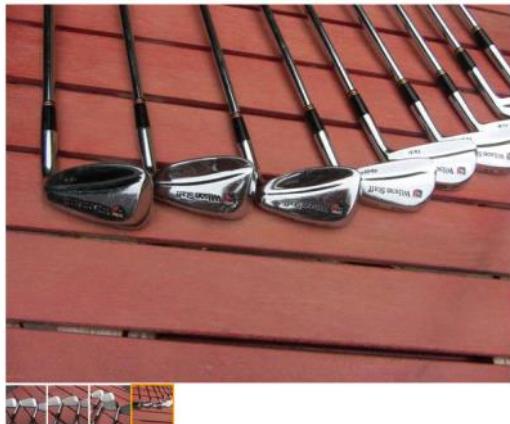


Craigslist Item Page Design

Tuesday, March 24, 2015 5:58 PM

Account login

Search Engine



→ There should be a slideshow of the picture(s) here. The preview pictures should go right below the current picture.

The preview pictures is a good design. However, making them a little bigger would be easier on the eyes.

Description of pictures go here.

reply

prohibited

Posted: 15 days ago

◀ prev ▲ next ▶

post id: 4924477040 posted: 15 days ago updated: 2 hours ago

[email to friend](#)

[best of](#)

These navigation buttons are fine as it is currently. They should be placed Below the description and pictures.

→ Terms of service and conditions, warnings, Craigslist jobs, about Craigslist, connects



Current Location: USA, New York, New York City

Click to change location:

Country ▾ State / Province ▾ City ▾

E-mail

Password

Login

[Forgot password](#)

March 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

Important dates based on your locations:

- **March 3:** Wiz Khalifa Concert at Madison Square Garden
- **March 10:** Solar Eclipse Festival at Central Park
- **March 13:** Rob a Bank Day
- **March 20:** Hug a dog day
- **March 25:** Tiananmen Square Reenactment at Times Square
- **March 26:** Free drugs at Washington Square Park

2007 Nissan Maxima Chrome Wheels



Community

Housing

Personals

For Sale

Jobs

Activities

Artists

Childcare

Communist Revol.

Events

Fight Club

General

Groups

Local News

Lost+Found

Musicians

Pets

Politics

Apts/Housing

Corpse Swap

Housing/Swap

Housing/Wanted

Office/Commercial

Parking/Storage

Real Estate for Sale

Rooms/Shared

Rooms Wanted

Sublets/Temp.

Torture Chamber

Vacation Rentals

BDSM

Casual Encounters

Men s. Men

Misc Romance

Missed Connec.

Otherkin s. Men

Rants and Raves

Strictly Platonic

S&M

Women s. Women

Antiques

Appliances

Arts+Crafts

Baby Spines

Barter

Guns

Nazi uniforms

Onions

Used furniture

Wedding gowns

Admin/Office

Arch/Engineer

Astronaut

Biotech/Science

Business/Mgmt

Customer Serv.

Education

Feces Inspect.

Gen. Labor

Government

Human Resour.

Pirate



Welcome , craigslistCal94

Messages: 0

Logout

2007 Nissan Maxima Chrome Wheels

 E-mail Alert
 Save Search

List

Thumb

Gallery

Map

Newest

Relevant

Highest \$

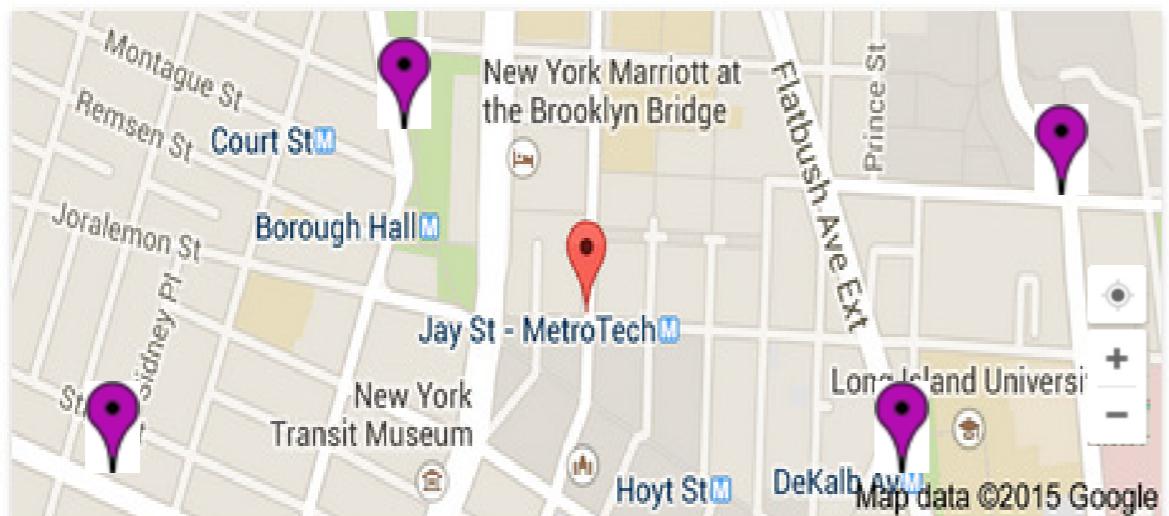
Lowest \$

All

Owner

Dealer

- Search title only Has image
- Posted today



Enter an address or search radius

4 Locations found:

- 223 Pyongyang Drive
- 129 Saddam Hussein Boulevard
- 12 RandomAddress2 St.

<<

<

1 to 10 of 11

>

>>

\$5500



\$6500



\$7500

**March 29:** Nissan Maxima 2007
SL Moon Roof**March 28:** Nissan Maxima 2007**March 27:** Nissan Maxima s1
Sedan



Welcome, craigslistCal94

Messages: 0

Logout

2007 Nissan Maxima Chrome Wheels

E-mail Alert
Save Search

Reply

Nissan Maxima 2007 SL Moon Roof - \$5500



Post ID: 13376969 Posted: 23 hours ago Updated: 5 hours ago Forward Prohibited Favorite

Nissan Maxima 2007 for sale , Only 9000 Cash Only; black exterior, black corinthian leather, chrome wheels, custom 69 Gig, 6G and wifi Zune in the dash, only 9000000000 miles factory Beats surround system, Fridge Heated toilets, Heated mirror
When call number this [Show contact info](#) ask for Goku, Please leave a massage and your number and I will get back to you
• do NOT give me Senzu beans

Key Words:

Odometer: 9000

Good Condition

Transmission: Automatic

Coming into this class, I was unsure of what to expect. Computer Science/Computer Engineering and Web Development were very different from each other. Programming meant drawing diagrams to try to understand how to construct the actual program, and worrying about things like running time or memory accesses. Web design meant drawing sketches to make sure a website is easy to navigate whilst aesthetically pleasing; things like browser compatibility and mobile compatibility were also concerns.

It was easy transitioning in some ways. Good practices like code maintainability, comments, and avoiding long-winded unnecessary code in programming translated well to web design.

Understanding what code should be in my HTML files and what should be in my CSS file(s) led to smaller code. The use of classes (or ids, which are similar but bad practice to use) and understanding how the browser parses the code based on classes led to faster code. Drawing wireframes and designs saved a lot of potential headache since it allowed easier visualization of both the webpage(s) and what code there had to be written. Determining what should be a block element and what should be an inline element was the hardest.

The main difficulty in transitioning was from focusing on programming for other programmers to see, to focusing on designing for possible non-programming users. While a minimalist approach is often the best (even if it is overused) approach, a webpage can be too minimalist and often leave a lot of empty undesirable unused space on the page. However, cramming too many things into one page can result in a webpage loading slower (especially with movie images or flash animation). It can also be an eyesore for the user (like the homepage of Craigslist). There's prioritizing what should be linked to another page and what should remain on the page. You don't want the user to be lost trying to click link after link to reach a page, but neither do you want the user to get lost navigating a single page because the link is small and hidden in some obscure part of the page. The coding part is usually easier than the design part.

If I had a better understanding and appreciation for this difficulty earlier in the semester, I would have looked at more websites and study their layout for inspiration. The key is to understand the flaws in a website and why that flaw did not work. Even a good website like Craigslist has a lot of flaws.

Initially I was hesitant to do a complicated design, since I believed that a minimal design is always better. However, looking through the website, I realized that such an approach was not going to work with a website like Craigslist. Craigslist is a very interactive website. It's not like Tumblr or Pinterest where people simply scroll or comment on images. Users search and type a lot on the website. It would be easy for a user to miss an item on the page because they are scrolling too fast or are too inattentive. With that in mind, I aimed to get rid of features I thought Craigslist did not need (there were a lot) and add some features that I believed Craigslist would benefit from. I also took inspiration from ideas given by my classmates, such as an integrated Google Maps and calendar notification system

One of the biggest things I remembered was that users respond to bigger than normal, but not too big text. It makes it easier to read the text and the user won't be straining their eyes trying to read a big block of text. Another thing I remembered was that users also respond well to pictures. A

good picture is often worth more than a thousand words. What might take 2 paragraphs to explain can be summed up in a single picture or diagram, which often takes less space on the webpage. When users are scrolling through a search page, they usually don't search past the first page. They will only search 2 at most before refining their search. On the first page, their eyes will focus heavily on the upper left hand side (since most users around the world read left to right, with perhaps the exception of Arabic and Hebrew users). With this in mind, I focused on designing the webpages with regards to easier user navigation, with heavy emphasis on search engines (which I assumed a back-end developer could tackle).

Although this approach solved most problems I believed Craigslist had, I felt there were simply too many items on the pages. Due to limited space, I could not allot some spaces between blocks on the page. For example, on my item page, there was little space between the top of the picture's title and the bottom of the search engine. I may have also overestimated the capabilities of the search engine, since it may require the user to understand how to navigate it. For example, on Google's search engine, if a user types in a sentence with double quotes (like so: "example"), Google searches for pages with those exact quotes. Intricacies like that would result in better searches, but also put more burden on the user to learn, which might turn some new users away. If I had more time, I would have minimized some blocks and make other blocks bigger. I would have also created a user-friendly tutorial page to help newcomers learn. I would have also created a mobile page since a lot of users simply browse on their tablets.