I designed the webpage to have a basic look and feel to it, focusing on keeping a high readability with not too much clutter and lots of ‘white’ space in the margins. For this page, I really wanted a fixed sidebar with a navigation links so that the user is able to both quickly recognise what the topic of the page is, and to have some external links available without having to excessively scroll back to the top. After playing around with the page for a while, I found that a fixed header provided better spacing than the side bar as it allowed more space for images without making the page look too ‘full’. Hopefully this makes the page look more ‘minimalist’ and increases readability.

I found that a completely white webpage (excluding the green header) didn’t look very ‘professional’, particularly with the white text in the header, so I finally decided on making the background colour a light grey which I think makes the page more readable.

I found that at first while I was developing the CSS, I would type out large sections of CSS then check the effects. I found that the more CSS I added in one go, the harder it was to troubleshoot any issue I had. The more time I spent on the project, the more often I was jumping back and forward between Brackets and my Browser. Eventually I found that only making one change, then checking the results was quicker (for me) than typing out chunks and having to find where the error was. I’m sure that with more practice, this would be less of an issue.

With more time and/or skill there are some ways I would’ve liked to improve the website. Firstly, I would be looking to make the page more readable on mobile devices. Currently the page looks perfect on my screen (13 inch laptop); however, on a tablet or mobile device the fixed nature of the page’s header would make it difficult to read. Statistics provided by stonetemple.com[[1]](#footnote-1) show that in 2017, 63% of web traffic in the United States came from a mobile device. It also shows an upwards trend of mobile device usage. With this in mind, new websites should be mobile friendly where possible. Making the page recognise window size and use a different CSS file if the size below a threshold would solve the issue. The best I could do was make the width a percentage so that at least the text on the screen will adjust to the size of the browser’s window.

Overall I found that my technique of trial and error beneficial to learning how CSS works; however, I think that if I began the project again with the knowledge I now have, I would be able to improve planning of the page and spend less time with a more efficient outcome.

1. https://www.stonetemple.com/mobile-vs-desktop-usage-study [↑](#footnote-ref-1)