

Design Choices and Challenges Faced :

When I started designing my portfolio website, I initially planned to use Tailwind CSS for its simplicity and utility-based classes. However, I encountered issues when implementing components like the progress bar and transitions on the project cards, which led to some overflow problems. At this point, I decided to switch to using standard HTML and CSS for better control and customization.

For the navigation and home sections, I began by using a flexbox layout for responsiveness. While this worked initially, adapting the design for small screens became more challenging, as I had to write a lot of custom adjustments in media queries to maintain the structure.

As Sonia ma'am suggested in the live class I switch to a mobile-first approach and use CSS Grid from the About section onward. This turned out to be a much easier method. Grid allowed me to create layouts that adapted well to various screen sizes without needing as many custom changes in media queries. The layout of each section became more predictable, and items arranged themselves neatly as I defined the grid structure.

The toggle button (for light/dark mode) was another learning experience. I referred to W3Schools for guidance and implemented it with CSS. However, to make it visually appealing, I took inspiration from YouTube tutorials. I applied a linear gradient effect to the toggle, giving it a smooth sun-and-moon appearance.

For the project cards, I initially faced an issue where the image would overflow when hovering over the card. I raised this issue during a live class and found the solution: I needed to add the `overflow: hidden;` property to the card container, which fixed the problem and kept the images contained within the card boundaries.

Overall, using a mobile-first design with CSS Grid made my website more responsive and easier to maintain. I learned a lot during the process, especially when it came to balancing aesthetics with functionality.