Assignment 6B: Reflection

Reflection

Since it is my first time using Javascript, spacing and placement of my code was a major challenge for me when I started this assignment. There was a large amount of time I spent on separating, organizing, and identifying where events needed to be placed into the HTML files, in order to execute the Javascript implementation. After checking and understanding where certain elements are located, I was able to call on these functions and events in the correct places. For example, I used an onclick event on a button that calls on a function to remove a cart item. Another challenge was using dropdown selections or menus to make page updates on the product detail page. I was initially able to update the label or title of the colors and types of fillings based on user selection, but I wanted to include greater changes when the page updates, such as showing a different image based on color selection. I successfully made these changes by giving each dropdown menu, an onchange event that executes a function. And so, the color dropdown selection is able to change the main product image depending on the chosen color, while the fill dropdown selection changes a different circular image below it, depending on the type of filling chosen. In addition, I had challenges with showing the visual indication of items being added to the cart that actually reflected the user's actions when adding items. This was where I took time to learn new programming concepts and use querySelector and parseInt for the first time in order to take my web page to the next level of interactivity in real time. Though I ran into problems getting this part of my Javascript to work properly, I was eventually able to achieve the visual indicator towards the end of this assignment by having the value of the "counter" go up whenever the "add to cart" button is clicked. Overall, I am excited to continue working on my code and understand how to better implement the backend portion of my webpage in the future.

Programming Concepts

Some programming concepts I learned from this assignment includes DOM document objects(querySelector, addEventListener, getElementById), parseInt, Comparison Operators, local storage, and JSON and string conversion. DOM document objects and its properties and methods were used throughout my Javascript code on HTML documents. I learned how to use properties such as addEventListener, getElementById, and querySelector in this assignement. I used querySelector when implementing Javascript to update the cart by visually indicating the number of items. Because querySelector returns the first element that represents the CSS selector that I want to find, I was able to access or target my "add" class from my html file. With parseInt, the function helped me to use a number value for my cart visual indicator. For this assignment, the parseInt function examined a string from an element (representing the "counter" element) and returned an integer that I was able to use in order to show the number of items next to the cart icon, when the "add to cart" button was clicked. Using comparison operators helped me to understand the difference between different operators that exist. I used a comparison operator (===) that returns true when the values and types are the same. This was used in the section of my code that removes a cart item, where a for loop was used and the elements were called by name. Furthermore, I learned how to use local storage from labs, which have helped me store and save the data for my cart items between pages. For

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example, I try to store the different values, such as name, color, size, fill, of product items into the local storage in order to determine a specific product by Id. Along with these concepts, I also learned about JSON and string conversion. While learning to store data using local storage, I realized the need for JSON to stringify and parse cart items to and from strings for storing these item objects in local storage.