

This assignment was very challenging for me. I did my best to create a high-fidelity website even though I wasn't able to accomplish all of my design goals. I ran into the most trouble with the CSS. I did my best to assign html content to CSS grids appropriately, but it would often display incorrectly despite days of attempted de-bugging and multiple consultations for help. The final product is not as visually appealing as I would like, (and somehow the Github commit made the logo disappear), but I'm very proud that the basic functionality is working, and the main content is visible. I used supplemental resources (cited at the end) including video tutorials in my efforts to debug and overcome the challenges I faced during the coding process. I also used my CMU teaching support network as well as my classmates as resources during my design and debugging process. Although, my final product is not pixel perfect, I was able to go from only HTML last week when the CSS file would not link at all, to a successfully linked and mostly CSS styled website today. The growth process has been positive.

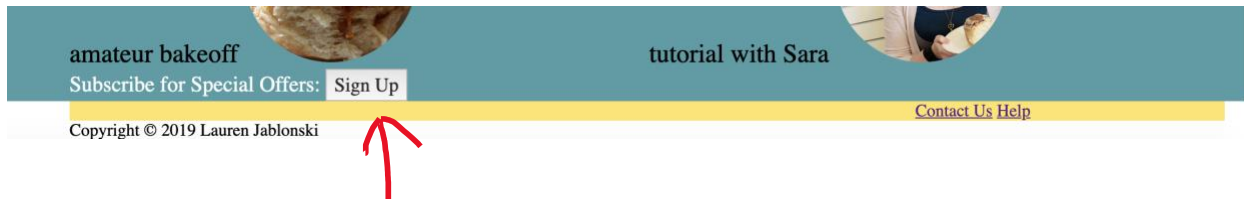
I will keep working hard as I move into assignment 6 in the hopes of continued improvement. I have learned a lot about how to set up code, look for logic and patterns, and begin to de-bug.

At the beginning of assignment 5, I was excited to code my original prototype and begin my heuristic evaluation. I asked my classmate, Dana Frostig, to do a usability test on my prototype in order to identify usability issues.

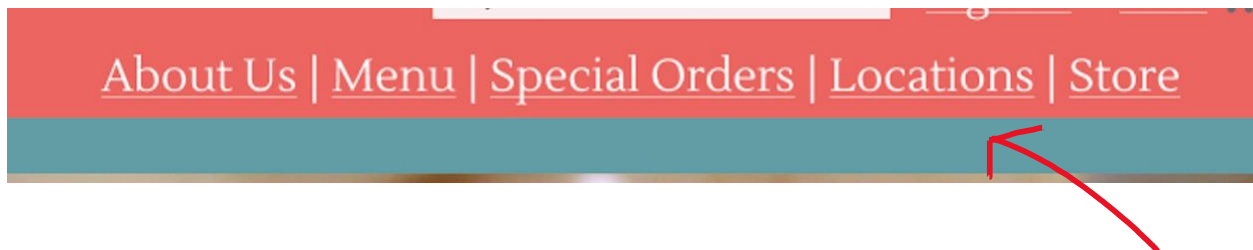
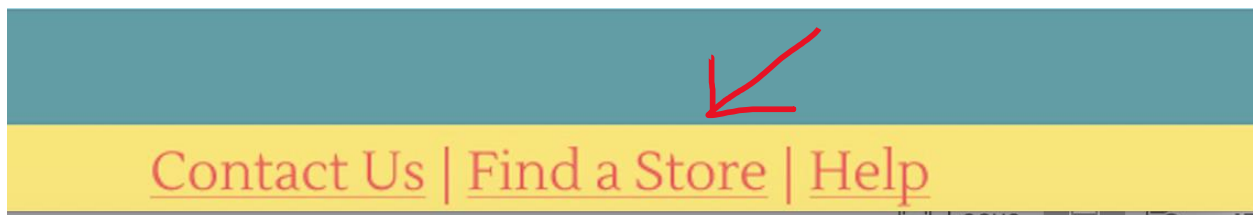
This was very helpful for my iterative process. Dana shared with me that she did not understand that the subscription bar was intended to be clickable and interactive in the prototype:



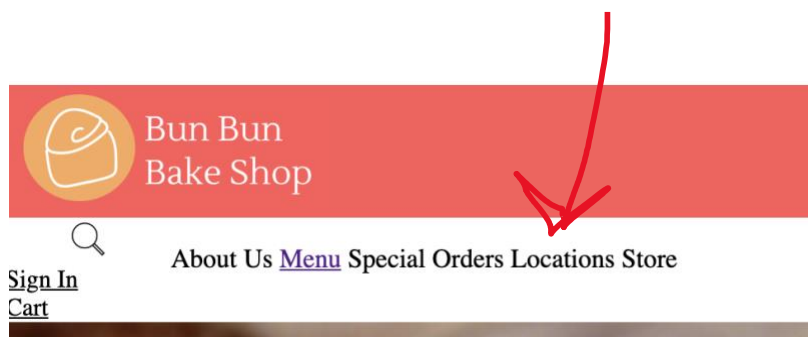
The use of underlining made it unclear to her. In order to address both the **Error Prevention** and **Recognition Rather than Recall** heuristics, I changed the underlined text field to a button in my re-design. The visual aesthetics of the code did not carry over as nicely as I'd hoped despite multiple attempts, but the main idea was successfully conveyed:



I also noticed from her think-aloud process that Dana was not sure if “Find a Store” at the bottom of the webpage and “Locations” at the top of the webpage were for different purposes:



For clarity, I removed the “Find a Store” option from the coded webpage so as to improve the heuristics of **Consistency & Standards**, **Error Prevention**, and **Aesthetic and Minimalist Design**. On the coded page, I chose to keep “Locations” in the top navigation bar for stronger IA hierarchy:



Lastly, I removed the “play arrow” from the pumpkin spice video tutorial featured in the prototype. In keeping with the **Aesthetic and Minimalist Design** approach, I didn’t want the “play arrow” to take user attention away from the image. Instead, I will use a tool-tip, or hover auto-play function when I moved into the interactive phase of this design. These choices are also commonly seen on YouTube and Netflix video images. In so doing, I hope to support the **Match Between System and the Real World** heuristic.

Stylistically, I made several choices intending to support client brand-identity and drive revenue growth. I chose the color palette to stimulate appetite, create a sense of whimsy and cheer, and signify honesty and rapport between clients and their users. Orange and red are known to rouse appetite and the support a call to action for users. Yellow and teal are cheerful, friendly colors that also kindle hunger, and white is used for contrast to promote the client’s small business values of honesty, modernity, and purity.

I intended to create a rapport between the users and the client, Bun Bun Bake Shop by including an “About Us” tab on the home page, along with opportunities for “Special Orders” that clients might need for exciting personal milestones. I also showcased a smiling, friendly face to exude the client’s cheerful energy and commitment to customer service in every interaction.

I enjoyed designing this site and hope to be able to code a more complete, high-fidelity site in assignment 6 as my skills continue to mature.

*Sources Cited on Next Page

Supplemental Sources:

Freecodecamp.org: “HTML Tutorial – How to Make a Super Simple Website”
<https://youtu.be/PlxWf493en4>

Freecodecamp.org: “Learn CSS Grid in 5 Minutes” <https://www.freecodecamp.org/news/learn-css-grid-in-5-minutes-f582e87b1228/>

Jake Wright YouTube Channel: “Learn HTML in 12 minutes” <https://youtu.be/bWPMSSsVdPk>

Jake Wright YouTube Channel: “Learn More HTML in 12 minutes” <https://youtu.be/KJ13IX20FqU>

Jake Wright YouTube Channel: “Learn CSS in 12 minutes” <https://youtu.be/0afZj1G0BIE>

Kevin Powell’s YouTube Channel: “How to create an awesome navigation bar with HTML & CSS”
<https://youtu.be/FEEmysQARWFU>

Freecodecamp.com: “CSS Grid Course” https://youtu.be/t6CBKf8K_Ac

W3schools.com: https://www.w3schools.com/howto/howto_css_searchbar.asp

- How to - search bar

Mmtuts YouTube Channel: “How to Create Website Layouts Using CSS Grid”
<https://youtu.be/HgwCeNVplo0>

Traversy Media: Build a Responsive Grid CSS Website Layout From Scratch,
<https://youtu.be/moBhzSC455o>

Css-tricks.com: <https://css-tricks.com/snippets/css/complete-guide-grid/>

Grid by Example.com: <https://gridbyexample.com/examples/example12/>

I asked classmate Dana Frostig perform a usability test and think-aloud on my existing website prototype to find usability issues and pain points to better inform my heuristic evaluation and resulting iterations before coding the actual site.

Simran Jobanputra kindly taught me a few fundamentals that I had been struggling with which was very helpful.

Matt Franklin and Neha Chopade kindly helped teach me about debugging and showed me some tricks of the trade for ease of use.