

ASSIGNMENT 1

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1.Introduction

The goal of the project is to recreate a website and make it a place for selling books online. I attempted not to copy the whole source code, paste it into Visual Studio Code, changing the names of classes. When I began working on the project, I first navigated through a bunch of online selling platforms, checked for one that looked simple enough on the outside, contained appealing features in a moderate quantity so that within 3 weeks, with my current skills and experience, I could finish my project on time. I then thought of modifying the design and functionality to meet the requirements the assignment provides. This includes changes to the structure, layout, and content using my own knowledge of certain languages. As for the purpose of the report, it documents the entire process of recreating the website, from identifying areas for work to implementing available features and measuring their effectiveness, as well as serving as a reference for future projects involving website design. By documenting the entire process, the report should provide a clear understanding of the goals, challenges, personal thoughts, and outcomes of the website recreation project.

2.Project Description

2.1 Features

The website consists of four main pages: the Home Page, which provides a quick overview of the current offers and displays different book categories. The Category Page allows users to easily browse through the different genres and narrow down their search. The Book Detail page provides in-depth information about a particular book, including its description, author details, and the price (although it is overarchingly called Product Detail page, here I am developing an online bookstore, so the page is called Book Detail). It is also the page where you complete the transaction process. Finally, the Contact Us page offers customers an easy way to get in touch with the bookstore for any queries or feedback. The website is designed to provide a smooth user experience, with simple navigation and clear information to help users make informed choices. Selling books is merely one aspect of the service. Using the website, you can start your own store and sell almost anything, excluding products that are prohibited. In addition, the website offers many more appealing features that assist the creator in gaining more income outside of their major store. With so many tools available to the creators, once they have settled in, they will not often leave the service.

One interesting feature I would like to mention when going shopping here is that every item has no fixed price. There is actually a minimal price the store requests you pay for the item, but if you find it more valuable than it should be, you can pay extra. By clicking on the item you wish to buy, you are led to the Book Detail. This is a unique form of appreciation to the creator and his products.

2.2 What I have learned

After finishing building the website with HTML and CSS, I have gained a better understanding of how these technologies support each other to create visually appealing and functional, dynamic websites. I have learned to use different display types flexibly, including flex box and grid layout, making structuring and styling more feasible, using semantic tags, and how to apply styles to these elements using CSS. Through creating the online bookstore, I have learned how to use CSS to create responsive web designs that are optimized for different screen sizes, making them visually acceptable when opening on any device. Additionally, I have gained experience in writing clean and organized code that is easy to read and maintain. I now have a greater appreciation for the power of HTML and CSS in web development and look forward to harnessing even more of the power the two languages hold.

I did not only use Visual Studio Code and program out the whole thing on my own. Sometimes 'Devtool' on a web browser might come in handy. You will gain an understanding of how web programmers arrange the layout and group related content, and how they style their contents using many different properties. Anytime I had trouble grouping together or could not style an element how I wanted, I would normally open 'DevTool' and learn the way the developer called different types of elements and grouped them together before implementing them into my project using my style.

3. Implementation Details

3.1 Technical Aspects

When I approach the big task like this project, I usually break it into smaller pieces, solve each of the components, then connect them into one large puzzle. I handled this project with the same mindset and the same strategy. I did not plan the whole HTML skeleton then style every single elements of it. Instead, I divide the big layout into smaller sections: Header, Body, Footer. Inside the header, there lay even smaller portions that ought to be tackled. From there, I first constructed the little parts, then grouped them together and styled them with CSS until they meet my requirements. Whenever I got struggle on building elements, nesting elements, decorating, the places where I usually arrive at to seek helps are W3School, random YouTube videos that solved similar issues, or even DevTools to check the structure of a certain webpage and learn the way elements inside it are stacked and decorated. Using GitHub to host my website is not too difficult now that I have a foundation of the tool. The only challenging part is to know how to host a website with multiple pages, which took me a reasonable amount of time to successfully achieve.

3.2 Bonus Features

One bonus feature I've included in my personal web page outside the requirements is the membership tab. This feature allows users to register in a group that gives the shop's

proprietor a monthly donation in exchange for membership. There are several groups marked as tiers. The higher the tier, the higher the fee required, and the more exclusive content provided to the supporters in return. You can even meet the creator in person if you show your support strongly enough. There have been services that have played this role already. It is called Patreon. This is an interpretation of Patreon that attaches directly to the website, making it a special, golden feature for any creator who has an interest in requesting more income from supporters.

3.3 Additional information

A project of medium to large scale is always followed by a multitude of unsolved bugs. Some are big and pose a higher risk to the whole project, while others are small yet still lurking in the shadows waiting to be investigated. Most of them occurred when I was shifting the web structure so that the content fit compatible in every screen size. The one that seems very noticeable is the header section. There is no issue with it when displaying on wide-screen devices; the horizontal navigation bar is on the right side and the logo is on the left. But when opening the website on smaller-screen devices such as a smartphone, or simply narrowing down the width of the web browser, the two items on both sides come close together and ultimately stack on top of one another. This gives mobile users an untidy visual experience. This might inherently be fixable using flex box, but the time limit has left it untouched.

Another issue with the header segment involved the navigation bar lies inside it. Fairly similar to the first bug, it shows no problem when being opened on laptops or personal computers, hovering over each tab performs a transition from a gray color to a slightly darker tone. The issue appears only when I lowered the screen's horizontal setting. Below a particular width, it displays the menu symbol without any issues. When I hover over the icon, it reveals a vertical navigation bar instantaneously. What I wish for was some sort of motion that causes each menu tabs to slide down when I hover over the icon.

One other problem is that when I move the cursor away from the menu icon, the vertical navigation bar instantly disappears. Ironically, it only happens on desktop web browsers with narrow length but not on mobile devices. You can freely tab on the menu icon and it will automatically display the vertical navigation bar without any issue. I have thought of fixing this bug but that thought quickly vanished since I have to continue working on other tasks. Aside from those mentionable bugs, there are some smaller ones, mostly miscalculation of margin, padding or element's size, but judging at the overall look, the website visual appearance looks pretty acceptable.

4. Conclusion

Altogether, I can see myself has satisfied most of the requirements this project demands. All of the page have great performance Most of the bugs have been fixed quite neatly.

There are still some downsides that arise which slow the whole process down or even halt it, but they are pretty understandable since this is the first time I have ever developed something of this scale. Now that I have gained various essential skills, including planning, coding, testing, and staying informed to build a website that is user-friendly, functional, and visually appealing. These lessons learned from this project have equipped me with the knowledge and confidence to develop more outstanding, intuitive, and innovative websites in the future.

5. References

- CSS Grid layout tutorial: [CSS Grid Layout \(w3schools.com\)](https://www.w3schools.com/css/css_grid_layout.asp)
- Overflow-X: hidden does not work on mobile device: [\[Solved\] Overflow:hidden not working on mobile browser | 9to5Answer](https://stackoverflow.com/questions/47096440/overflow-x-hidden-does-not-work-on-mobile-device)
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