development guidelines

# **Production, Design and Development**

Resolution	Defined for intended Media
Browser	IE, Safari, Chrome, Firefox
Platforms	Windows, Mac
Connection Speed	Defined and optimized for Target Audience
Page Weight	Average download size established and adhered to globally. Know the total weight of your key content.
Load Time	Page speed - analyzed/optimized
Rating	Know YSlow stats for total page weight, number of HTTP requests and overall site grade. Address issues.
Flash	Use Javascript detect with redirect or install method present.
Presentation	Separate presentation from underlying structure and semantics. For example, externalized CSS.
Behavior	Externalized where possibleJS, .AS, etc.
Forms	Method of validation implemented. PHP injects prevented. Use of CAPTCHA, etc.
Frames	Use of frames/framesets avoided



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Rich Media	Use of mobile A/V present.
Output Media	Present as part of CSS and fully tested: Screen, Print, Aural, Handheld, TV, Projection, Braille/Embossed
Viewport	Space defined for intended platforms (e.g. iPhone, Browser, etc.) 960 current target width.
Validation	XHTML 1.0 Strict or HTML 5 with Graceful Degradation. W3C Check.
Comments	Present with correct application/format
Meta	Description, Title, Author - present globally. Key phrases logically applied. Meaningful. Include a no-archive, no-index, no-follow Meta tag for any area you do not wish indexed throughout the site.
Usability	ALT tags applied
Mark-up	Meaningful semantic application
Analytics	Script present on all key sections/pages throughout site. Stats available upon project deliverable.
Robots	.txt file present. No-Follow for media folders and all other content where indexing is not desired.
Favicon	Present
HTTP Requests	Optimized - have a limit in mind. For example 5 max per page.



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Progressive Enhancement	Effective methods integrated
Сору	Optimized for Search. Relevant. Contextual. Grammatically correct.
Image Format	Proper use of JPG, PNG, etc. Optimal compression applied.
Anchor Tags	Tested, active, 404 free. Pseudo-class rules applied: e.g. link, visited, focus, hover, active
Hierarchy	Logical wide/narrow application clearly demonstrates find-ability and user direction driven design.
Organization	Effective directory structure
Sitemap	Present and submitted for SEO
DOCTYPE	Declared
ID / NAME	Use of ID and Name attributes for fragment identifiers
Reserved Characters	Encoded as HTML entities
Deprecated Markup	Avoided globally
Absolute URLs	Applied in place of relative as needed. Use of root relative paths when necessary instead of relative. e.g. "//page.html"



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In-line Scripting	Minimal application, applied only as necessary
Empty Elements	Tags closed
CSS Naming Conventions	Helpful, descriptive names applied to Class and ID selectors. Location based titles avoided (e.g. "left" or "right.)
Print	External CSS print media style sheet present
Accessibility	Adhere to W3C WCAG (content accessibility guidelines) 1.0 Priority 1 or better.
Flicker	Flickering/Flashing avoided
Character Encoding	Declared e.g. <meta content="text/html; charset=utf-8" http-equiv="Content-Type"/>
Lang	Specified globally e.g. <a href="http://www.w3.org/1999/xhtml" lang="en" xml:lang="en"></a>
Media	Use of multiple style-sheet references to target specific media, for example - Print.
Keywords	Keywords used sparingly, Key phrases utilized, use of Plurals
Redirects	Meta refresh tags not present (could result in search blacklisting). 301 Permanent redirects in place to prevent vanity URLs from showing up in search results.



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Cloaking Content and eMail	Should not be implemented for most content (i.e. hiding content to affect SEO). However, some type of cloaking should be employed to prevent eMail harvesting/SPAM.
Google Webmasters Tool	Site added with and without WWW to Google Webmaster tool to improve search results and accurate stats.  Parked domains added.  Update tool so it is aware of the new location for the site.
Colophon	When applicable list the tools, technology, frameworks, etc. used in the creation of your Final Project. Example: drastudio.com
SEO	Avoid linking to slow sites. Degrades search results.
Javascript	Use of some form of client side JS expected
Data	PHP or Coldfusion implementation.

