

UI Evaluation for Craigslist and Historian of The Future

Craigslist

Navigation and Website Response: Craigslist's homepage features a very simplistic, easy to use user interface, and it is too easy to navigate. There is no fancy navigation bar or a breadcrumb way finder, but it is purely done by segregating different segments of websites like jobs, communities, housing etc. into separate tables on the home page itself. Though it is not visually very appealing, it is simple to easy to find the way with the pointer and in mobile version all we have is a search bar, location dropdown and all the categories below them. Both web(PC) and mobile versions are highly responsive and easy to understand. The website adapts to both web(PC) and mobile browsers. Buttons work as intended in the website, they navigate you exactly to where they suggest that they would take you to. All the hyperlinks are planned and organized efficiently without any mismatch. It is intuitive for the visitors to understand the website in first couple of minutes of opening it.

Security: Craigslist follows secure HTTP or HTTPS protocol, ensuring that the information exchange happens through a secure way. Privacy policy of the website does not indicate any unethical personal data aggregation from the users.

Color choice: it does not use any fancy color scheme or transitions and symbolic icons. It seems like it is made of plain and simple HTML, CSS elements. Overall, it is not too straining on the eyes, but it does seem outdated. Craigslist holds tight to its basic roots and has not been changed much.

Text size: Text size follows heading orders, that is the main website header in h1 HTML heading sizes, this is akin to the main heading size we use in any form of formal documentation. Sub sections follow a decreasing size of headings accordingly. In the context of the website, they are following h2 and h3 size headings for sub headers.

Readable fonts: Fonts chosen are very legible and sans-serif fonts. It is very easy to read, simple for a reason and kept constant since its inception.

Dark UX and Website Spam: There are no dark patterns anywhere in the website and no dark UX. There is absolutely spam in whole of the website.

Quality of the content: Since craigslist is made for users to create and manage their own advertisements or listings, quality of this content varies widely on the kind of

content the users are uploading to the website. It all comes down to the creativity, skills and efforts of the users while putting their advertisements.

Technical Errors: There are no technical errors or typos in the static content of the website or the pages that are generated due to the logic written by the programmers, but user generated content can have spelling typos in their listings, which is again totally dependant on the users themselves. There is not much artwork in craigslist to talk about, as they intend to keep it simple. So the scope for incomplete/sloppy artwork is also very minimal.

Page functionality: Homepage of the craigslist website has a search bar, location setting to send out the relevant deals to user. It gives a good idea of what to expect when users navigate to the sub sections and the following pages where the listings are seen. Home page can be scrolled up and down to find all categories of listings. Footer links are available for users to seek help, give feedback, and privacy information. Overall, the page is designed to give all the information and guidance the visitors need.

Historian of The Future

Navigation and Website response: Historian of The Future tries to make it clear for visitors to figure out how to navigate through the website. Regular cursor symbol changes to hand cursor very seamlessly to let users know that they are hovering over hyperlinks which would navigate them to a subsection in the website. The website is responsive and smooth across different browsers in web or PC and also in the mobile version. It can adapt to a variety of browsers and screen sizes without any issues.

Security: The website uses a strict HTTPS protocol for any kind of data interchange between the server and client devices.

Color choice: This website does contain some flashy and glittery colors, which seem to be put together in a hotchpotch manner and it looks like not a lot of thought has been put into integrating the variety of colors without any ill effect on the UI of the website. For example, though the website looks really beautiful, striking to the eye, and colorful, there are sections where it gets a little too tricky to read the text. For example on the top left, "Charles Ostman Historian of the Future" section is in a tricky place with respect to the color contrast, making it very easy to miss reading a part of it. Also, the Log In option in the website is a little too incomprehensible to find out or read at the first glance owing to the light grey color on top of a flashing space dust and blue color.

Text Size: There is varying text size across the homepage as per the heading or label order required. For example, we can see the size difference between normal text of the website and the text used as caption for the picture.

Readable Fonts: There is a mix of fonts used across the homepage. Menu options at top of the page are all in bold. Log In option is in light grey color. Color contrasting has been used to enhance the readability, but owing to the striking dark background, some of the dark yellow text gets tricky to read, however when scrolling the text up or down by a bit to the lighter areas, it gets more visible and legible.

Dark UX and Website Spam: There is not any evident presence of dark UX in the website homepage, apart for the dark background images. There is no unnecessary spam generating from the website, which keeps the whole experience peaceful for users.

Quality of the Content: The author has covered a lot of interesting and captivating content like the intersection of technology growth and evolution. Overall it's a high quality website in terms of the depth at which the topics are explored. Topics are linked to various renowned articles of the specific domain be it space, technology, or science.

Technical Errors: There are no technical errors or typos in the website, and the content seems to be constant which makes the home page static and free of any errors. There are no glitches in the visual elements and everything seems well put together.

Page functionality: Homepage of the website has several hyperlinked images to external articles, websites etc. Different menu options are available at top of the website. Colors are adaptive and label colors change as per the order and precedence in which they come. Whole home page can be scrolled very smoothly from top to bottom. Overall, it is a smoothy functional homepage for a website and free of any defects.