Noah Breen
Digital/Web Designer

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Personal Profile

I have gained a great deal of experience and knowledge in digital design as an in-house designer, within a design agency and as a freelancer. For more details of my work these can be viewed at www.noahsportfolio.com

Professional Experience

FREELANCE WEB DESIGNER, JAN 2015 - PRESENT AND 2008 - 2009
My experience as a freelance web designer has built on my existing skills to work on my own and to use my initiative.

I have been commissioned for various projects, including websites for Swift Coaches and A Golden Thread. Projects I have worked on have involved web design, logo design, e-commerce, content management systems, and teaching clients how to use their CMS. For more on individual projects see 'Selected Key Projects' below.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS:
• Working collaboratively with a wide range of clients, from small businesses to top agencies, using design and technologies to help them achieve their business vision

• Continuing awareness of web design trends and learning new skills to incorporate them into my everyday workflow, such as, responsive web design, the CSS, and the pre-processor SCSS

HOOKSON, WEB DEVELOPER, 2014 - 2015

Hookson is a design agency based in Edinburgh. I worked as part of a busy production team where my role included collaborating closely with the Marketing and Design team on website development from initial prototypes to online deployment. I liaised with a variety of clients from the arts world to data security clients and helped familiarise them with their website management system and instructed them how to populate customised Wordpress content management systems. I also provided maintenance services to client websites, such as updating databases, content and enhancing functionality.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS:
• Ability to learn on the job in a fast paced environment
• Working as part of a team on multiple projects, including the development of the Edinburgh Sculpture Workshop website

BELL JOHNSTONE, WEB DEVELOPER/WEB DESIGNER 2009 - 2014
Working with a team of copywriters and designers I was responsible for a broad range of projects. Undertaking tasks such as web design; implementing content management systems; developing online advertising; working on magazine layouts; and advertising for print. Part of my role in this position was to liaise with clients in order to meet their needs in developing ideas and work to their deadlines.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS:
• Adhering to the Bell Johnstone brand whilst providing them with creative design concepts
• Meeting tight deadlines which involved prioritising my workload and multi-taking

SCOTTISH INTERACTIVE TECHNOLOGY CENTRE, MULTIMEDIA ENGINEER/ WEB DESIGNER/ VIDEOGRAPHER, 1999 - 2008

SITC was an educational department within the University of Edinburgh that dealt with the application of information technology within learning environments. I held the position of Multimedia Engineer for nine years and during this time I worked on wide range of projects developing standard compliant, accessible websites, designing posters, designing graphic user interfaces, digital filming, editing, using video compression software and embedding video.

It was during my time at SITC that I first gained experience of working alongside a small team of programmers to help develop graphical user interface designs, from concept to finish. I worked on various educational projects, including the development of school websites and portal websites for local education authorities. I also assisted in the updating of website development and cross browser compatibility testing across several browsers and operating systems.

I gained experience in digital filming working on numerous video based projects in classroom settings. I edited the materials using Final Cut Pro and used this software for over 8 years.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS:
- Communicating with people at many different levels and from a diverse range of backgrounds
- Gaining skills in video editing

SELECTED KEY PROJECTS

SWIFT COACHES - WEBSITE 2017

I met with the client to establish their business needs I then worked on wire framing the layout of the site to formulate the hierarchical structure of the website that would best serve the goals of the website. Once the wireframes were completed I moved on to the the visual mockups that were key to the perception of the online brand. Once the visuals were agreed with the client, I proceeded to build the website's structure and functionality in Wordpress in order to ensure that the client could easily add future content.

ZONEFOX - WEBSITE 2014

Working closely alongside the designer and lead developer I helped to build this heavily customised Wordpress template using PHP, jQuery and CSS. I also assisted the client in understanding the process of uploading content to the site.

KAWAII ANIMALS - WEBSITE 2014

Prior to this project I did not possess experience of building an online shop and it provided a new set of challenges which I relished, for example the client's brief included a variety of functions as part of the build of the website and it was necessary for these functions to work on all mobile platforms. I decided that the best solution to this problem was the use of Wordpress and the Woocommerce plugin for the functionality of the website and used Foundation as the responsive framework to build the website in.

STEWART'S MELVILLE FP RFC - WEBSITE 2011

Working closely with two clients to develop one website that took care of the online content for both the senior and junior rugby squads at Stewart's Melville. The site runs on a Wordpress CMS with multiple taxonomies and also includes a web forum for the junior squad that runs on the most recent version of BBPress. I used Wordpress template to set up different pages of news posts and gallery posts for both teams.

SKILLS

I have a valuable and diverse software skill set gained by designing for print using Adobe InDesign, designing graphic user interfaces, embedding video, and building W3C standard websites that are both accessible and creative. One of my strengths is designing intuitive and creative websites that keep up to date with the latest trends on the Internet. It is important to me that websites are well optimised for SEO and the end user.

I have experience with the following software packages:

Adobe Photoshop: Graphic and photo editing. I mainly use this for photo-editing and mockups (Very good)

HTML: The Extensible Hypertext Markup Language recommended by the W3C (Good)

CSS/SCSS: Cascading Style Sheets used to describe the presentation semantics of HTML (Good)

Adobe XD: Vector based graphics tool which I use for designing high fidelity mockups (Good)

Figma: Collaborative web application for interface design (Good)

Adobe Illustrator: Digital illustration and graphic design (Good)

Wordpress: Using Wordpress as a content management system (Good)

Sketch: Vector graphics editor used for user interface and user experience design of websites and mobile apps (Good)

Balsamiq: App used for the creation of wireframe mockups (Very good)

Adobe After Effects: Digital motion graphics (Intermediate)

Cinema 4D: Making & animating objects and scenes in 3D (Intermediate)

EDUCATON

1996 – 1998 Jewel and Esk Valley College, Edinburgh
HND Interactive Multimedia Studies
1992 – 1994 Telford College, Edinburgh
Art & Design, Design for Marketing and Advertising
1986 – 1991 Boroughmuir High School, Edinburgh
Standard Grades: Art & Design, English, Geography, Mathematics, and Modern Studies
Highers: Art & Design

References available on request