

PROJECT: PORTFOLIO WEBSITE

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1 Introduction

A portfolio website provides professional information about an individual or a company and presents a showcase of their work. Before you start designing your own portfolio, you should make a statement of purpose. Answering the question why are you doing this? should be done before any work is started. By specifying the purpose of a design, the process becomes meaningful. It also steers the necessity of the usage of database. Some portfolio websites do not need to use a database. You might have to use a database in case you are storing and retrieving information that needs to be shown in your portfolio (for example the portfolio of a photographer). If you often update the content of your portfolio, you also need a database.

The content in your portfolio website should be compelling. It can convince potential clients to hire you. It can give site visitors an idea about what you can do. Your portfolio website should contain a thumbnail gallery, slide-shows, and a form of testimonials.

A portfolio website is also meant to give site visitors general information about the owner of the site. There are certain components of a portfolio website you simply cannot live without:

"Portfolio of Work" section: A place on your site where you present a selection of your past work.

"About" section: It should be written in a context that is relevant and compelling to the types of clients you want to work with. This is a good place where you can shine your personality.

"Service" section: This is a list of your skills and service offerings. Having a list of your services is a good idea. It helps interested site visitors figure out whether or not you can provide solutions to their problems. Be specific. It's best to excel and specialize on a few things rather than trying to please everyone.

"Contact" section: It tells people how they can get in touch with you.

Blog: It can bring in new site visitors to your portfolio site.

"Process" section: It outlines the project's work-flow. This gives prospective clients insights about what they can expect if they work with you. This section could be optional. It depends on your needs.

Case Studies: It discusses certain projects in great detail and can provide your site users with more compelling content to consume.

Quote Request Form: It is optional. It asks users to provide relevant information - for example, the scope/nature of work, time frame, and the budget of the project - so that you can send a price quote to the requester.

2 Requirements

- Your website should meet the following criteria:
 - secure and responsive
 - RESTful
 - cross-browser
 - interactive and dynamic
 - high accessibility and high (re)usability
 - maintainable and scalable
- The look and feel of your website should be attractive
- Your website should be easily engaged with other social websites like Twitter, Facebook etc.
- Make sure you have a good site directory structure.
- All contents in your website are valid.
- Your website should adopt a good design pattern and adhere to layout F-Pattern.
- You need to use Google Analytic tool to evaluate the performance of your website (e.g. site loading speed and caching).
- Your website should always contain a site-map for users and a site-map for search engines.

3 Technologies

- CSS3 Sprites
- HTML5/6
- Bootstrap
- a front-end framework (like REACT, Angulars, vue.js, pug etc)
- JavaScript
- jQuery and Ajax
- Sass

4 Submission

Upload all your source codes onto Blackboard in the final week of the semester. You also need to give a short presentation regarding the final version of your portfolio website.