From Tom:

We said this morning that we should assume we will have **types of Playbooks in the future** ... same for types of Methods, Videos, etcetera.  Those types might be Analysis, Design, Test ... like how the Home page breaks things up currently .

The other condition to design for is having an **extra level under Resources, like the "Tools"** example on slide 11 attached.

- See CPRS example in QSG

Our Left Nav solution should **work well with the rules we establish for Breadcrumbs, as well as the Back To element** when a page is accessed from a collection of pages like QSG.

From Namoi:

**LEVEL 2:** Education & Training landing page

**Education & Training >**

[https://www.va.gov/education/](https://www.va.gov/education/" \t "_blank)

Observations: This page does not include a left nav column. The sub-navigation for this section of the site is embedded in context on the page.

**LEVEL 3:** GI Bill Benefits overview page

**Education & Training > GI Bill Benefits**

[https://www.va.gov/education/about-gi-bill-benefits/](https://www.va.gov/education/about-gi-bill-benefits/" \t "_blank)

Observations: This page does include the left-nav column. It includes its children and siblings, but *not* its parent. To navigate up to the parent page, the user must use the breadcrumb or global nav.

**LEVEL 4:** Post-9/11 GI Bill page

**Education & Training > GI Bill Benefits > Post-9/11 GI Bill**

[https://www.va.gov/education/about-gi-bill-benefits/post-9-11/](https://www.va.gov/education/about-gi-bill-benefits/post-9-11/" \t "_blank)

Observations: Just like the page above, this page includes the left-nav column, with its children and siblings — however, it *does* now include its parent.

**LEVEL 5:** Yellow Ribbon Program page

**Education & Training > GI Bill Benefits > Post-9/11 GI Bill > Yellow Ribbon Program**

[https://www.va.gov/education/about-gi-bill-benefits/post-9-11/yellow-ribbon-program/](https://www.va.gov/education/about-gi-bill-benefits/post-9-11/yellow-ribbon-program/" \t "_blank)

**Observations:** Here the pattern stays steady, mirroring its level-4 parent page. Because this page has neither children nor siblings, it displays only itself and its parent in the left-nav.

**OVERALL OBSERVATIONS:**

The left nav of va.gov...

    -does show children

    -does show siblings

    -does show parents — *but* not before the user navigates pretty deeply to Level 4

    -does *not* show aunts and uncles

**PRO:**

This is an established VA pattern

**CON:**

Not showing the parent page until Level 4 does not work; if we adopt this pattern, we will have to show the parent page throughout.

**OPEN QUESTION:**

Do we think it works not to show the left nav on a Level 2 landing page? They make it work by instead showing the sub-navigation in context on the page (it is also repeated in the global nav).

**My 2 cents:**

I think this could work for UXG. I think it could be a scalable approach.

*We would need to make an exception,*though: For genre-type pages in a flat list (methods and all the sections under resources —videos, QSGs, Playbooks, etc...) we would *not* include the left nav, just the breadcrumb — otherwise the detail pages will all end up with an extremely long, unhelpful list running all the way down the left. Are we okay with making that exception?

*If we take this approach,* the only downstream effect is that we will have to remove the left-nav from the UX Process landing page.