

PUI Fall 2020

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Homework 5 Reflection

User interface bugs:

Flexibility and efficiency of use

Currently, when the user clicks on cart when the cart is empty, she sees a message that says “Your shopping cart is empty:)” However, for novice users, they might be confused by what actions they can take next and it might not be clear that they can use the navigation bar. Therefore, I added a button for “See Products” so people can access the products if they are not aware of the other options and access them faster because this button is bigger and closer.

Original Prototype



Revised: added “See Product” button



Error prevention

When checking out, the user is asked to select a date and time for shipping. My original design allows the user to freely enter any number she desires. There are not mechanism that prevents invalid numbers. So I added a drop-down for each of month, day, hour, and minutes. This way the user has to select a valid option among the ones given. They can scroll down the dropdown using the slider on the right.

Original Prototype

Shipping options:
When you would like to receive your order

9	/	25		9:50	am	pm
month		date		time		

Switched text boxes with dropdowns

Shipping options:
When you would like to receive your order

9	/	25		9	:	25	am	pm
month		date		hour		minutes		

Example of a dropdown expanded

Shipping options:
When you would like to receive your order

9	/	25		9	:	25	am	pm
1		date		hour		minutes		
2								
3								
4								

Standard (within 2-3 hr).....Free
Expedite (within 1 hr).....\$5.00

User control and freedom

On the confirmation page, there was only an option for continuing shopping. But the user might want to double check the details of the order or revise the order. So I added these two buttons to allow the users to review the order details and revise if desired.

Original Prototype



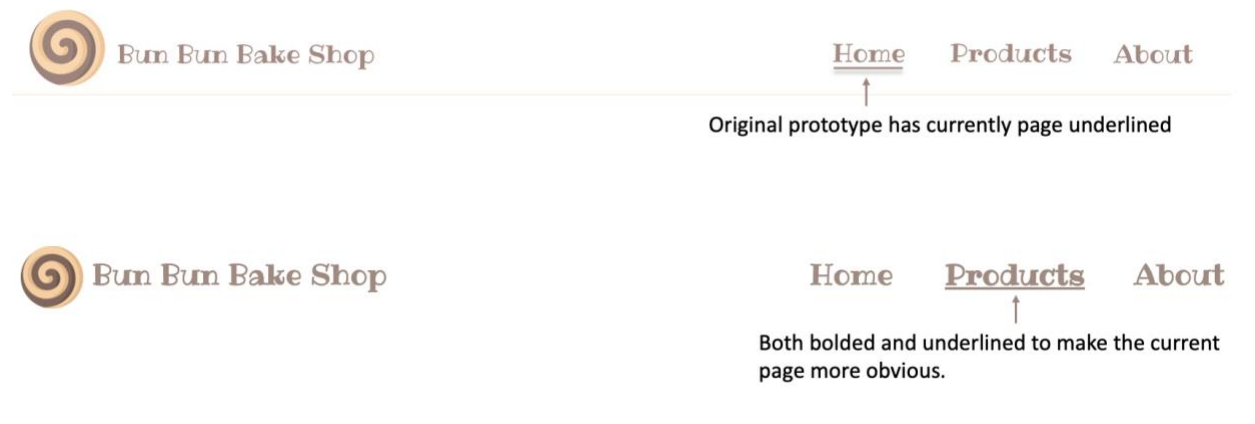
Updated Prototype



Added buttons for seeing details of the order and revising order

Visibility of system status

In the initial prototype, the page that the users are on are displayed by underlining the navigation element for the corresponding page. However, the line is not very obvious and could be missed. So I bolded and underlined the element to emphasize this status.



Challenges and bugs:

I have faced quite a few challenges in getting started, aligning and justifying texts, and replacing styles in html with css. Different from my previous coding experience, writing code in html and css is more like debugging my own code. Previously, I usually spend the majority of

the time thinking about the algorithm. But now, the majority of time is spent on debugging and adjusting the parameters.

Building a new site is different from completing small tasks in Codecademy tutorial and I didn't really know where to start. So I went on Youtube and watched a few tutorials on how people build websites. videos though didn't cover much new material reminded me the things I could do to get start.

From there, I got started and spent a lot of time trying different things I can do to implement a website that is close to the design in Figma. In this endeavor, aligning and justifying texts was one of the major challenges. For example, I wanted to vertically align the text next to the icon to its middle line. I tried vertical-align, align, and align-content and align-self but all did not work. I then found an answer by googling and realized that I had to use the flex display and set align-items for the div that include both the image and the text. It made sense after I figured it out, but it was not something I could think of by myself. The same bug took place in a few other scenarios where I wanted to make adjustment on a single element, but it turned out that I have to set the property for the entire div.

Another challenging aspect was to avoid using style in html. I tried to avoid using style in the html code as I worked but at the end when I used the html validator, I realized that I was still using style in quite a few places. I spent quite some time figuring out how to translate the style in the html files into. Instead of being able to simply move the corresponding property and parameter into the css file, I always found that I had to write entirely different code to have the same result. In solving these problems, I frequently used stackoverflow and W3school.

Brand identity:

Bun Bun Bake Shop is a small local bakery that specializes in cinnamon rolls. Considering the size and specialty of the shop, I decided to narrow down the audience and focus on a younger group and their families. I chose cute icons and a playful font that would appeal to children. I envision that my audience would order cinnamon rolls for occasional treats or family gatherings. Such events induce happiness and joy and I wanted to convey that the cinnamon rolls can add to their experience. Hence, I chose the color scheme that is not only appetizing but also installs a sense of welcoming and delightfulness. In the website, I wish to brand the shop as one that not only sells cinnamon rolls but also makes people happy.

GitHub Page Link: https://ruocenliao.github.io/PUI2020/homework_5/

GitHub Folder Link: https://github.com/RuocenLiao/PUI2020/tree/master/homework_5