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Project Report for Web Design & Development

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# Introduction

I have developed a site that sells retro NES game cartridges. All pages have a top nav bar with a login and cart button, they also have a footer which contains contact information and another nav bar. The website has five pages. The colours and style of the webpages are designed after the colour scheme of the NES. Its primary colours were red, black and grey.

The first homepage is for the home page which contains all the products, which have an add to cart button that stores the information into the checkout page. It also contains a carousel that displays images. The second page is the about page. It contains information about the website about why it was set up. It also contains contact information and an embedded google map to show the company location. The third page is the login page, this page requires you to put in your email and password if you want to check out. The login button will change when you log in to a log out button, click this to log out. The user details page will now also be accessible, allowing you to change your information. The last page is the checkout page. This requires the user to fill out a form if you wish to check out. At the top of the page the total cost of all the products in the cart are also there. Once you press the buy button the cart will be reset to zero.

The website is mainly aimed at older users who wish to connect with old games, therefore the colour scheme is based on the NES to try make them nostalgic. The website has a simple and minimalistic design to make the webpages look uncluttered and professional.

# Installation/Usage

* The login inputs are, email address = arcadia@email.com, password = password.
* The checkout inputs are, Name = Art, Surname = McGoldrick, Address1 = Snugborough, Address2 = Ballyconnell, Address3 = Co. Cavan.
* The payment inputs on the checkout page are, card number = 1234 5678 9102 3456.
* The search bar on the nav bar and footer are only for show.

# Design Decisions Made

I decided to place the login and checkout button on the top as they were the most important buttons. The carousel displays images that represent the website.

## Colours, Text and Fonts

The font I used was monospace, since I see it as a clean looking font. This blended well with my aesthetic of keeping my website minimalistic. I used a variety of H1,2,3 sizes to segment my website. The colours I used were red, grey, black and white. These represent the colours of the NES console which my website is selling games off. The colours all blend together very well too.

## Breakpoints

My breakpoints are 1024px, 768px and 480px. For an example the shop columns will switch between 4, 2 and 1. On the about page the texts and images will switch from being side to side, to being above each other. The responsiveness handles all the other breakpoints.

## Navigation

My website has a nav bar on the footer and the header, these contain all the links to all the other websites. The login and cart button can be found on the top of the page. The cart button has a number beside it that shows the number of products being bought. On certain webpages the carousel is not needed, so the top nav bar fuses with the login and cart bar.

# Performance

To improve performance, I have the CSS loaded at the top of the website, while the JS loads at the bottom of the website. I have a simple website so there isn’t that much to be loaded on the webpage, which speeds up the process.

# SEO

For search engine optimization I included different meta data keywords for all the pages, these keywords reference what a user may type into google to find my website. I also have a keyword title that includes similar word to arcade.

# Accessibility

My website is accessible, but it is missing the basics like having alt for images, missing some labels from elements and I’m not doing an enough to help users determine where they are.

# Wireframes

While my website did mainly follow the guidelines of my wireframes there were a few differences. On my home page the products were in 4 columns instead of three, the about page now has a google map on it and I removed the featured products from the about page, because there was no reason for them to be on the about page.

# Reflection on your work

I am happy overall with how my website turned out. The colours and layout fit with the idea I had in my head, and minimalistic design came out clean. I feel like the website is easy to navigate too.

The responsive side of my website gets the job done but isn’t finetuned too perfection. This sometimes leads to less desirable layouts at certain sizes.

I am not happy with the JavaScript section of my website, as I feel like it is the weaker part of my project. As the login doesn’t lock me out from the checkout, and I can’t get the information of selected projects to be displayed on the checkout page.

Next time I do a project I would focus more on getting functionality done with JavaScript first, then building my up with styling and responsiveness at the same time, instead of building the website with styling then trying to add on styling and JavaScript. I would also put more time into my wireframes so I get a visual of how responsiveness would affect my website.