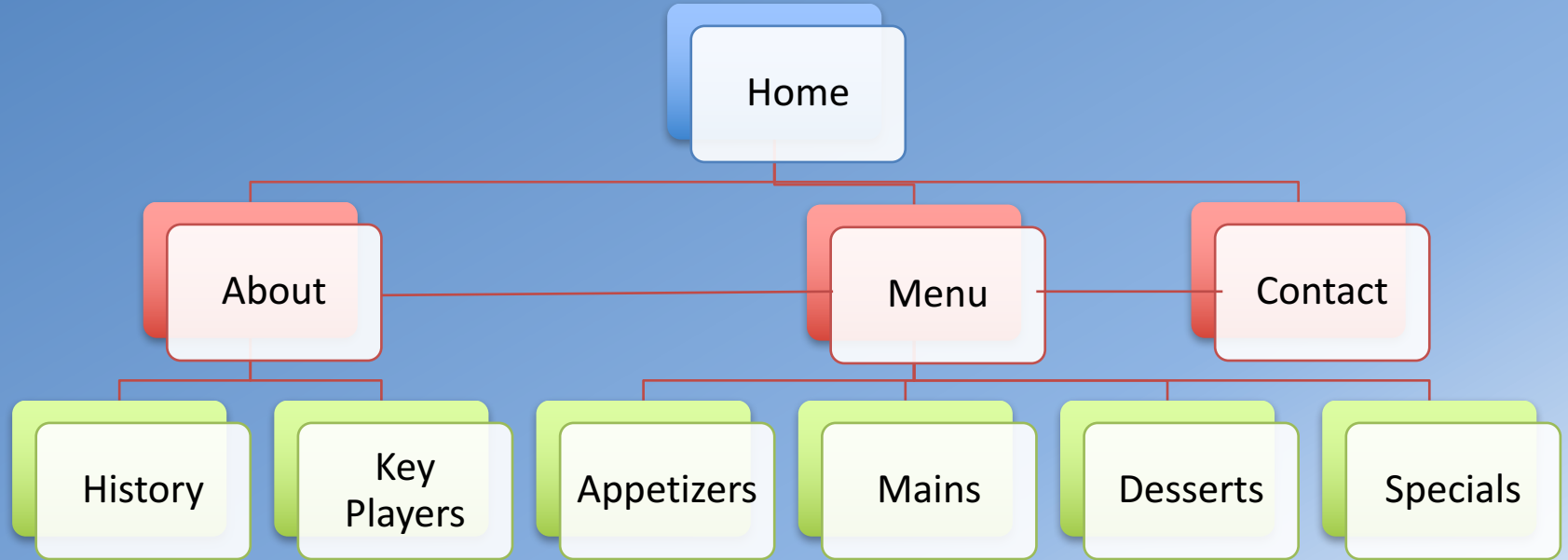# Navigation and Navigation Bar

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Why Website Navigation?

- Websites are rarely single pages

- Need to provide visitors an intuitive means of getting around your website

- Several commonly used navigation patterns used on websites

Information Architecture

- Structure of a system with respect to the way the information is:
  - Organized,
  - Labeled, and
  - Navigation methods provided to access the information
- Need to consider when designing websites
- Dictates the provisioning of navigation on websites

Website Hierarchy

Home

About

Menu

Contact

History

Key Players

Appetizers

Mains

Desserts

Specials

Navigation Bars

- Users often expect it at the top of the website
- Contains links to various pages within your website

Navigation Bar

- Dos and Don'ts:
  - + Use simple, user-friendly terms
  - + Standardize navigation
  - + Provide indication of the location within the navigation hierarchy
  - + Use standard web conventions:
    - Clicking on a logo takes you back to home page
  - − Have too many items
  - − Use generic labels

Breadcrumbs

Home > Menu > Appetizers

- Secondary navigation
  - Usually placed below the primary navigation and above the content
- Indicator of the current page's location within a navigational hierarchy
  - Path based: set of steps
  - Location based: hierarchy
  - Attribute based: set of choices

Other Navigation Aids

- Tabs
- Pills
- Pagination
- Dropdowns
- Accordion
- Tags / Tag clouds
- Scrollspy
- Affix

- We'll look at them in detail in later modules when we see use cases