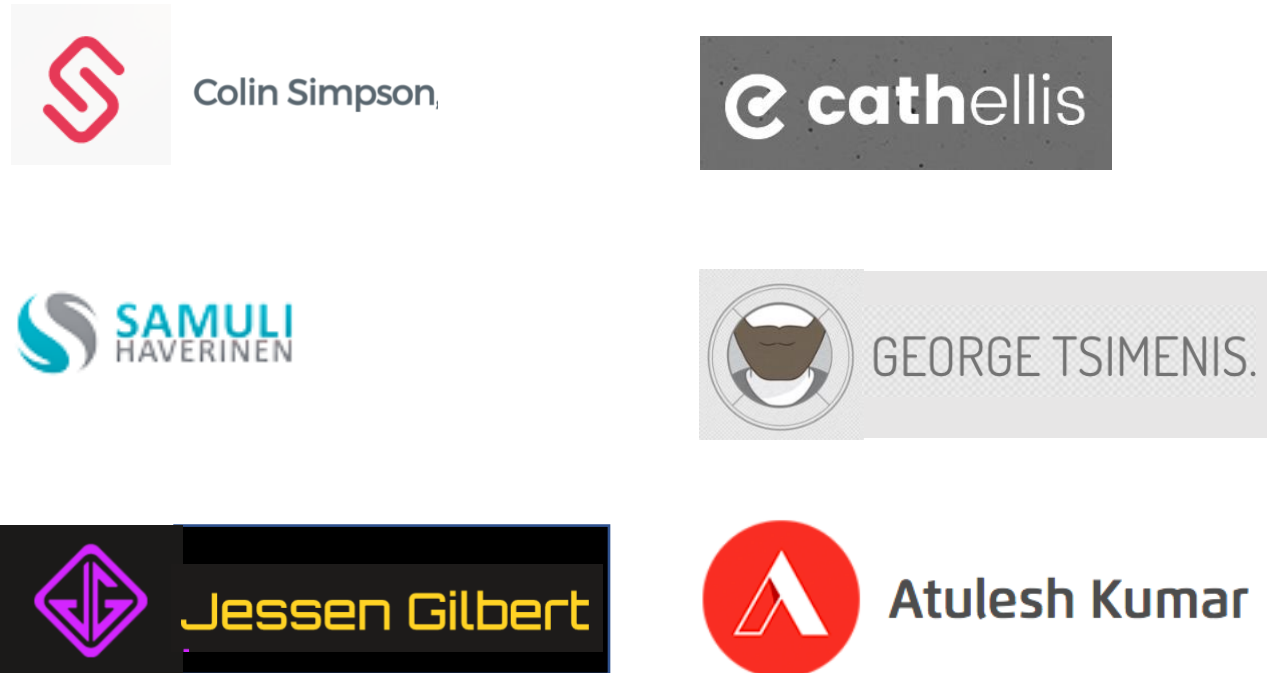


Home Page Guidelines

The home page for a portfolio website is important because it sets the stage and gives people a first impression of you and your site. At a minimum you should have an above-the-fold header with the navigation bar, hero section which features an image along with a headline and call to action. Also, at the bottom you need a footer.

Navbar:

The navbar should include the menu items at a minimum. Some developers include a personal logo in the nav bar. It's a good mechanism for helping people to remember you. Most often the logo involves special formatting of the person's initials. See examples below.



Best practices to consider in relation to navbar include:

- 1) Position the menu at the top above the hero image.
- 2) If you include a personal logo, position it at top left and have it link back to the home page.
- 3) Show the full menu on the notebook and desktop version and then convert to a hamburger menu for tablets and phones.
- 4) Make the navbar fixed so that users can access the menu without scrolling back to the top

Header/Hero Section:

You might feature a small picture along with a welcome paragraph in the header/hero section. Another option would be to add a large hero image with a text block over the image including your name, who you are/what you do, and a call-to-action button. Examples of action could be Hire Me, Get in touch, Read my resume, Email me, or Get a project quote.

Sometimes a different large image is featured above the fold on each page. However, often the header for other pages beyond the home page is simplified. See the following sample portfolios:

<http://danielfiller.com/>

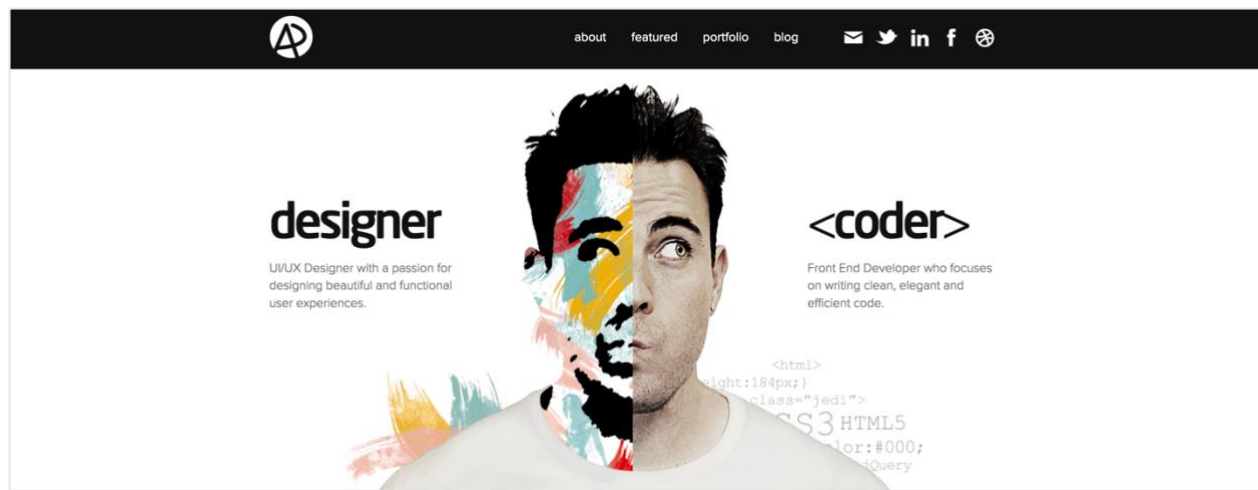
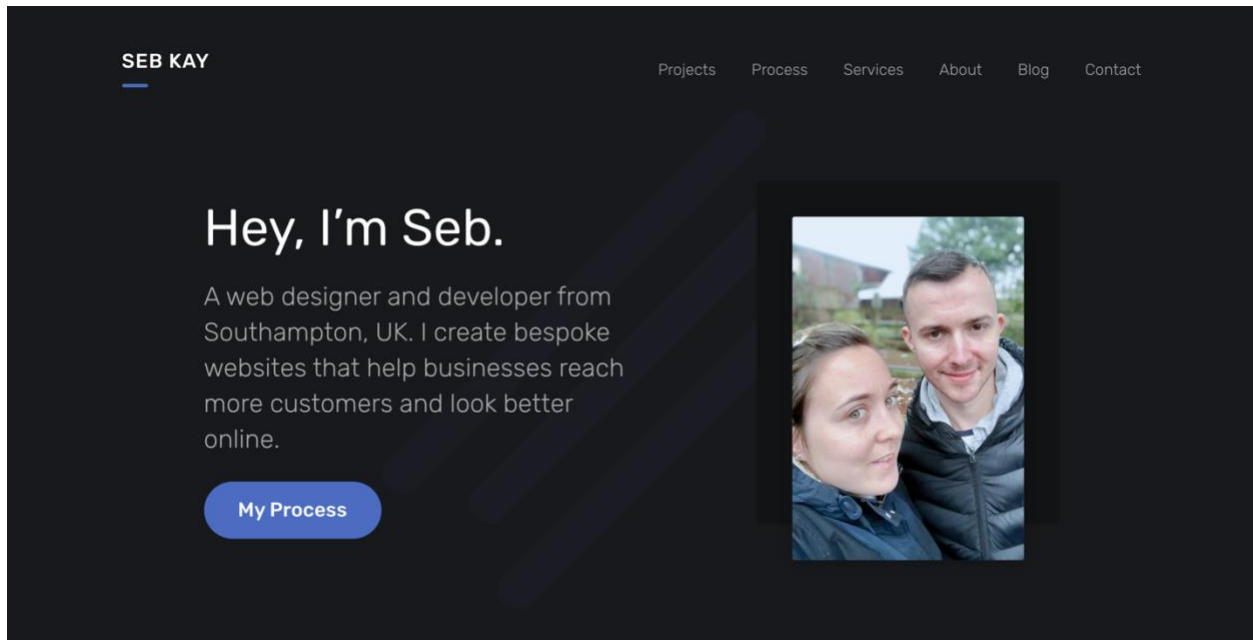
<http://www.adhamdannaway.com/>

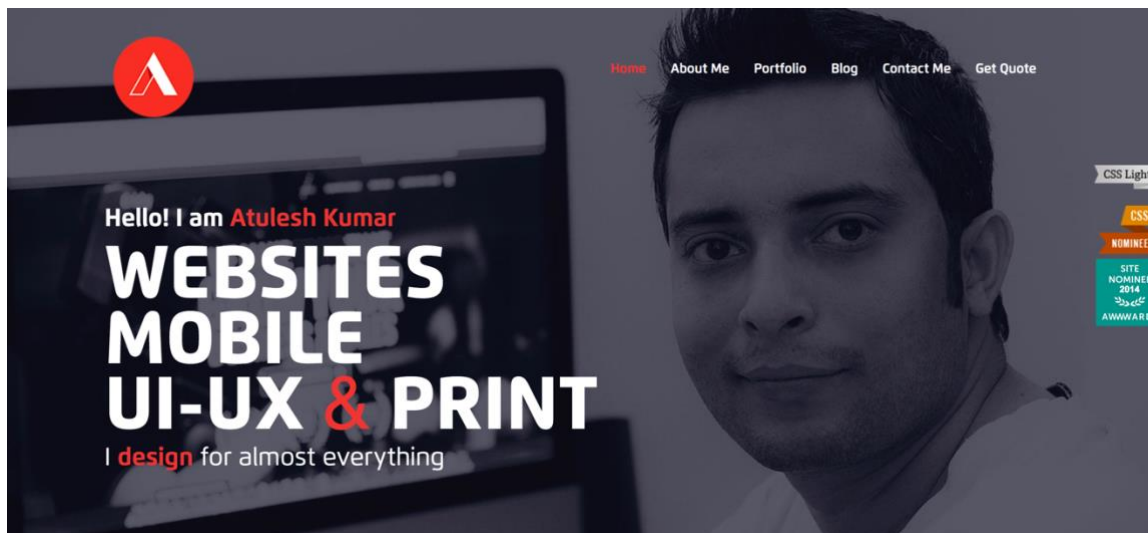
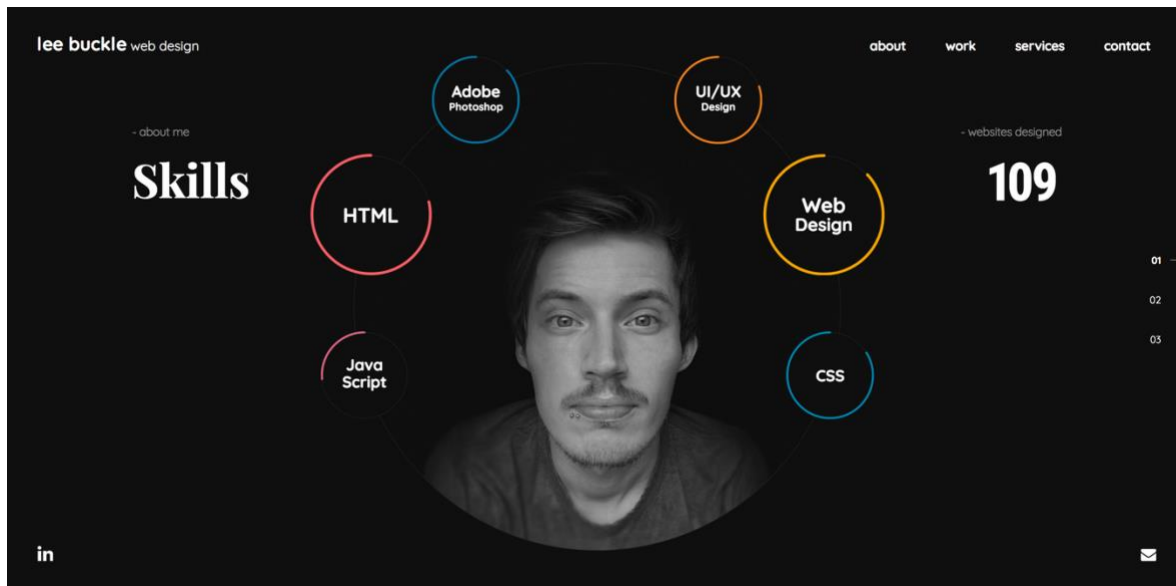
<http://www.atulesh.com/>

<http://www.mikedascola.com/>

The trend is to extend the hero or banner images to the left and right edges. It should not extend past the "above the fold" line.

Sample of a few above-the-folds for portfolio websites:





Below-the-Fold Content:

Many multi-page portfolio websites also include below-the-fold abbreviated sections for the main pages of the website. An example of this is given in Devin Walker's portfolio website (Web Design & Development Specialist) at <https://devin.org>.

Ideas for the abbreviated sections follow:

About Me: Paragraph or two giving a little personal info or highlighting main skills/work experience.

Skills: Could emphasize key skills and areas of expertise with a bar chart, icons with a short paragraph, or an infographic.

Testimonials: You can collect statements from some of your professors and current/past employers or clients to include in a carousel. Research has shown that including "social proof" on the home page is an effective way to gain trust with users.

Portfolio: Feature top project(s) including an image/icon and brief paragraph describing the project. Add link to the project description or case study page for the project.

Contact: Could give key contact info plus action button to send email.

Footer:

Social media icons and more detailed navigation options are often found in the footer. The Font Awesome and Flaticon websites provide social media icons

<http://fontawesome.io/>

<http://www.flaticon.com>

You can also include your personal logo and a copyright notice in the footer along with other pertinent facts about you such as location, phone number, and email. Example:

© Jesse Showalter 2017 | Honolulu HI | 333-33-3333 | showalter@gmail.com

A short section with a last call to action leading into the footer is very effective as shown in the example below.

