Design Challenge: Setting Goals for Your Site

Your work in this Design Challenge will help guide your project for this unit.

Step 1

Find two websites whose layouts and designs you admire, that share similar goals to the business website you began building in Unit 1. Pay particular attention to the homepage. Present the following to your mentor:

- Describe how each website exhibits effective use of space, size or balance.

- Describe ways each website can benefit from a reexamination of space, size or balance.

Step 2

Compare the two layouts. What makes them different? What are the similarities in both that appeal to you?

Step 3

Search Google and Google Image Search for "thumbnail layout sketches" and compare and contrast various solutions.

Take note of thumbnail sketch techniques that you think are effective.

Step 4

Now that you've analyzed the layouts of two sites and seen examples of thumbnail sketches, try hand drawing thumbnails for the business page you began creating in Unit 1.

Draw 2 different versions of what you think would make an effective homepage for your site.

Note how each of the thumbnail sketches demonstrate focal point, hierarchy, and flow across different grid-based layouts.

Advanced Study

Using Google Chrome's Inspect Element feature, explore the HTML and CSS of one of your selected pages.

It's okay if you don't understand all of the code you're seeing. There's going to be some elements we haven't

discussed yet.

Copy or screenshot the code of an element that intriguing to you, and send it to your mentor to discuss in your next 1:1.

If you're unfamiliar with Google Chrome's Inspect Element feature, check out our videos "Chrome, Gmail, and Google Drive" and "Thinking Like a Developer" from our Plugging into Circuits pre-work section.