"The Web Design Workshop" Decal – Spring 2014
Programming Handout 5

Goals:

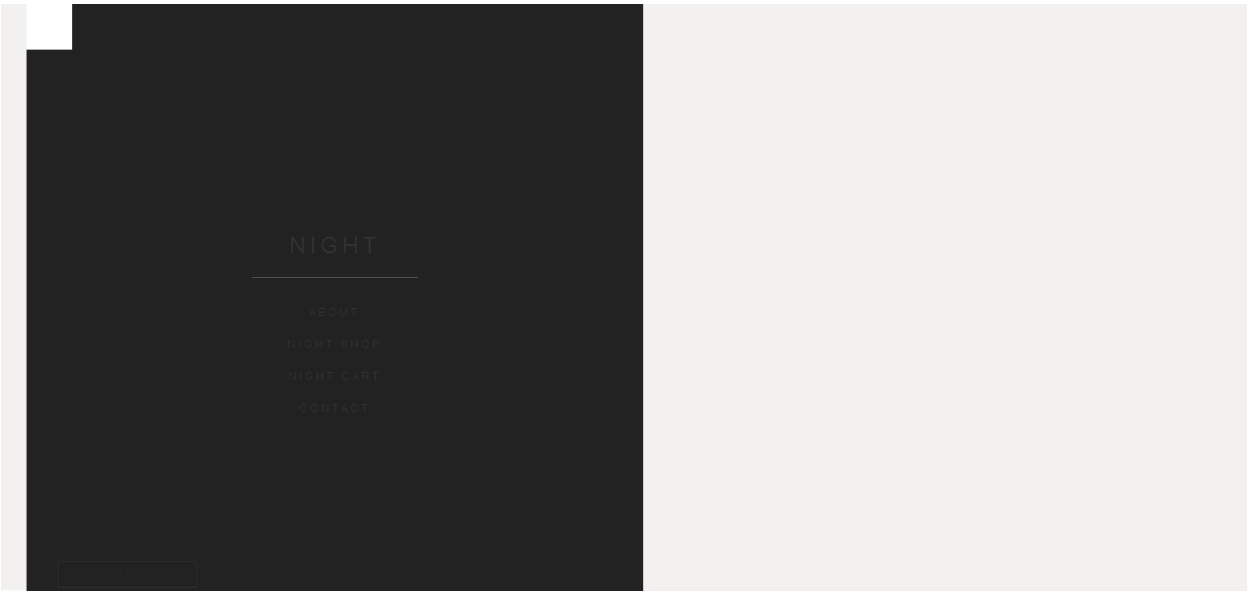
1. Positioning Elements
2. CSS3 and CSS Specificity

Before we begin, make sure you have downloaded the *handout5.zip* file. Unzip this file, and you should see 2 files inside the *handout5* folder: *css3.html* and *styles.css*

1 – Positioning Elements

1. Open both *css3.html* and *styles.css* in Sublime. Take a look at the *css3.html* elements to get an understanding of the HTML structure. Then, pull up *styles.css*. We will start adding styles to *styles.css*.

   If curious, you can open up *css3.html* in your browser and you will see this:



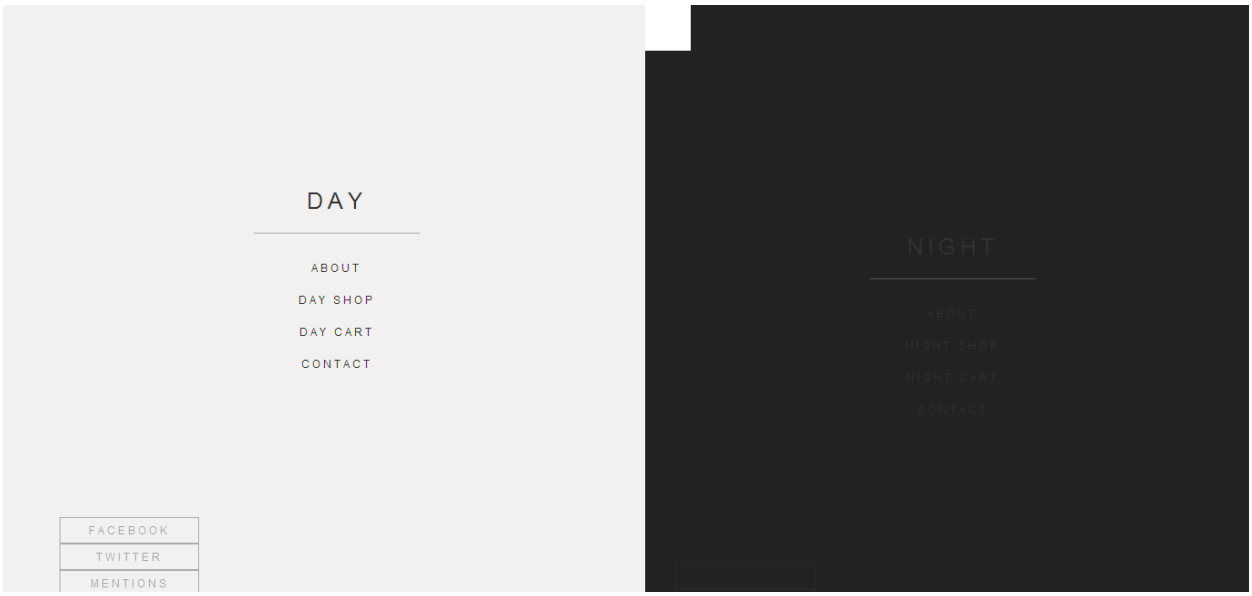
   Here's our goal: To shift the **Night** div to the right side, give unique styles to **Day** and **Night**, fix our Social Media buttons, and move the top-left white square to the center (and make it look like an arrow). When we are done, hovering over the **Night** panel will animate the panel and stretch it across the screen.

2. First, let's fix *#night.* Notice it is already a **position: fixed** element. Any *non-static* position will allow us to use offset values, like top, right, etc.

   #night already has a **top: 0.** So let's now add **right: 0** to its styles:

   right: 0;

Open or refresh your *css3.html* page in the browser. You get:



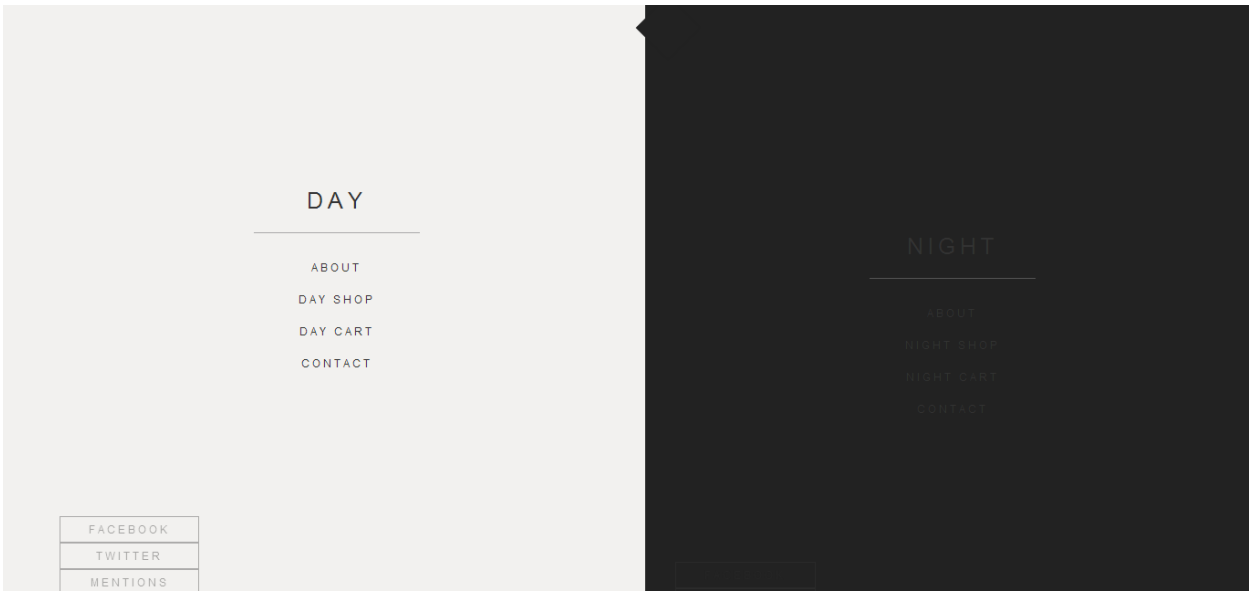
Still a lot to fix!

3. Next, let's fix the ugly white box at the top-left corner of night. Let's turn it into an arrow.

   First find *#night #arrow*, change its **background-color** to **#222** and let's apply a CSS3 **transform** (rotate):

   background-color: #222;
   transform: rotate(45deg);
   -moz-transform: rotate(45deg);
   -webkit-transform: rotate(45deg);

   Remember that CSS3 properties need to come in **threes**. This includes the regular transform, the webkit transform, and the moz transform.



Notice our box is rotated and positioned at the top. Also, notice that the box takes up space, causing our **Night** panel to be positioned slightly lower than the **Day** panel. This fix requires us to use **position: absolute** to *pull* the rotated box out of the flow of the page, and then shifting this box in relation to the **Night** panel. Because the **Night** panel is already **position: fixed**, if the rotated box (within the Night panel) is position: absolute, it will move *relative* to the Night panel.

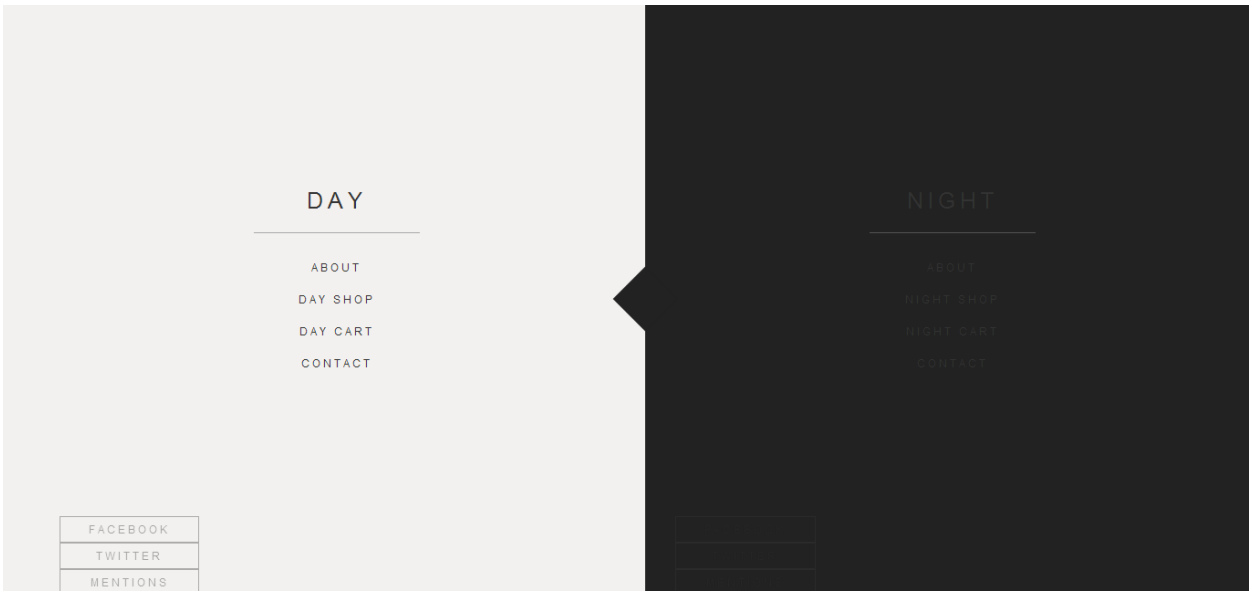
Thus, let's add the following styles to *#night #arrow*:

position: absolute;
top: 50%;
left: 0;
margin-left: -25px;
margin-top: -25px;

Why did we shift the box down 50% from the top, and shift it more with margins?

Shifting the rotated box down 50% only aligns the **top of the rotated box** to 50% the height of the **Night** panel. It **does not** shift the **center** of the rotated box to 50%. So, we must shift the box half of its height and width (to the top and left) to center the box. This is how you would center a div *vertically* on the page.

Thus, we get this:



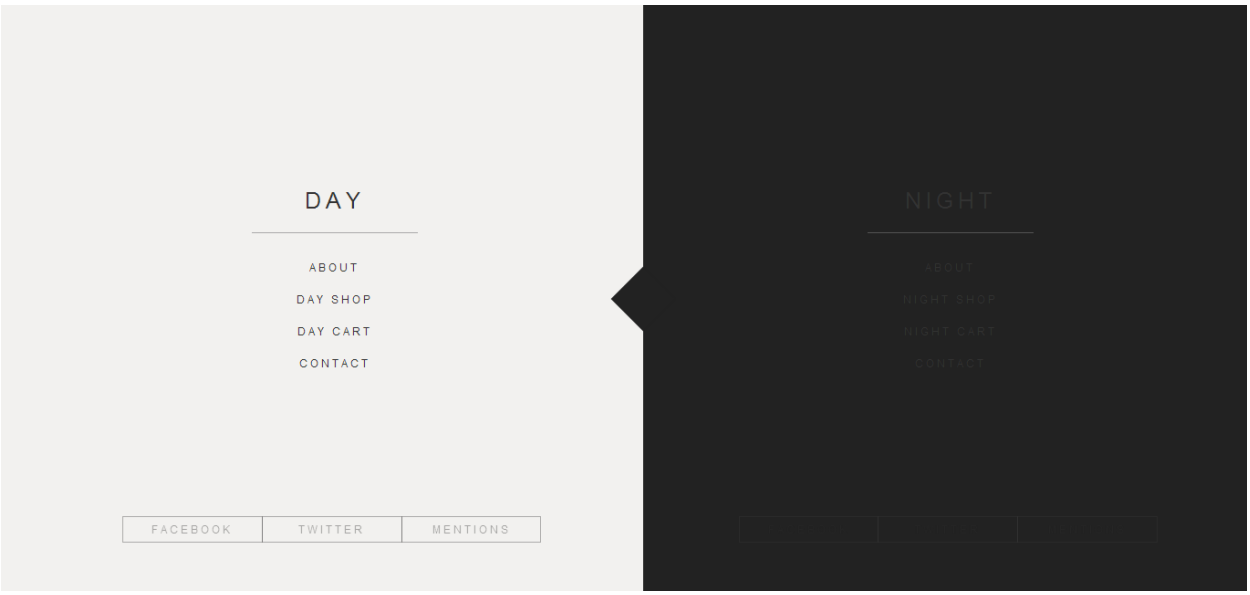
4. Next, let's fix the Social Media buttons that are stacked vertically at the moment.

   Usually if you want a menu on the left or right side of a div, you use float: left or right. If we want to have a menu **centered** in the middle of a div, we will use **display: inline-block**.

   Remember that with **display: inline-block**, our Social Media buttons will be beside each other, except there is a slight gap between each item. This is because div elements always add a bit of margin above and below elements (or in the case of inline-blocks, to the left and right of elements). Floats will not have this problem (but we won't use floats for this example, since we want our menu centered).

   Find *.social .item* in the CSS stylesheet, and let's first add the inline-block property, as well as a fix for the menu gap problem:

   display: inline-block;
   margin-left: -5px;



Wonderful! Our page is looking much nicer. Except… what is up with **Night** panel's text color?

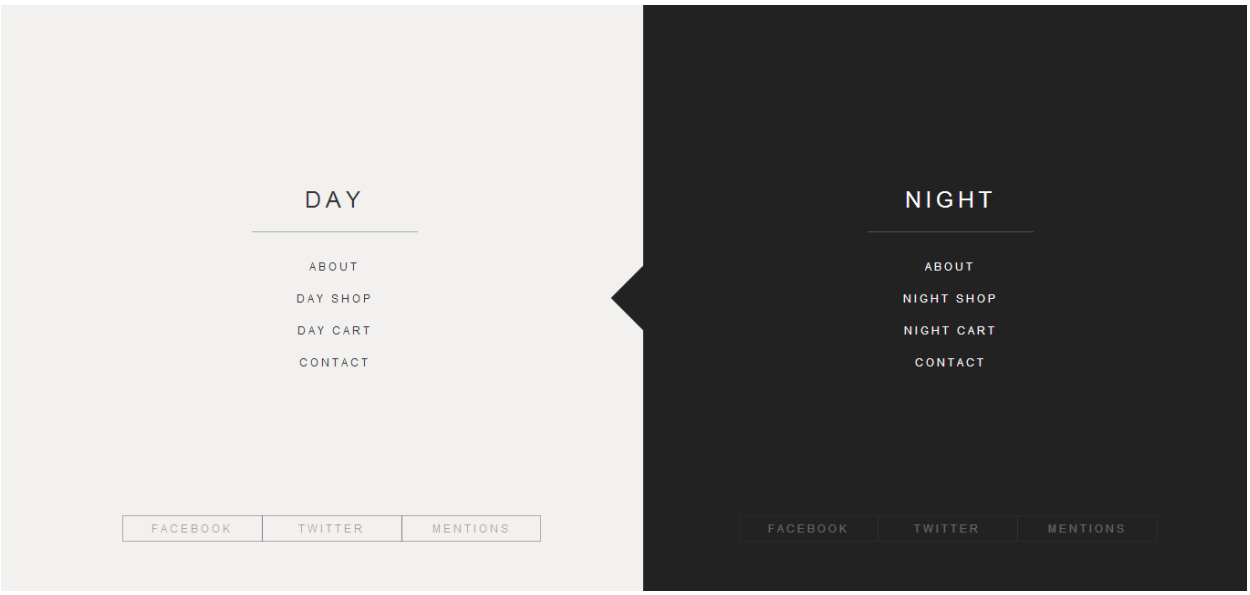
2 – CSS3 and CSS Specificity

1. If you open up *css3.html*, you will notice that the **Day** and **Night** panel share similar elements that have the same classes. This is to reduce redundant code, considering that both panels have similar structures.

   However, both panels won't have similar **text color**. In order to fix this, first put all similar styles for the class, and use **CSS Specificity** to style unique colors for each individual panel.

   So, find *#day* and add a **color** of **#555.**

   Then, find *#night* and add a **color** of **white.**



Nice. **Night** now stands out.

2. Next, we will apply CSS3 styles to make our elements look slick.

   First, let's dim down the opacity of the menu items, and as we hover over each item, we will change the opacity to 1. This will give it a nice, subtle effect to your page.

   Find *#day .menu .item* and add an **opacity** style:

   opacity: 0.4;

   Same for **Night**. Find *#night .menu .item* and add an **opacity** style:

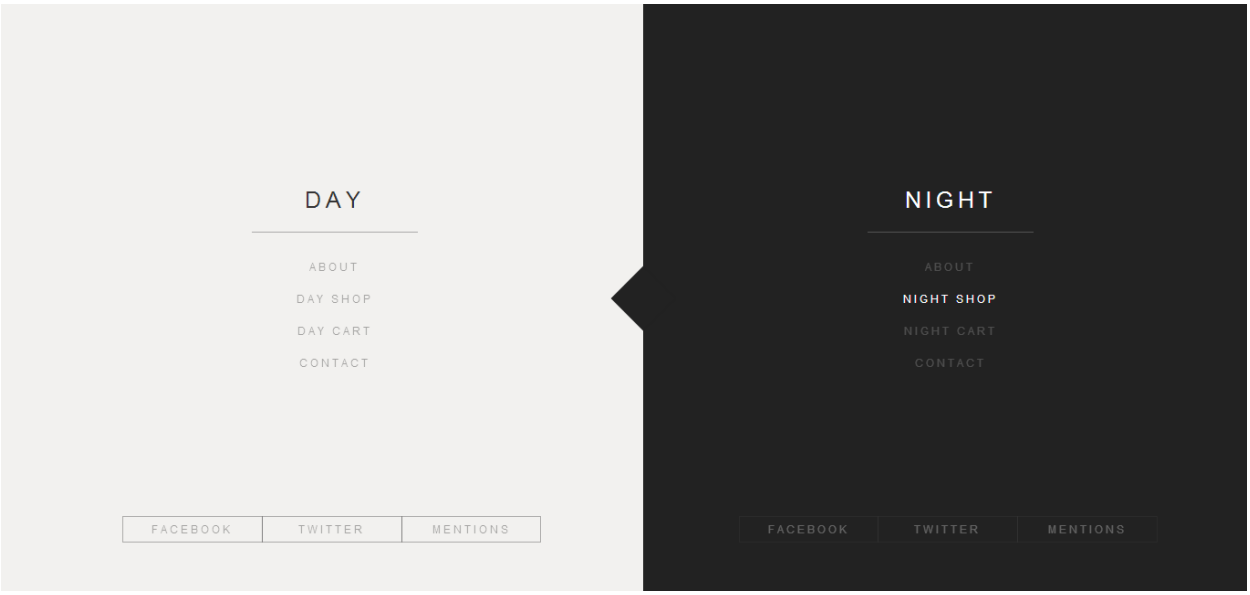
   opacity: 0.2;

   Although both menus have the same structure, we made the **Night** panel have a fainter text color than **Day** purely because it looks nicer on black.

   Next, find *#day .menu .item:hover, #night .menu .item:hover*, and add the **opacity** style:

   opacity: 1;

   This **hover** effect will affect both **Day and Night**, because of the comma separating the two styles. If you now open up *css3.html*, and hover over the menu items, you will see a nice opacity change.



However, the change from opacity 0.4 or 0.2 to 1 is so sudden. To smoothen out the transition, let's add the CSS3 property **transition**, which applies to *.menu .item* (since this transition affects both **Day** and **Night**)

Find *.menu .item*, and add the trio of styles for **transition:**

transition: 0.3s;
-moz-transition: 0.3s;
-webkit-transition: 0.3s;

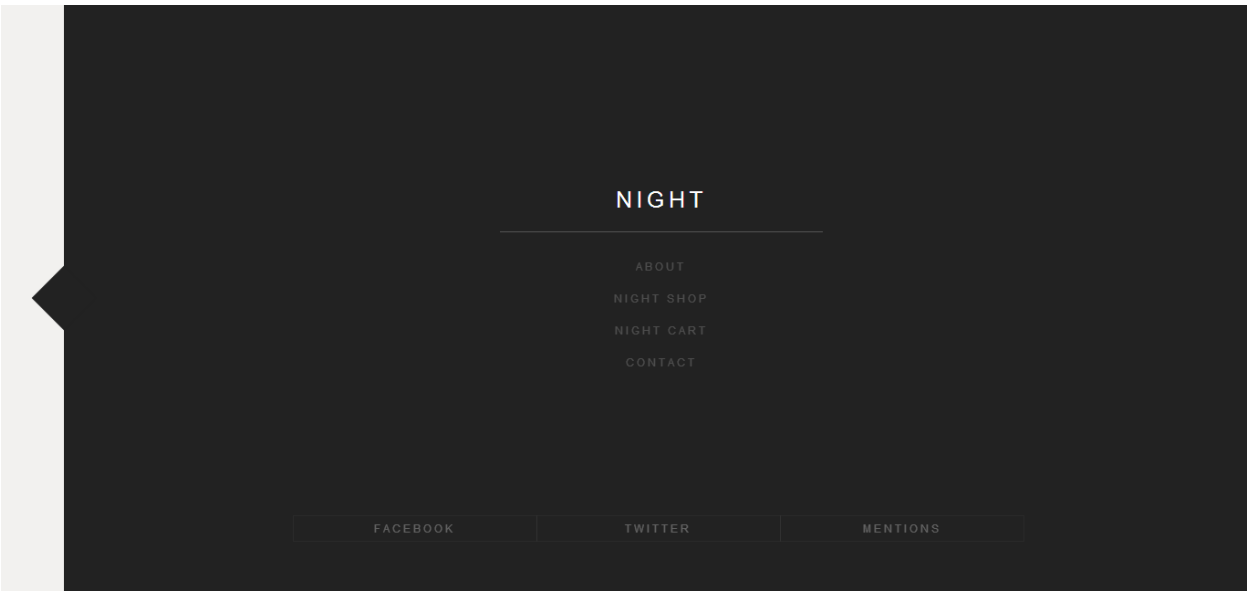
3. Last, let's add the hover effect on the **Night** panel. If you hover over the **Night** panel, its width should be 97%.

   Find *#night:hover* and add a style for **width:**

   width: 97%;

   And again, to smoothen the transition, let's add the styles for **transition** under the *#night* element:

   transition: 0.3s;
   -moz-transition: 0.3s;
   -webkit-transition: 0.3s;



Awesome! ☺

Congratulations! Let's review what we learned:

- We reviewed how to position elements
- We learned to use display: inline-block for centered menus
- We learned how to use CSS specificity to style certain elements, even if the elements share the same class
- We learned how to use CSS3 properties, such as transition and transform