

Method One (Visio)

Visio is a diagramming product developed and sold by Microsoft. It currently is only available on a machine running Windows and comes with quite a hefty price tag. Internet access is not required with Visio since the software runs locally on the machine, which means there is no need for concern about firewalls blocking use. Visio has just the right amount of fidelity so that the design can be visualized, but not finalized. Iterative design is also easy to do with Visio since the elements can be moved around with little effort.

Method Two (Photoshop)

Photoshop, which can be purchased alone or as part of the Adobe Creative Cloud, is a useful tool for wireframing. It also pairs well with other Adobe products such as InDesign and Illustrator. Photoshop can be used to create high fidelity wireframes or low fidelity depending on the wants of the user. The layers are useful for separating content groups and can easily be rearranged. However, iterative designs are not one of Photoshop's strengths since text and boxes cannot be easily moved together.

I ended up not using either option for my wireframing. Photoshop wasn't used since it was a little out of my budget range and Visio wasn't used because I didn't like the feel of the UI once I started using it to do the wireframe.

Instead, I used cacoo.com, which was a free alternative site for creating wireframes.