

Module 8 — Design Doc Reflection

The usability tests definitely provided me with feedback that helped my process. First, I received some feedback that corrected blind spots—most importantly that I previously didn't have a resume or contact page. My group members also pointed out that I didn't really have any contact info on the site at all. Additionally, my group members pointed out a few flaws that my hi-fi wireframes had. For example, I didn't add any text to the headings and instead used "Heading 1," "Heading 2," etc. I also had an inconsistent design for my homepage compared to my 'Work' and 'About' pages. While I changed a few of these issues, the revisions I plan on making are mostly in my head right now. I plan to implement them as I create my website. I mostly received positive feedback on my design and architecture choices. Both of my group members mentioned that my design "felt" like a real webpage, which I was elated to hear. However, they did challenge a few of the design choices I made, like having an inconsistent design between different pages. I was hoping to receive more negative feedback for my Module 7 style tile and mockups, but really only got positive feedback. Regardless, this was helpful because it indicated that I'm on the right track and may not need to change much to create a usable portfolio site.

I found the usability group somewhat helpful. Unfortunately, I think it's really difficult to do usability testing early in the design process. I don't think I got very much feedback that couldn't have come from self reflection. I did enjoy seeing my classmates' designs and found their work inspiring to my own, so I would say that being the *tester* was even more useful than the feedback I got from having my designs tested. For example, I thought Avigna's nav bar looked nice and I plan on incorporating a few ideas from her design into my own. I think if my group was able to test an interactive mockup or early draft of our websites that the process would have been even more useful. Since we were all so early on in our projects, it felt more like peer review than usability testing.