

Design Choices

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index.html

UI: The current AZ Lyrics website homepage is cluttered with lots of information, so we decided to narrow the emphasis on a single element: the search bar. We decided that most people go to AZ Lyrics to search for lyrics, an artist, etc. The search bar is enlarged, positioned in the center of the page, given an inset border and shadows, and one of the few dominant elements on the page. In keeping with the minimalist theme, our search bar only has a magnifying glass icon to initiate a “search”, so we added a scale effect to emphasize this icon upon hover to make this clear for users. We created a custom background photo using album covers to draw focus to the website’s theme/purpose and re-design the way the album covers were originally used on the current website. We also designed a custom logo to streamline the aesthetics of the site and again emphasize the minimalist design.

Color: We chose to keep the purple color palette from the original website, but chose darker shades to give our site a more elegant, modern look. We chose a monochromatic scheme with a few accent colors to highlight things like links. We chose to keep only the necessary links that we thought users would utilize most often in the footer/bottom bar (which remain constant throughout each page) such as “Submit Corrections” or “Share”.

Typography: We chose a san-serif font, keeping in mind the lecture on typography and how san serif fonts are often used for emphasis and over backgrounds. We decided to keep the footer/bottom bar font small and out of the way so that it would not detract from the large, central elements on the homepage, as well as give the page some balance. We added overlays to images to make sure the text/lyrics drew the emphasis, not the images.

Placement/Spacing: Our website is somewhat inspired by the “F” layout mentioned in lecture. Unlike in the original AZ lyrics website, we fixed the navigation bar to stay on the top of the page because users would want access to that bar to search for more lyrics, etc. We used the “pyramid layout” going from general navigation to specific content. There is large spacing between different text, elements, etc. so the page does not look as cluttered as the original AZ Lyrics page.

artist.html

Overall the typography and color are the same throughout the site, and this page follows that trend.

The point of our artist page is to give the user a brief overview of the artist as well as their albums and songs. At first glance, the user will be able to see a picture as well as a short description of the artist, which allows the user to get a good feel for who the artist is. We put this at the top so that it is the first thing you see when you go on this page. There will be a list of popular songs and related artists near the description so that the

user can take a look at those if it piques their interest. We chose a circle as the picture because it looks really nice.

For the main content of the site, we decided to list the albums for the artist and adopt a grid-based format to present the information. This creates a beautiful scene where the album art visually engages the user. As the user hovers over the album covers, the user will be able to see the songs belonging to each album. The wide array of images on this page creates an extremely aesthetically pleasing feel for the user. The user can choose at any time to click on a song or related artist on this page to follow a link to the corresponding item.

Each album cover is spaced neatly on the page so that there is room to breathe yet enough content to be seen.

search.html

The overall idea of the search page was to make it simple so that it was easy to find what the user was looking over. We kept the colors and typography the same so that it would be consistent throughout all the pages.

We used recent album images for the artist and their album covers corresponding to the songs so that the user would be able to identify what they are looking for quickly. Plus, it helped filled up the page so that it was not empty.

For positioning, we positioned the results on the left so that it was easier to read as people tend to read from left to right and we added hover transitions in order to help the user know that they can click on the item and that it would lead them somewhere. We also spaced the results so that each is spaced out evenly between one another and the words are centered between the image icons, making it look clean.

lyrics.html

We kept the page as minimal as possible so that the user would not be distracted from the main thing: the lyrics. Once again, the color and typography of the page was kept the same as the other pages for consistency.

We spaced the lyrics in terms of what they were to help the user be able to find them quickly when they are looking for a certain part of the lyrics and we decided to position the lyrics in the middle so that it captures the user's attention. Lastly, the icons are placed at the bottom of the page for easy access to share the page with others.