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WD 302

Project 3

Bootstrap Assessment

## Conveying a Tone or Communicating the Brand – Some Support

I’m not sure Bootstrap helps with conveying a brand out of the box. My pages have a similar look to them and I think Bootstrap will probably always have the same look and feel wherever it’s used. I think it would need a lot of custom css to help it convey a tone.

## Leading Users Through a Visual Hierarchy – Good Support

Bootstrap has a lot of styling options that lets you change how text looks. I think they include a lot of classes to help with visual hierarchy. Badges also change the size of text based on the size of the parent container. This is great because it sort of automates the font size for you to help with hierarchy.

<https://getbootstrap.com/docs/4.3/utilities/text/#text-transform>   
<https://getbootstrap.com/docs/4.3/components/badge/>

## Provide Visual Structure and Flow at Each Level of Organization - Good Support

The grid is amazing to work with. There are also build in classes to align items wherever you want them. Bootstrap is great at creating visual structure out of the box. It makes creating a layout very easy. The containers automatically adjust too so you don’t have to worry about defining size.

<https://getbootstrap.com/docs/4.3/layout/grid/>

## Signaling What Users Can do on a Given Screen – Some Support

There weren’t that many icons or visual symbols out of the box. You would have to go to other websites if you wanted to use them. The few times I did use icons (x for closing cards), I thought they looked good. They do the job and aren’t too crazy.

<https://getbootstrap.com/docs/4.3/extend/icons/>

## Responding to Commands – Not Applicable

My site doesn’t have any loading or much user input. There aren’t any processes that would require some sort of visual cue for the user.

## Drawing Attention to Important Events – Some Support

My site has a notifications section on the home page. I think this looks great and does a good job at drawing the user’s attention. The built-in animations are nice as well. I have an animation for my nav bar when the site is used on mobile. I didn’t have to create anything, Bootstrap just did it for me.

## Minimizing Amount of Visual Work – Good Support

I thought Bootstrap did a great job at minimizing visual work. I can’t speak for other people that use it, but my site is very plain. I don’t think there’s a lot of clutter or noise that would distract or annoy the user. Controls on the page are separate and easy to use.

## Keeping it Simple – Good Support

I think bootstrap makes everything very simple. There aren’t crazy colors and everything looks clean. Once again, the built in typography options automatically makes the sizing change depending on where the element is. I think the minimal elements helps the user get straight to the point on whatever page they’re on.

# Conclusion

I had a good time using Bootstrap and feel like I learned a lot. The framework provided a lot of options out of the box and allowed me to do a lot without having to write too much css. Bootstrap allowed me to easily create a decent looking site that I think has a nice visual design. There is a nice visual hierarchy that helps guide the user on the site, the grid makes it look clean and crisp, and there is very little clutter to distract the user.

# Retrospective

I thought bootstrap was a great framework to work with. I decided to use it because I thought it looked more modern than w3.css. Sometimes w3.css looked blocky and like it was from twenty years ago. I thought Bootstrap looked great out of the box and had lots of options. It was simple to integrate, and the documentation was very thorough. The few issues I had were mainly because I couldn’t find the documentation. I ended up with more custom css than I probably should have because I couldn’t figure out how to specify height for certain items like the icons and some other elements. Overall, I learned a lot about the framework. It seems like a nice framework to start out with and was relatively easy to use because of the documentation. If I were to do this again, I would probably read the documentation a little more or try an all new one just because.