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PUI Section B
HW 6

This assignment was particularly challenging as it involved interactivity between the HTML pages. The core characteristics of a shopping cart include the ability to customize product details on the product detail page (in my case it was quantity and glaze options), the ability to have the items chosen saved in the shopping cart page, and the ability to update or remove products on the shopping cart page. From here, I face two particular challenges:

Getting the data from the product detail page to correct go in and out of local storage

While the line in which to push the data from the product detail page over to the local storage was not difficult, the logic behind how to get the data pulled from the respective options in HTML was the hard part. I figured out that a form would be the best way to push the data with a button on click to get the data extracted from the product detail page onto the local storage. This was after a few attempts with tables and divs and figuring out how to reformat my previous HTML/CSS conditions to work with the javascript changes. Once I added an event listener to the button and added data attributes on name, quantity, glaze options, and image paths to the divs of the product selections, I was able to get the correct information into the local storage. I did get some assistance in correcting my syntax and maintaining code consistency from more seasoned developers. It was clear to me that I would be able to eventually get to a proficiency with the code with some time given that I figured out the method to get data with a click event through using HTML and Javascript.

Rendering the shopping cart items effectively and updating/removing them on page

This was the hardest part of the assignment given the limited understanding I had about Javascript and JQuery. I struggled considerably in substituting the layout of the product on the shopping cart page to remain consistent and for the information to be pulled from the product detail page to be accurately diverse and consistent. I ended up retroactively adding in more data attributes to the div tags (which I am not sure is good practice but it resolved my issue). I worked through examples on StackOverFlow but also consulted more seasoned developers who led me to set up a template generator in JQuery that would work to add the product detail container to the shopping cart page while looping through the local storage data to pull out the appropriate product details (cinnamon roll type, quantity, price, glaze type). This proved to be the cleanest way to render the shopping cart which is consistent with the grid layout and the reliance on div containers in my code. While the idea of rendering the product entirely from Javascript is not strange, it was somewhat new to me as I worked first to just replace the product details individually. This helped me understand how to efficiently code in terms of modules/groupings and how to best program for that.

For the update and remove functions, I worked with better success in getting down the logic of how to update and remove items from local storage and how to use a simple for loop logic to accommodate a more complex, tailored coding in JQuery for my shopping cart.

Overall, I found this assignment to be particularly hard and would not have been able to independently come up with the efficient solutions to create the shopping cart without some outside collaboration and guidance. It is certainly an exercise that helped me develop a better sense of what web developers need to do on a daily basis and how I can better break down elements on a page to best reflect interactivity among them.