

WEB 321

Week 5 - Prototyping

Topics

- Types of Specifications
- Prototypes
- Wireframes
- Pencil-Sketch Wireframes
- Software-Based Wireframes
- Style Guide

Types of Specifications

- There are four commonly used types of specifications
 - Prototypes
 - Wireframes
 - Pencil-Sketch Wireframes
 - Software-Based Wireframes
- There are several good reasons why one would “specify the design”
 - Helps identify important issues
 - Great for communicating ideas
 - Reduces development time

Prototypes

- Umbrella name for design concepts
- Helps communicate a clear message
- Encompasses
 - Pencil sketches
 - Software programs
 - Functional frameworks
 - Products

Wireframes

- Schematic drawings
- Represent pages or screens of a website or software program
- Can be quick pencil sketches or polished looking drawings generated using drawing software
- Show the basic composition of elements on pages or screens
- Does not include a “finished graphic look”

Pencil-Sketch Wireframes

- Great for quickly recording ideas
- Excellent for iterative designs
- Fits well within Agile
- Not as polished as software generated wireframes
- Low cost

Software-Based Wireframes

- Promotes design reuse
- Professional looking
- Often includes graphics and styling
- Typically requires a software license
- Wireframes can be exported into HTML and CSS code

Style Guide

- A document that specifies the design elements for a website or software program
 - Typography
 - Colors
 - Graphics
 - Navigational elements
 - Interface elements
 - Templates