GUIDE TO BUILDING A PORTFOLIO

The following guide was developed to assist you in developing your online portfolio. A good portfolio has the characteristics outlined in this document. Today, especially as a Developer, it is important to have a portfolio active, accessible, and up-to-date, so that any and all interested parties can see your skills. Paste your portfolio anywhere and everywhere you can!

A portfolio is an opportunity to showcase:

- Who you are
- What kind of work you do
- How you do that work
- Where you want to go next
- And who YOU really want to work with

The following checklist was developed to assist you as you think about developing your portfolio:

Note: While you might be able to customize a site theme or template, it might be more time-conscious to adapt a template to your needs.

- ❏ Develop your online bio (use the ONLINE BIO CHECKLIST found in the library).
- ❏ List any and all homeworks and projects you have developed on your own or have been a part of (ensure you cleaned up your code and the project is deployed).
- ❏ Select the best homeworks or projects. You should have a minimum of five (5) HWs/projects, however, the more you add the better.
    - ❏ Do not just include a screenshot and a link to the built app - put in screenshots of the mock-up you did when you were planning the app, how the app looked before you made it interactive, and even different shots showing off certain features of the app.
    - ❏ Also include, if applicable, color palettes, assets, or wireframes, bits of coding - anything that shows your skills.
    - ❏ Add a description of what was created and also tell how. Describe the specs or goals for the projects, how you came up with the solution, the tools or methods you used, the obstacles you overcame, the lessons you learned, the skills you gained, the benefits of the end result, etc.
- ❏ Include non-techie designs, such as photography, paintings, document designs, graphic arts, etc.
- ❏ Get testimonials - upon completion of a project ask the client and anyone you might have collaborated with for a testimonial. If the project is old and you didn't get a testimonial, don't worry, reach out anyways!

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- ❏ If they are pressed for time or feel they lack writing skills, ask if you can compose it for them and then have them approve it.
- ❏ Make sure to get permission to feature it on your site.
- ❏ Showcase your education. Don't limit showcasing education just to technical education - be sure to include all of it because it just shows that you are a well-rounded individual.
  - ❏ University degrees
  - ❏ Certificates
  - ❏ Online course
  - ❏ Seminars
  - ❏ Workshops
- ❏ Feature any hobbies, volunteer work, community involvement, extracurricular activities, writing samples. Make sure to add pictures and short descriptions.
  - ❏ Photography
  - ❏ Hack-a-thons
  - ❏ Meet-ups
  - ❏ Clubs
  - ❏ Gaming
- ❏ Overall, tell a story. Do not just add information to your site sporadically. Plan how you would like for others to learn about you. Consider the flow between your main/home page and secondary pages.