

Design Decisions Write-up

Home View:

The home view is pretty simplistic, since the original also only has popular albums and some unnecessary descriptions about AZ Lyrics. We kept the “What’s Hot” section, but made it prettier by maximizing the aesthetically pleasing album covers and keeping the text to a minimum by only showing the title/artist name of one album at a time. The album descriptions use the two fonts we chose to be our main fonts: Lato and Playfair Display. We used the serif Playfair Display font for the larger titles, including the “What’s Hot” subtitle and the album names, while we used the sans-serif Lato for the smaller artist name. The clickable text also turns purple when hovered over, which is consistent with the other pages. The arrows are also clickable buttons, and the header is fixed at the top and consistent with the rest of the website. I made the album covers on the side slightly transparent, so the focus is on the center album.

Artist View:

The artist view incorporates a much more visual display than the one that AZ Lyrics currently has. I put the picture of the artists as a background, but kept the opacity low so that it didn’t compete with the words. The description includes a serif font as the title and a sans serif font for the description so that it is easy to read, but still looks classy, as this is an artist bio. I incorporated large margins in the description by limiting the width so that it was not overwhelming to read. The margins between the description and the title are also allocated for readability. Underneath the picture is where the albums and singles are listed. Again, I used a serif font for the large titles, but kept the album and singles names in a sans-serif font for easy readability. The significant spacing between each album is used to keep the page looking clean and organized. An extra feature I included was the hovering for each caption, where the letters turn purple to indicate to the user that it is a link, and I also changed the cursor to change into the hand symbol, which additionally indicates that the album photos and captions are links.

Lyrics View:

The lyrics view is very simplistic, as the purpose for the page is simply for viewers to be able to read the lyrics, and should not have other overly distracting elements on the page. With regards to the actual content, we decided to make the title of the song the biggest and put it at the top, with the artist below it and smaller, which is opposite to how AZ Lyrics styled theirs. Furthermore, we have less spacing between the song title and the artist, and more space until the actual lyrics. Of course, all the text is centered, and I used the same Lato and Playfair fonts for some consistency between pages. Similar to the artist page, we have a picture of the artists as the background, with the opacity low so it doesn’t compete with the words. Just to have some differentiation, we also have a low opacity purple overlay, inspired by the original purple design of AZ Lyrics. Then, just to have the lyrics stand out; we made them white, which contrasts well with the darkish purple overlay. The background is fixed, with only the text scrolling up and down, so for long songs, the text doesn’t just run off the background picture.

Search View:

The search page has large margins and all sans-serif fonts for easy readability because the purpose of a search page is to find something you are looking for. The top includes a message that recalls what the user searched for and also includes how many total results there are. On the second line, the results are grouped by category, and I made sure to space them out so that they are distinguishable and the overall look is clean. These categories should be clickable in a real implementation, so I changed the cursor when hovering over it in the CSS and changed the color to purple for hover. For the actual results, I differentiated between artists and albums by using the shape

of pictures, specifically having circles for artists and squares for albums. The images are the highlight of the result with the name clearly underneath each one for clear navigation, and I put shadows on them so that the results pop out from the page. For the song results, the main focus on the song is the title, rather than the album picture or the artist's picture, so I kept this simple with just the text and the artist name. There is significant spacing between each result and a grey line between each one. In addition, to show that they are links, the text turns purple and the box fills with white when hovered over. One color design choice that was pointed out in class was that pure black looks harsh over white, so I made all the text a dark grey instead of black.