

Training Day19

Report:

Keys Takeways:

Introduction

A 404 error page, also known as a "Page Not Found" error page, is displayed when a user attempts to access a web page that does not exist on the server. This report outlines the importance of a custom 404 HTML page, design considerations, implementation steps, and best practices for abc.com.

Importance of a Custom 404 Page

- **User Experience:** A well-designed 404 page can help users navigate back to useful parts of the website, reducing frustration.
- **SEO Benefits:** Properly handling 404 errors can prevent negative impacts on search engine rankings.
- **Brand Consistency:** A custom 404 page maintains the look and feel of the website, reinforcing brand identity.
- **Error Logging:** Custom 404 pages can be used to log errors and understand how users encounter dead links.

Design Considerations

- **Clear Message:** Inform the user that the page they are looking for cannot be found.
- **Navigation Options:** Provide links to the homepage and other important sections of the website.
- **Search Functionality:** Include a search bar to help users find the information they need.
- **Visual Design:** Match the website's overall design and branding to ensure consistency.
- **Friendly Tone:** Use a friendly and approachable tone to reduce user frustration.

Implementation Steps

1. **Create the HTML Structure:**
 - Start with a basic HTML template.
 - Include meta tags for charset and viewport settings.
 - Use a title that indicates a 404 error.

2. Style the Page with CSS:

- Apply styles to ensure the page is visually appealing and consistent with the website's design.
- Center the content and use appropriate colors and fonts.

3. Add JavaScript (Optional):

- Include scripts for additional functionality, like search bars or interactive elements.

4. Save and Upload the Page:

- Save the file as 404.html.
- Upload the file to the root directory of the website.

5. Configure the Web Server:

- Set up the web server to display the custom 404 page when a user encounters a 404 error.
- For Apache, modify the .htaccess file:

```
plaintext
Copy code
ErrorDocument 404 /404.html
```

- For Nginx, add the following to the server block:

```
plaintext
Copy code
error_page 404 /404.html;
location = /404.html {
    internal;
}
```

Example 404 HTML Page

```
html
Copy code
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html lang="en">
<head>
  <meta charset="UTF-8">
  <meta name="viewport" content="width=device-width, initial-scale=1.0">
  <title>404 Not Found</title>
  <style>
    body {
      font-family: Arial, sans-serif;
      text-align: center;
      background-color: #f8f8f8;
      color: #333;
```

```

    }
    .container {
        max-width: 600px;
        margin: 100px auto;
    }
    h1 {
        font-size: 48px;
    }
    p {
        font-size: 18px;
    }
    a {
        color: #007BFF;
        text-decoration: none;
    }
    a:hover {
        text-decoration: underline;
    }
</style>
</head>
<body>
    <div class="container">
        <h1>404</h1>
        <p>Oops! The page you're looking for doesn't exist.</p>
        <p>It might have been removed, renamed, or did not exist in the first
place.</p>
        <p><a href="/">Go back to the homepage</a></p>
    </div>
</body>
</html>

```

Best Practices

- **User-Friendly Language:** Use simple and friendly language to explain the error.
- **Maintain Branding:** Ensure the 404 page reflects the website's design and branding.
- **Provide Useful Links:** Include links to popular pages, the homepage, or a sitemap.
- **Log Errors:** Implement logging to track 404 errors and identify broken links.
- **Test the Page:** Regularly test the 404 page to ensure it functions correctly and provides a good user experience.

