HW 5: HTML and CSS

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<u>Live version of site</u> | Github code repo for site

Heuristic Evaluation

- 1. User control and freedom
 - a. **Problem:** No way to remove items from cart



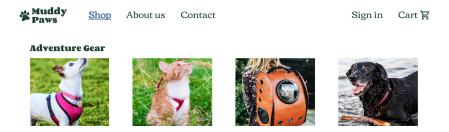
b. **Solution:** Add quantity changer button in cart and an undo option on the cart confirmation popup screen (note: website prototype won't show the second fix because it's static, but a future interactive prototype will contain this).



- 2. Show system status
 - a. **Problem:** No system status about what tab we're currently on



b. Solution: Highlight header tab that's currently active



- 3. Help and documentation
 - a. **Problem:** On the cart page, there's very little information about the total cost and what it's made up of.

Items total: \$20 Shipping and taxes: \$5

Total price: \$25

b. **Solution:** Add info buttons and links to provide extra information about fees and shipping.

Items total: \$20 Shipping ②: \$3 taxes ②: \$2

Total price: \$25

- 4. User control and freedom
 - a. Problem: No place where you can place a review of your own



b. Solution: Add a textbox for the user to place their own review.



Challenges

1. Top navbar

a. I tried to space out my top navbar elements, but that meant that my menu item text would wrap if the window width was too small. Since it wasn't required to make the site responsive, I didn't implement a hamburger menu, but one quick and easy fix that I added was a media query that would decrease the size of the spacing between menu items if the window width fell below 900px (you can find it in the variables.css file). This helped a little bit, although the text will inevitably wrap when the width gets very small.

2. CSS consistency

a. It was hard to keep styles consistent throughout the different pages that I made. One way that I addressed this was by using the same CSS file across all pages and by trying to minimize the number of new classes that I made. Another way was through CSS variables that defined names for common colors and spacing sizes that I was using, so that I could reuse those values easily.

3. HTML consistency

- a. It was also hard to keep the HTML for the exact same types of pages consistent. For example, I created all of the 6 product detail pages from the same HTML code, then changed the image links and text. However, if I later realized I made a mistake with the original code, I would have to go in and change each of those 6 product detail pages in the exact same way. I'm excited to start using React for future products because React eliminates this problem by using components.
- 4. Vertically align text to stars (flexbox to the rescue!)
 - a. A rather specific problem that I ran into was trying to align text vertically against an image. I first tried setting the line-height of the text to match the image height, like Stack Overflow suggested, but this didn't work. In the end, I just fell back on using the always-reliable flexbox to center align everything.

Design choices

- The brand identity of Muddy Paws should evoke the ideas of adventure, freedom and playfulness. It should also emphasize that Muddy Paws makes quality, trustworthy, custom-made products! Thus, the website should convey the same type of playful joy that pets bring to our daily lives without looking dated or kitschy.
- I designed the website colors, logo, and fonts to remind viewers of nature, mud and playfulness.
 On the website, I also included cute but sleek vector illustrations to compliment the brand identity mentioned above.

