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Semester Project 2

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Design

What went well on the project

This is an e-commerce where the target group is people who are interesting to buy sneakers. This is often a younger group of people, who also active in their daily life, since they shoes that are good to use for various activities. I therefore wanted to give the website a touch of a sporty and happy feeling with bright colors and many images.

I am happy with the color palette that I ended with. It gives the visitors a light feeling with calm and light colors.

Blue is one of the main colors in this project. In color psychology it states that blue relates to trust and honesty, and therefore helps to build customer loyalty.

There are consistency with the use of the colors that bring some hierarchy to the website. For instance every h1 got that nice purple/blue ish color with some text-shadow. Navbar and footer elements uses the blue color. Also the cta buttons use blue, except for "delete" button that contains a red color.

I selected 2 fonts for this website. Bebas Neue for headings, nav-links, cta, single words etc. While PT Sans for text that contains of longer sentences.

The explanation that I mainly use Bebas Neue in the elements, and not only for headings, is that an e-commerce like this don't have that much of text displayed, because the products itself are in the focus here. Only when user navigates to the product-view page, there will be longer paragraphs of text. And it is when I use the font-family PT sans.

I think the website has good usability where it let the user easily understand what type of elements that is clickable and how to navigate around. For example the product-details page. When user add product(s) to cart, a message are being displayed for a few seconds, where it says what kind of product and amount that is added to the cart. Simultaneous the button transform to a "check" icon. Transform back to default if user wants to add more.

The usability is also in mind when you visit the website in mobile-view (600px and below). The dropdown nav-links then use 100% width of the page, so that it makes it better clickable. The same goes to the buttons that takes 100% width of its container.

I am also happy that website consists of elements with material design, such as box/text-shadow, animations, color gradients etc. One example are the buttons with their box-shadow.

When it comes to navigation for the admin, I have in mind that admin is well-known with the website. When logged in, the "add product" and "edit" pages are maybe not super easy to navigate to for a first-time visitor, but that is not the case for an admin.



What was difficult/didn't go well on the project

Some of the elements such as the price-slider and some inputs such as the file-input was a struggle to customize. Especially to make them look good at different browsers. For instance the price slider is optimal in chrome, but not that "perfect" when using Firefox. But I think I ended up with something that is user-friendly in Firefox as well.

What would you do differently next time

In the beginning of this project I created a prototype where there are a few elements that I didn't end up with in the website, <https://xd.adobe.com/view/3baef2d8-3a11-400d-95cf-70a6a23b28a1-6efd/>

For instance, next time I would add progress indicators in the carousel in the homepage. So that the user easily understand the amount of products in the carousel, and where in the carousel the user is atm. However as long as there are not too many featured products at once, the admin takes this into account, this will not be a big problem. But I think it would be better with such indicators, so I would like to add the progress indicators next time.

Technical

What went well on the project

I am happy with how the carousel in homepage works out. It is dynamic, so if number of featured products changes, the carousel adapts to it. Width of carousel container, and arrow interactions changes based on the number of products in it.

In the products page I struggled a while to let the search input, price-slider input and sort buttons cooperate fluently without error, regardless the order of interactions from the user. Ended up with a superior function that are being called no matter which of these inputs/sort buttons are being interacted to. The superior function starts to check input search, then input price and at last the sort buttons. I am pleased with the result.

For the product details page, I added a "addEventListener" to the "add-button". When clicked on it validates the number of products that has been chosen. If valid, they are added to the local storage and shopping cart. It also displays, for a few seconds, a message that the product with its amount has been added. At the same time the "add-button" transforms to a check-icon and first transforms back to default if the user wants to add more of this product.

I noticed in the task-description for this project it says: "the button will toggle the product in and out of a cart array stored in local storage". I find it not that realistic that the user only can add one of each product. For my website if the user changes his mind, he can remove it or adjust the amount in the shopping cart page.

I like how the shopping cart page works out. I think it has some nice features, such as the functionality of adjust number of a product, remove this product and an overview container that calculate the sum of each product and the total sum combined.



What was difficult/didn't go well on the project

After some time into this project I realised that I didn't know Sass well enough. It led to that I was not exploiting its benefits enough.

When this project was approaching the end, I did some more research to understand the benefits of sass better. I tried to redo a lot of the script in Sass, but it was a struggle because I had to take into account the connection with html and js.

I also should been more consistent with the use of BEM-classes. Some parts of the script I am not consistent enough.

So the inconsistent of BEM-classes made the Sass more difficult to redo. But I made some changes, such as adding placeholders etc.

What would you do differently next time

I would have planned much better the combination of BEM-classes and the benefits of Sass. So that I could have used more placeholders and Sass functions.

I should also have made the file-management of Sass and JS-files better. For instance, I should in larger degree put together similar blocks and elements in same Sass files. While in the JS-files I should tried to make more reusable functions. For example, parts of createHtml functions or fetch API functions could stay in one common function.

I also realised at the end that I should maybe have added a sort function to the featured products in the homepage. The newest once should be displayed first in the carousel.

For the input image, I want to display the image in the file input as a thumbnail in the add and edit page. Such as the prototype displays.



References

Tools

Logo creator:

- <https://www.brandcrowd.com>
- Photoshop

Trello:

- <https://trello.com/>

Adobe XD:

- <https://www.adobe.com/no/products/xd.html>

Image

Photo by [Edgar Chaparro](#) on [Unsplash](#) – used as banner on product page.

- <https://unsplash.com/photos/Lh-CTP558tc>

Shopping cart page

Create unique array:

- <https://stackoverflow.com/questions/15125920/how-to-get-distinct-values-from-an-array-of-objects-in-javascript>

Disable arrows from input number:

- <https://www.geeksforgeeks.org/how-to-disable-arrows-from-number-input/>

Thousand Separator:

- <https://stackoverflow.com/questions/2901102/how-to-print-a-number-with-commas-as-thousands-separators-in-javascript>

Products page

Price Slider:

- <https://www.codingnepalweb.com/price-range-slider-html-css-javascript/?fbclid=IwARoNIK18DymgODjfoPp3KWoLS8i1Fx8lg3NSFJgATwIAKYfwOAlwSr5EiYk>
- <https://css-tricks.com/styling-cross-browser-compatible-range-inputs-css/>
- <https://www.geeksforgeeks.org/how-to-disable-arrows-from-number-input/>
- <https://stackoverflow.com/questions/18389224/how-to-style-html5-range-input-to-have-different-color-before-and-after-slider>

Add Product

Customize input file:

- <https://stackoverflow.com/questions/572768/styling-an-input-type-file-button>
- <https://www.smashingmagazine.com/2018/01/drag-drop-file-uploader-vanilla-js/>

Social Media

Color for Instagram icon:

- <https://stackoverflow.com/questions/38507734/fontawesome-instagram-icon-colored>

