

Mynoise is a website that fulfills one basic function, background noise. And the website knocks that out of the park. Mynoise has well over 100 unique 'soundscapes' where the user can customize the specifics of their background noise.

Mynoise has a rather simple structure, containing two main pages and a page for each soundscape. The first page is for the more popular soundscapes, highlighting them for when the user first enters the website. The second page is the full index of soundscapes, each of them divided by category. While there exist other pages for community and photos, I don't believe these are trafficked nearly as much as the two pages reserved for the name sake of the site. Navigating between these two main pages is done through an intuitive hamburger menu placed in the upper left of the webpage. This structure is I think more than adequate for the site. Its simple and basic hierarchy highlights and elevates the soundscapes that it presents, as the user will spend only a bare minimum of time navigating the website before landing on a soundscape.

The content is the aforementioned soundscapes. Each soundscape comes with 10 different tracks that are recorded and mixed by the same man. He travels around the world to grab soundscapes from seemingly everywhere. While there can be debate about whether or not a website dedicated to background noise makes for good content, I feel that it is not a debate on whether these soundscapes are well done or not. Each one comes with different presets that can drastically alter the feel, and allows for the user to completely customize it.

The design is barebones. While there are some hints that give it away as a modern site, it definitely feels like an older website. Its crammed with information and text on the front page, while the index page is barely more than a page filled with hyperlinks. But more importantly, it works. I think that for any other website, this would be a negative. But for mynoise, I think this design again works to highlight the main feature of the website, the soundscapes. Each packet of information next to a popular soundscape is a temptation to listen, while the vast list of hyperlinks doesn't allow for any distractions. This is a site meant to run in the background, and the design reflects that

The behavior is probably the least interesting part of the site. As I said, the UI is a hamburger menu and a large list of hyperlinks. Users can use sliders to adjust the individual tracks of a soundscape, and can click on hyperlinks that adjust the soundscape to a preset configuration. That's practically the extent of the site's behavior. And if it were a site that required or needed human attention it would flounder. But mynoise is, again, a site meant to run in the background. The less user input it needs, the better.