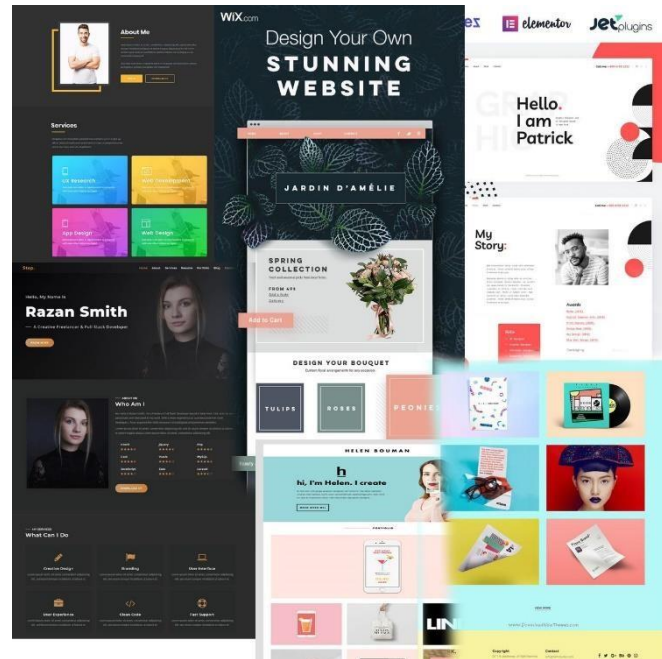# Initial Specification and Overview

The specification detailed that we make a website on a company or a person such as ourselves. I chose myself as portfolios are an important part of the technology industry, for example how game companies like Ubisoft and much lesser-known companies will display their ongoing and completed projects.

After researching portfolio examples, I decided on a clean block design with soft colours with a pastel finish. The block design should make it slightly easier for me to code the page as I can use divisions to divide up the page cleanly.

I want my page to be simple to navigate and have a good user experience, I will do this through techniques including but not limited to:

- A minimal hovering menu bar
- Intuitive design, following current trends in web design
- A webpage that works for the user, via elements such as slideshows
- Removing clutter and clearly dividing the page so that the user does not need to spend more time than they like on parts of the page not in their interest

During my time looking at other pages, I noticed that clear design stood out to me. I could quickly see what was important, I found that I prefer pages that's colour aesthetic is minimalist. Simple 2 colour designs, or 'soft', muted colours stood out to me as easy on the eyes. Certain use of vibrant colour serves the function of drawing quick attention and if used alongside a muted design can create a nice effect.

After looking at my initial code and styling, I realised that I would benefit from creating a layout in photoshop to help visualise how my page should look so that when coding I have a reference, this meant that I would have to completely re-make my page rewrite a lot of code.

Creating a page that would adapt to the resolution of the display created an issue as my divisions, margins and padding all had to be done relatively, I spent a lot of time within the style sheet trying to make sure the website carried the same shape as my concept art.

## Home page

My home page was the first page I made and using a grid-container that I had learned about previously I was able to quickly lay out the page between my fixed header and footer. There is not much one can do on the page, apart from read an introduction, the functions you can find on this page you can find on the other pages, including the menubar, return to top button and the links in the footer

I think the worst problems I encountered on this page were formatting the images in text so that the boxes comfortable sit around the content, however it only took resizing of images and positioning tags to get everything in the right place

## Projects page

The first issue with my projects page was that I wanted quite a drastically different layout than the home page and although I felt it may have been a bad choice overall, I decided to make a second CSS document. I felt as though this was an inefficient solution to my problems.

The model viewer on this page was not a difficult implementation, I watched the video provided by Peter Allen[1] and went to the website and imported their code into my site. The image slideshow also did not create too

much of a fuss. I watched a short 5-minute video by Traversy Media[2] which quickly explained how to get the java script functioning for the slide show

## Contact page

My final page, the contact page was probably the hardest page to theorise as I was running out of ideas for content, so instead I decided to use the contact page to display a bit of the java script skills I had picked up. I imported my canvas that I had made in a lab previously as part of the course, and I modified the code to fit my new sprite sheet and added the function to move up and down.

Using w3schools website[3], I learned how to copy strings within an input through JavaScript, I implemented that into my code by designing buttons for my contact details and hiding the inputs in which the text was copied from.

## Strengths and weaknesses of the whole page

I was happy with my menu bar and footer, which I felt fitted in aesthetically and functionally, being minimal and easy to use with barely any clutter so that it was clear how to navigate my site, I believe the research I initially undertook left me with a good colour scheme and base design however for the entire process the design left something to be desired. A late addition of a background with slightly transparent containers I felt really helped bring the website into a more modern feel as originally it may have a simple design, however it was not exactly following any current trends as I had set out.

One weakness of my pages is that index.html and projects.html do not use flex boxes and suffer from a serious difficulty when attempting to scale to different sizes. This however is not the case in my contact page, which uses flex boxes that I implemented after researching on css-tricks.com. This dynamically adjusts although it is not perfect and is a clear downside to my website overall. I should have left space at the sides of my websites screen, which is common in many websites today as it focuses the page content and supports mobile better than my site would as it takes up the whole screen.

If I were to continue work in this site, I would resize the screen so that the margins on the side of the screen are large enough to support more devices and I would review the use of grid containers in favour of the use of flex containers. I would also try to include smooth transitions between pages.

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*References*

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[1]. Peter Allen, Bournemouth University (2020)

[2]. Traversy Media (2017)

[3]. w3schools.com (2020)