

Wireframing Review

by Nick Ortner

Wireframing tools are essential to the creation process of an app or website. Two tools I decided to further look into were Balsamiq Mockups and InDesign. Balsamiq Mockups was rated amongst the highest of tools which peaked my interest. The use of the drag and drop technique made Balsamiq Mockups very easy, efficient, and helpful to use. Its hand-drawing styling made the whole process very natural feeling and allowed me to focus on wireframe its self. While creating mock-designs, I rarely found myself messing with settings or tweaking numbers, instead I quickly found myself immersed in design. A stress free environment.

I then decided to look at one of the industries largest and most well known software companies product, Adobe InDesign. Right off the bat, I felt as if I had much more power at my disposal, the ability to use animation, video, and interactive objects created a very impressive tool for mock websites or apps. While only scratching the surface, the Alternate Layout feature in InDesign CS6 seemed to be very powerful in today's age of design, seeing how responsive layouts are a must now. Along with the ability to create interactive PDF's, the InDesign experience was impressive but a tad daunting due to the sheer number of options and tools at ones disposal. The day when the power of InDesign meets the fluidity of Balsamiq Mockups will be one for the books.