

Personal Portfolio Template

Publishing on the Web II

CMPS 319

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Abstract

In a growing digital world, many people have opted to create personal websites as professional portfolios instead of a traditional printed portfolio. This allows for potential customers or employers to easily assess a candidate's work and adds validation to their creativity. With many personal portfolios templates on the market, many may be aesthetically pleasing or difficult for the user to understand. In addition, many people who lack experience in web design might find it difficult to create a personal portfolio website. Our personal portfolio template allows users to add a quick bio about them, connect social media platforms, social media icons, display reviews, contact section, direct access to video content and a gallery to display their work.

Intro

The biggest inspiration for creating a personal portfolio template was largely from personal experience. Prior to taking any html or Java classes I relied on a third party app, Wix, to create and design my personal website but was limited to in app features and was not able to implement every function I had in mind. Additionally, creating a custom website template was highly time consuming. Many of my freelance clients have also mentioned a common recurring struggle: web design is too time consuming and difficult for the everyday person to understand. As a result, many of them have confusing websites that are not aesthetically pleasing which can affect the clients they receive. First appearances are everything, regardless of how great their work is if the website is not appealing many people will tend to hire the person with a creative website. Creating a custom portfolio template solves this issue because the user would have the ability to customize color schemes but they can change the layout according to how they see fit. They also would not be limited to the features in the website builders of their choice, ideally we would also offer an option that shows the clients how to use and edit the html template. We would also be able to offer ad-ons should the client request any features that were not already included in the initial portfolio template. In conclusion, our portfolio template would help users establish credibility by allowing potential clients or customers to view their work on an easily accessible website that is also aesthetically pleasing. They also will not face the stress and inconvenience of creating a custom template that will stand out from competitors in the same line of work.

Core Features

Our Personal Portfolio has a main page that consists of a basic bio about the freelancer that allows for potential clients to get a better understanding of their mission statement, it also offers a visual picture. In this section there is also a button that allows users to directly book and contact the freelancer should they chose to purchase their services. The second page consists of a more detailed section about the freelancers work: video content adds a more diverse element because it allows for viewers to see the freelancer in action actually creating their work. Next, the review section adds credibility to their work by displaying authentic opinions from people who have worked with them. Lastly, included is a social media photo directly from their feed which is great because many people use social media and the user would be able to see more of their work. The third page is a gallery that displays the freelancer's work in the form of a slideshow, which allows users to manually browse examples of their work. The fourth page, is a simple book now page that allows users to book with the talent or contact them should they have any questions. For this template specifically, users are not able to book directly but have the ability to contact the freelancer which is standard for more photographers. Ideally, we would customize this section according to each customer's booking requirements. Lastly, included in the footer are social media icons that allow users to directly visit the free lancer's social media pages with hover options. Similarly to the footer, the header has a hover menu which adds a fun interactive elements for users.

Planning

Unfortunately, because of covid it was difficult for us to meet in person so my partner and I heavily relied on Google Docs to share ideas and ensure we were on the same page during different stages of our project. We mutually agreed on an aesthetic and found a color palette that we felt would be neutral. Next, we researched portfolio websites to decide which features should be included in our template.

Implementation

To design the layout we created a mood board that included portfolios we wanted to replicate, color combinations, and creative ideas. We used a combination of HTML & Java to create the general layout of the portfolio template, and implemented css to make it aesthetically pleasing. There are total four pages for our website that explained a person's photography skills and experience. Our website includes Personal Information Section, Reviews, Youtube Video, Social Media Post , Social Media Handles, Gallery, and Contact Me Section. User functionality was tested using family/friends to ensure the layout was easy to maneuver.

Evaluation

Our websites have responsive browser code which makes our websites to fit in any devices. We used the emulators and localhost run and debug to test our project. It works very well with no bugs.

Future Expansion

If we will continue to work on our websites, we will improve them by adding more details (i.e. adding work experience, awards), and making them more advanced and more convenient.