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My Personal Site Information Architecture

I thought that this card sorting exercise gave me a much better understanding of what users expect when they go to my website. One thing I particularly noticed was that my participants had different ideas on what content should be displayed on the home page. One participant thought that maybe the home page should be more simple, with less content and a simpler layout. While I agree that the home page shouldn’t be overflowing with information, I think it should include some basic information about me and what I do. I want to do an interactive tile-design where different tiles will take the user to different pages of my site.

As far as navigation tabs, or tiles, I plan to keep this simple. I want to have an “about me” page that gives the viewer a concise overview of me and my interests. There will also be an option to view and download my resume on this page. I’ll briefly discuss my professional experience and my past internships. I’ll list some of my skills and achievements on this page as well.

My participants in the card sorting exercise and I seemed to agree about having a “contact me” page where I’ll have a contact form and extra contact information. Another discrepancy I noticed was where I should put the links to my social media sites like LinkedIn, Handshake, Facebook, etc. One of my participants suggested I put it on my contact page, however I think I will put this right on the home page for people to see right away.

Finally, I’ll have a page “what I do” that will display some of my best projects and anything I might be currently working on. On this page, I will give the user a brief description of why I do what I do and what I see myself doing as a career. I’ll have links to some of my side projects to show viewers my creative side.