# RESPONSIVE WEB DESIGN

HCI & WEB DESIGN

#### **OVERVIEW**

- What is responsive design?
- Why do it? Advantages/disadvantages
- Examples of responsive design
- How does it work?
- Approaches to layout
- Wireframing for responsive design

### WHAT IS RESPONSIVE WEBSITE DESIGN?

- Responsive websites adapt to their environment; the content is resized or repositioned depending on the screen size
- Responsive websites use:
  - Fluid grid layouts
  - CSS media queries

#### WHY DO IT?

- Since Nov 2016, mobile web usage overtook desktop usage; and it's still growing
  - http://www.telegraph.co.uk/technology/2016/11/01/mobile-web-usageovertakes-desktop-for-first-time/
- Mashable reported that in one month, its website was accessed on 2,500 different types of devices
  - <a href="http://mashable.com/2012/12/11/responsive-web-design/">http://mashable.com/2012/12/11/responsive-web-design/</a>

#### **BENEFITS**

- A single website to build, maintain and promote.
- Support for a variety of screen sizes, not just the extreme cases of large desktop monitors and small handheld devices.
- Future-friendly, because the layout will reflow based on screen size and not just the size of today's popular devices.
- Source: Jeremy Girard, Envision (writing for Smashing Magazine, 2013)
  - http://mobile.smashingmagazine.com/2013/03/05/building-a-betterresponsive-website/

#### DRAWBACKS

- Content meant only for large-screen devices is often delivered to small screens and simply "turned off" with CSS media queries, creating unnecessary downloads.
- Because the markup is a one-size-fits-all solution, we are unable to change the source order of that markup (or eliminate unnecessary elements from the markup completely) based on the device or screen size.
- Source: Jeremy Girard, Envision (writing for Smashing Magazine, 2013)
  - http://mobile.smashingmagazine.com/2013/03/05/building-a-betterresponsive-website/

## EXAMPLES OF RESPONSIVE DESIGN: GREY GOOSE



## EXAMPLES OF RESPONSIVE DESIGN: THE BOSTON GLOBE



## EXAMPLES OF RESPONSIVE DESIGN

- You can try these out in your browser:
  - <u>http://resizemybrowser.com/</u>
  - <u>http://greygoose.com/</u>
  - http://www.bostonglobe.com

#### HOW DOES IT WORK?

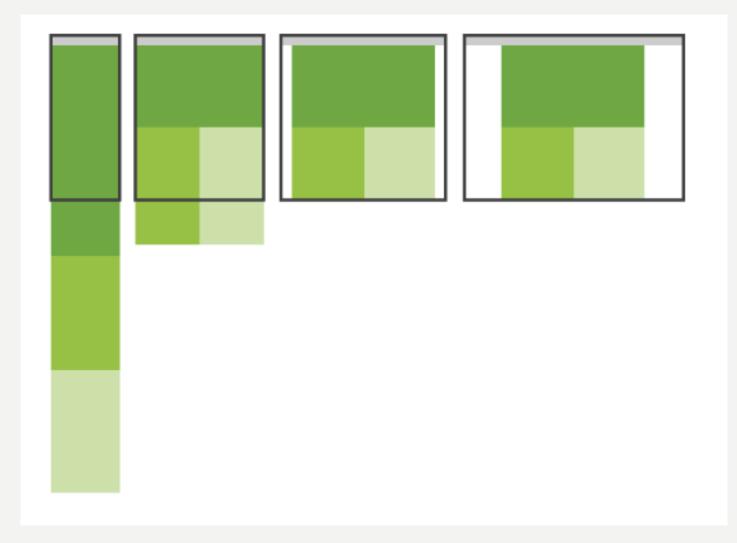
- Different 'breakpoints' are created in the layout that dictate when the layout will change
- These should be designed around your content rather than designing for 'common' screen sizes
- Then, in the website's CSS file, the @media element is used to define different styles for different media
- The min-width and max-width properties are used to set breakpoints at which the appearance of the site should change

#### **GREY GOOSE EXAMPLES**

#### APPROACHES TO LAYOUT

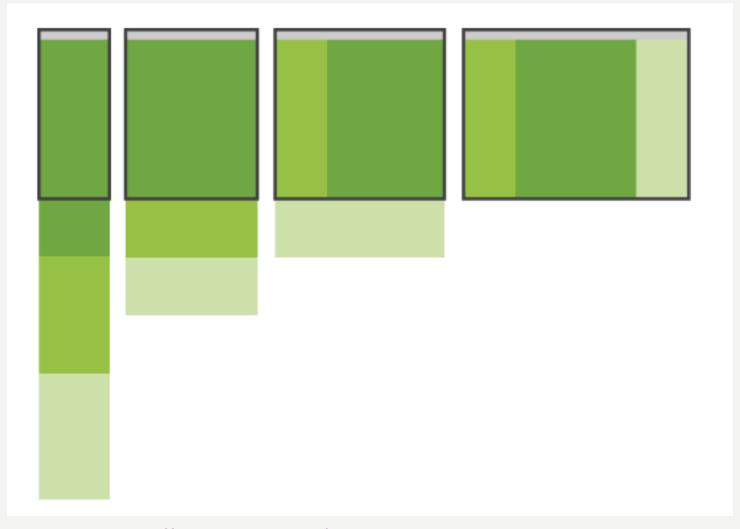
- Luke Wroblewski categorises responsive design layouts:
  - Mostly fluid
  - Column drop
  - Layout shifter
  - Tiny tweaks
  - Off canvas
  - http://www.lukew.com/ff/entry.asp?1514

#### **MOSTLY FLUID**



Example: <a href="http://www.antarcticstation.org/">http://www.antarcticstation.org/</a>

#### **COLUMN DROP**



Example: <a href="http://modernizr.com/">http://modernizr.com/</a>

#### LAYOUT SHIFTER



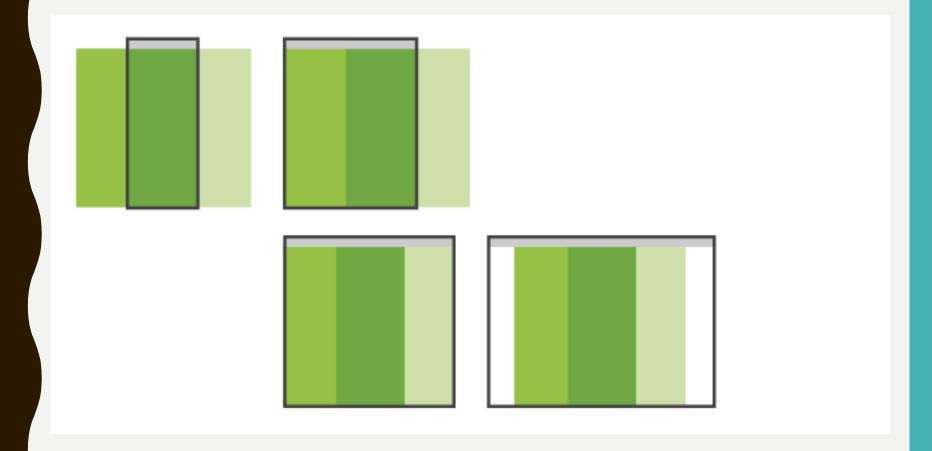
Example: <a href="http://foodsense.is/">http://foodsense.is/</a>

#### TINY TWEAKS



Example: <a href="http://www.lycos.com/">http://www.lycos.com/</a>

#### **OFF CANVAS**

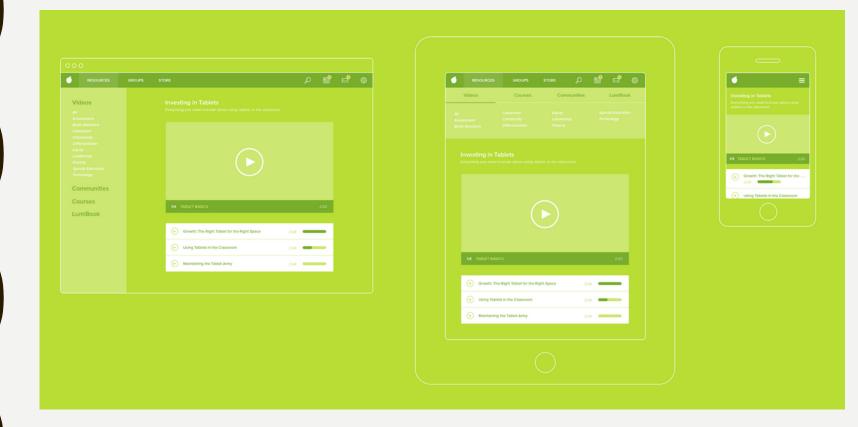


Example: <a href="https://dbushell.com/Responsive-Off-Canvas-Menu/step2.html">https://dbushell.com/Responsive-Off-Canvas-Menu/step2.html</a>

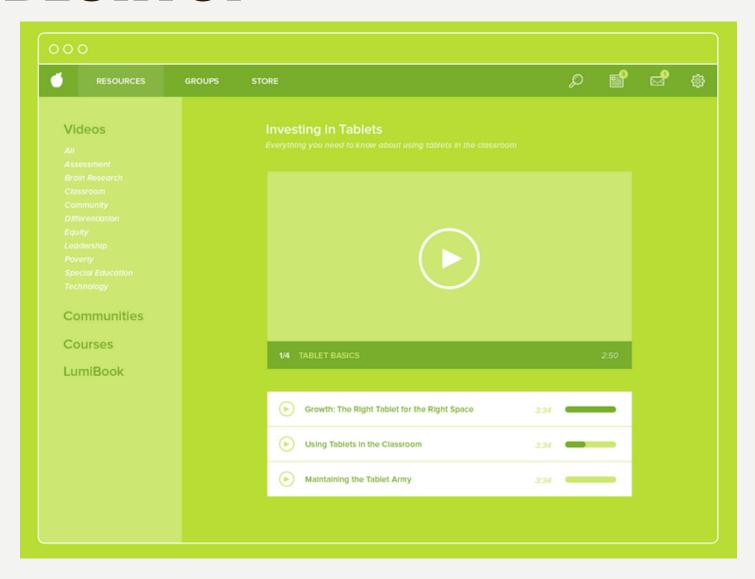
#### RESPONSIVE WIREFRAME

- Designers must design a website's layout for multiple different screen sizes
- This means creating multiple wireframes

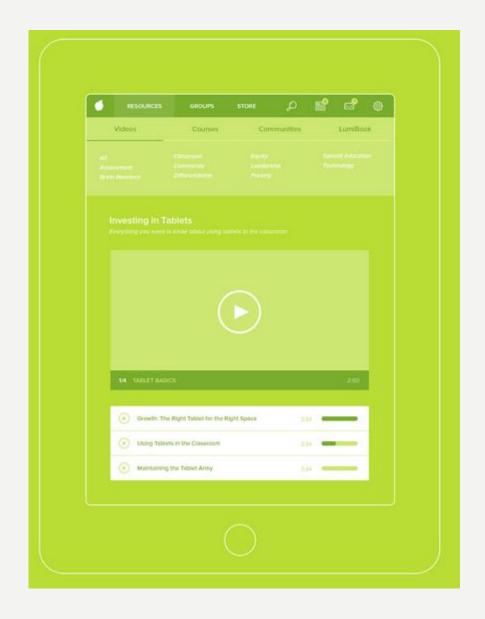
## ONE WEBSITE, THREE DEVICE TYPES



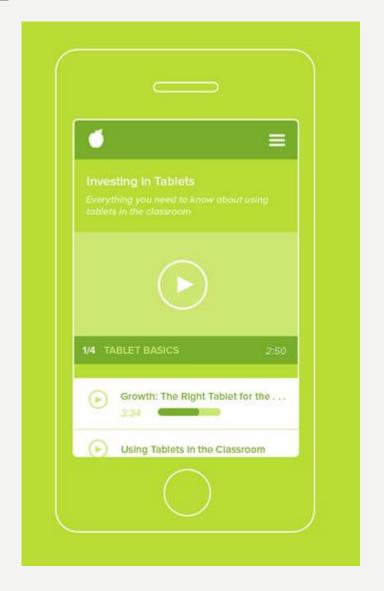
#### **DESKTOP**



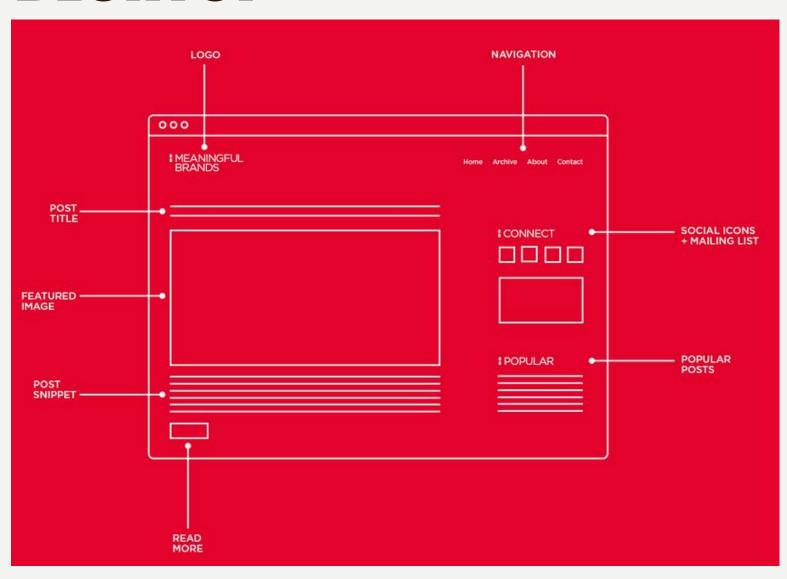
#### **TABLET**



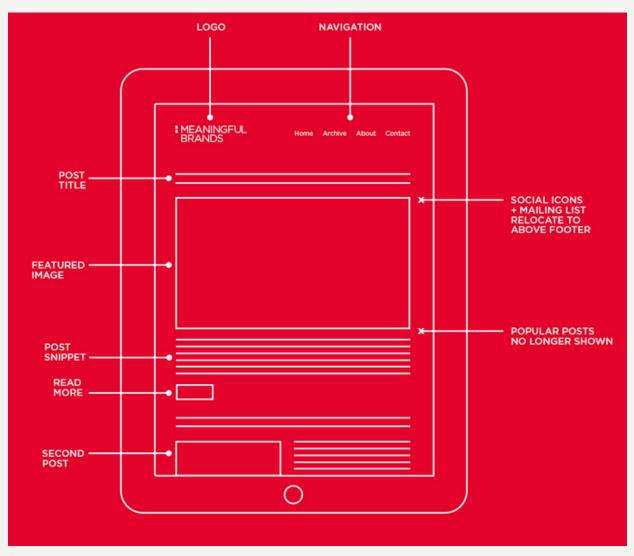
#### **SMARTPHONE**



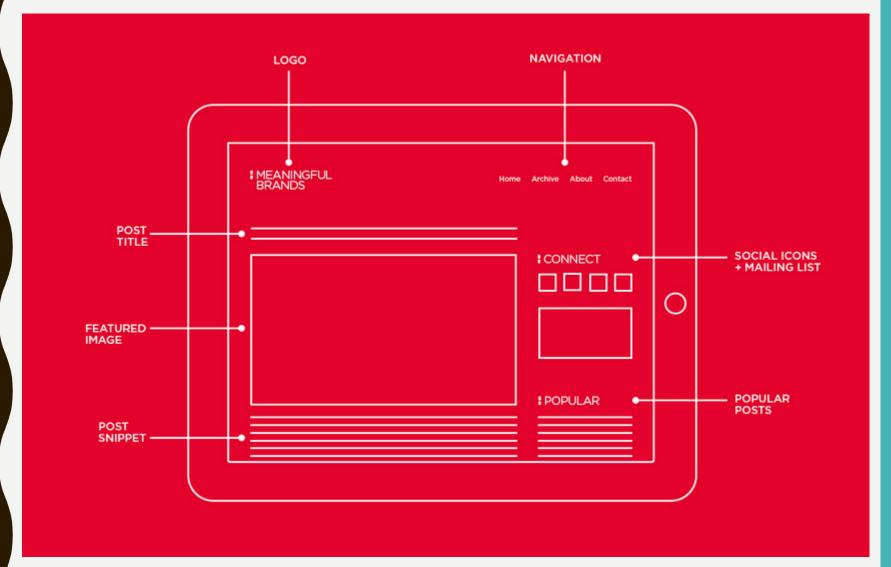
#### **DESKTOP**



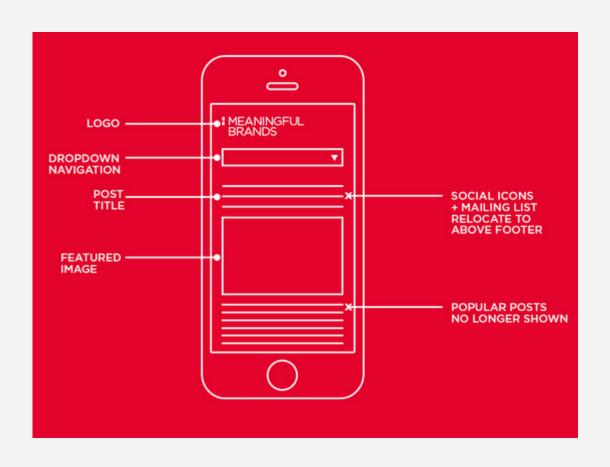
#### TABLET, PORTRAIT



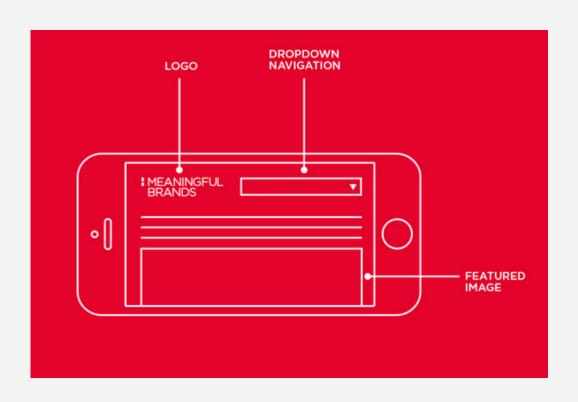
#### TABLET, LANDSCAPE



#### SMARTPHONE, PORTRAIT



#### SMARTPHONE, LANDSCAPE



### RESPONSIVE WIREFRAME EXERCISE

- Design a responsive news website; it should include the following:
  - The site's logo/branding
  - Navigation menu
  - Articles
  - Featured articles
  - Sidebar feature
  - Social media links
  - Footer with company details
  - Advertisement
- Draw a wireframe of the homepage for this site on desktop, tablet and smartphone