

Navigation Stages Information

The three navigation stages I used were Active, Static(Dormant), and Rollover.

Active state is used to show what page a person is currently in. For my web mockup, all the pages will be shown with the navigation tab changing color from white to orange. So, if you were on the about us page, the About Us nav tab will be a different shade from all the others.

However, if you were on the homepage, no color will change, mostly because the logo will be used as the home page clicker. If someone wants to go back home, they'll click the logo. In this day in age, most website's logos are the homepage, so doing this makes the site more modern, and won't decrease the user experience.

Static or Dormant State is used to show what the navigation looks like when no one is using it. I showed this by showing the home page. No nav elements have been touched or used. Also, the homepage doesn't have its own nav element. The logo is the home page. So, this is great for showing off the nav bar when it's normal.

Rollover is used to show what the arrow key does to a nav element when it's almost being clicked on. I showed this by having the nav element's text to change color once hovered over.

I did all of this over all three platforms of technology, phones, tablets, and laptops/desktops. However, the phone platform has a dropdown menu, but the dropdown menu still does what the nav bar on the other two platforms does as well. When clicking on the drop down menu, it starts out as three stack up bars, but once clicked, it changes to an x. This x lets people know if they don't want to use the nav bar anymore, they just click x to get out of it.

The advantages of having such an advanced nav bar is great for building up user experiences throughout all three famously known platforms of media technology. It lets people know what page there on and when they're about to enter another one.

Having a drop down menu navigation for phones is great because it doesn't make the nav bar seem cluttered for such a small screen. They can view the content without the nav bar getting in the way, and if they need it, the drop down menu is there for them.

A disadvantage that I can think of for phones would be that people might not want the drop down menu because it'll block some of the content when they really want to read it while using the nav bar.

For tablets, it's great because it's just like the laptop version. Similar pictures, similar graphics, same amount of information, and the nav bar is the same. However, nav elements are closer together because of smaller screen compared to its desktop counterpart.

Visually, it isn't better, and it might make clicking a little annoying from time to time.

Desktops has it best. More graphics, more pictures, more information to display, and complete nav bar. Because of this, the change in color scheme and visual elements are better seen. While the other two platforms have disadvantages, a desktop has more benefits and not many cons to come up with. Although most sites now-a-day are made mobile-first, desktop will still be the platform with the best viewpoint.