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Mozilla’s web browser, Firefox, has a litany of uses with how you can use Developer Tools to your advantage. Firefox allows Developers to easily locate bugs, errors and simulate changes in a live environment. Many developers use this as a means to work efficiently and quickly. Instead of constantly switching between an editor and opening the document to check, it provides an easier resource for developers to use to work with a website in a live environment and get a direct read on how the page is display ("Firefox Developer Tools", n.d.).

Firefox’s Page Inspector lets a user view and edit the page’s content and layout. Users can examine and modify the HTML and CSS within a page. Users can also examine pages loaded in the local copy of Firefox or in a remote place like Firefox for Android ("Page Inspector", n.d.). One of the aspects that makes this so easy to use, is that Page Inspector easily shows where the code corresponds to within the code. For example, a user can hover over the <header> element, it will then highlight where the code is displayed on the page. This organization allows for quickly locating problems in the code. Right-clicking any element will also let the user edit the HTML and CSS while it’s being display. Simply adding or deleting code will be reflected in the resulting page. The CSS Inspector is available for changing the aesthetics of a page by selecting the Style button. Users can edit the element’s CSS while in the live site. The user can also check or un-check a box to deactivate a rule ("Page Inspector", n.d.).

JavaScript Debugger is also editable within Firefox’s Developer Tools. Users can execute and run JavaScript, they can check the responsiveness of the design and figure out where bugs are in the code. Firefox provides a few different tools that a user can use to work with JavaScript. One of the main advantages of working with Firefox is the built in Debugger, which enables a user to step through JavaScript code and examine or modify it’s state to help track down bugs ("Debugger", n.d.).

There’s a few advantages of using Firefox’s Debugger, the first is to Set a Breakpoint. The user can set an unconditional breakpoint in the source pain. When someone displays the context menu, the user has a choice between setting a breakpoint or pause code execution when it reaches that line. The conditional breakpoint lets a user pause the code, only if the conditions they define are met ("Debugger", n.d.). The user can use step through code when the debugger is stopped at a breakpoint, which allow them to play, step over, step in, or step out. These options allow for a user to find the source of bugs, if there’s multiple within the JavaScript.

Lastly, Firefox also provides Responsive Design Mode. This is the practice of creating a website so it works properly on a variety of devices, like iPhone, Android, Mac, PC, along with adjusting resolution for a variety of screen sizes ("Responsive Design Mode", n.d.). Firefox has a Responsive Design Mode button that someone can use to view, adjust and change things accordingly. There’s also a device selection that will change the screen size, device pixel ratio and touch event simulation, so a developers can see how the page will respond with different devices.

Regardless of whatever tools are used, Firefox’s Developer Tools is created to make life easier. It provides a way to work efficiently and quickly within an environment and to make life easier for developers. When these tools are used properly, we can work efficiently and provide a better solution for our clients.

References

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