

Style Choices

- Our initial design decision was to style the website as a flat layout, without any box shadows. The flat layout is a very modern look and it keeps pages from feeling cluttered and unprofessional.
- The header only has three links, home, pets, and sign in. This website is meant to be as simple as possible; therefore any unnecessary generic links like “about us” were omitted. Instead, information you would typically find on an “about us” page was moved to the home page in a single page layout style. Users always scroll and our tests pointed to no issues finding information about what the site is.
- You will find that our website is completely responsive for a mobile layout. We felt that responsiveness was a necessity for this site, as users may browse our pet list on a phone.
- The pet list page is meant to be simple and pleasing to browse. If a pet added to the database has pictures, they are displayed on the pet list page along with the name of the pet and the age. If there are no images, the pet gets a default image depending on if it is a cat or a dog. We also added a simple filter function to show either cats only or dogs only.
- On a particular pet’s page you will find a functional comment section, a responsive image slider, and an “adopt me” button. We maintained the same design principles here as the other pages on the site: flat layout, minimalist colors, and mobile responsiveness.
- The “adopt me” button features a modal window which has another button to request more information about a pet. If the user is not logged in, they will be brought to the login page where they register or login to their account. If a registered user is logged in, then they will get a confirmation box which says they have been emailed more information.
- The website features a sticky footer which will stay fixed to at least the bottom of the viewport. If the page content extends beyond the fold, then the footer can be found at the end of the content (except when using the filter on the pets page).
- Users are able to register accounts, login, update their information, and delete their account. All of these functions feature confirmation pages with feedback. If registering or adopting a pet, the user will get an email sent to the email on their account with confirmation.

VALIDATION NOTES

- Certain aspects of our site do not validate by choice:
 - We use a special image slider which has CSS rules which do not validate but all work cross browser (some of the non-validating rules are hacks to make it work on more browsers).
 - We use the CSS “calc” function, which allows you to make some calculations like `calc(50% - 10px)`. The calc function works on most browsers and is a necessity for this site.
 - The “placeholder” attribute does not validate on all form elements, however it works and is helpful for the user and looks nice as part of the design.