Discussion 8.1 Designing Efficient Web Forms

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When designing a web form there are three main things you need to consider, Accessibility considerations, Usability Considerations and Security Considerations. All three of these are important to providing users with exceptional quality and less frustrations. So here are a few things to consider when building a form.

First thing to consider is usability. From the uxdesign.cc website, they state that we should consider not having a form at all, make sure it’s absolutely necessary. (Stepanov, 2021) Another thing to consider is to only ask what is necessary. Having to fill out useless information may cause a user to just hit the close button and ignore the form to begin with. There are some websites our there that may ask for first name, last name and email address when an email address is more than likely all the information we need, so skip the optional information. If you need a name ask for full name and not separate forms, this is more simple for you and the user. For a desktop we should be using autofocus on the first part of our forms and placeholder texts. (*Designing Efficient Web Forms: On Structure, Inputs, Labels and Actions*, 2017)

Something to consider with accessibility would avoid multi column forms and group your information together. This will make it easier to fill out and make it less confusing to navigate. (*Designing Efficient Web Forms: On Structure, Inputs, Labels and Actions*, 2017) Also to make it more accessible to all user would be to top align your labels, this is good for multiple languages, and has a better rate of completion. Although it requires more space and wouldn’t be used for longer forms. (*Designing Efficient Web Forms: On Structure, Inputs, Labels and Actions*, 2017)

According to webinuse.com security starts with using the correct html tags because HTML has a verification with out JavaScript, such as type=’email’ (Sikira, 2021) The website also recommends using multiple levels of validation and using a CSRF token. (Sikira, 2021).

Text

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(Sikira, 2021).

Here is an example below of an improper web form. Its massive, lots of information all at once. The forms are far from the title information on the left. And it requires you to move your eyes a lot. Most people would rather not complete this if they can help it.

Graphical user interface, application

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(*Bad Web Form Design - 7 Examples*, n.d.)

Here’s a form I created based off a new site. No nonsense, No name, just email so we can send you the news and news alerts via email. It has auto focus, one form entry, and a giant sub button. Short, sweet and to the point.

Graphical user interface, application

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References:

Stepanov, K. (2021, December 12). *How to design better web forms and decrease form abandonment*. Medium. Retrieved February 20, 2023, from https://uxdesign.cc/how-to-design-better-web-forms-and-decrease-form-abandonment-44d8ef6adb38

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Sikira, A. (2021, September 29). *Handling HTML form security*. webinuse.com. Retrieved February 20, 2023, from https://webinuse.com/handling-html-form-security/

*Bad Web Form Design - 7 Examples*. (n.d.). Zuko Blog. https://www.zuko.io/blog/7-examples-of-bad-web-form-designs