

Assignment 8 Write-Up

Part 1:

My website is meant to serve as my primary portfolio, for displaying the work I have done in this program and outside of it. The information that I convey is relevant to the work I have done and the abilities I have, persuading people to hire me! I try to keep this portfolio interesting and engaging by using light but noticeable accent colors (pale pink), using subtle, fade-in animations, and keeping information succinct, easy-to-read, and informative. The target audience is anyone who might want to hire me; I will be sharing this portfolio link in job applications and on LinkedIn.

Part 2:

To interact with my website, users can:

- Scroll down on the home page
 - This will reveal the projects I have done
- Hover over a project
 - This will dim the image, revealing 1) the title, and 2) skills applied
 - This will also make the image pulse
- Hover over a contact icon in the header
 - This causes a pink background to appear on them
- Click a project
 - This will take a user to the project's page
 - This also causes the image to “flip out” of the screen

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- Scroll down a project page
 - This will allow a user to read about my process
 - At the bottom of each page, they can find contact information
- Click contact icons in footer
 - LinkedIn icon will take them to my LinkedIn profile
 - GitHub icon will take them to my GitHub profile
 - Email icon will allow them to email me
- Hover over the Navigation Bar items
 - This highlights the items (on the right) in pink
- Click the About button in the navigation bar
 - This will take them to the About page
 - Here, they can read a brief bio about me
- Hover over most images (excluding the header)
 - This causes them to pulse

Part 3:

- Bootstrap
 - I used Bootstrap to make my website responsive. This was very important to me because I wanted to ensure that recruiters can read my portfolio on their cell phones -- for example, while travelling.
 - I used Bootstrap to make images shrink with respect to the size of the browser/screen or to rearrange items so that an appropriate number are visible

based on screen size. Additionally, I used it to place navigation bar items in a hamburger menu at small screen sizes.

- Bootstrap adds to my website because it makes it easier to digest on devices of any size. With bootstrap, any user can view my portfolio.
- Wow.js
 - I used Wow.js for the bulk of the animations on my portfolio. I chose to use it because it seemed more intuitive to me than other animation libraries, and it also enabled all of the different types of animation that I wanted. I didn't want any "cartoons" floating in the background of my site, for example, because I didn't want anything to divert attention from my actual work.
 - I used Wow.js to add appear, hover, and on-click animations to various elements across my portfolio. For example, most text and images appear on scroll using Wow. Images pulse on hover, and portfolio pieces "flip" when clicked on.
 - This adds some delightfulness to using the site, as it is entertaining to see the animations. However, they are simple enough that they don't distract.
- Animate.css
 - Animate.css allows for many of the animations used by Wow.js -- I had to have animate.css to use Wow.js.
 - My uses for animate.css were much the same as those for Wow.js.
 - These animations add some delightfulness to using the site, as it is entertaining to see the animations. However, they are simple enough that they don't distract.
- JQuery

- I used jquery to allow myself to easily change HTML elements and handle events.

Furthermore, I really wanted to learn how to use jquery, because I realize it is widely used in web development.
 - With jquery, I add Wow.js animations to certain elements across my portfolio.

Typically, Wow.js must be added in HTML code, but, using jquery, I can alter that HTML in response to events like hover and onClick.
- Google Webfont (Open Sans) and Ionicons:
 - These are not so much libraries, but they are resources that I used to improve the appearance of my website. I imported this font and these icons to achieve the aesthetic that I was striving for. They make my website appear more standard, since I was able to use established logos and icon designs.
- Pure Mix template (<http://www.tooplate.com/view/2082-pure-mix>):
 - Again, this is not a library; however, it is a very helpful free portfolio template that I found online. Although the appearance of my website is quite similar to that of the Pure Mix template, I think you'll see that the underlying quote differs quite a bit. I chose this template largely because it matched the appearance that I was aiming for.
 - I used the template as a basis for my website. I removed many aspects of the code that were not relevant to me and updated many of the libraries used here. I also added significant content and unique animations, styles, and responsive features to the template. It assisted with directory structure and adhering to best practices in web development.

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- This assisted me in writing my website because it provided me with an aesthetic as a jumping-off point. Although I changed the code significantly, it was nevertheless quite helpful.

Part 4:

My design here differs greatly from the design I proposed for Assignment 7. This was based on peer feedback that I received on assignment 7, suggesting that my previous idea involving cards and a more cartoony appearance are “not good design.” Furthermore, I did not initially plan on including many animations, but I felt that a lack of animations would have made my portfolio too boring.

Part 5:

I faced a multitude of issues while programming this assignment. Most importantly, I faced problems with Bootstrap -- none of my attempts seemed to make the hamburger menu appear correctly. In the end, it turned out that the documentation I was reading online did not match the version of Bootstrap I use in my project. I also faced some problems with laying out elements correctly, but I eventually solved those CSS issues over time.