

Reflections

What challenges or bugs did you encounter and how did you overcome the Challenges?

Given that this was one of my first experiences prototyping in HTML/CSS, it's fair to say that every line of this project was a bug or a challenge at one point. Below, I've summarized those features and aspects of the site that I found challenging to build into the prototype, as well as methods I found helpful for working through them:

- *The positioning and sizing of objects on screen was a significant challenge early on, particularly in those cases where I needed to center an object within another div, place 2 objects on the same line, etc. The most challenging instance was the placement and positioning of objects on top of the hero image on the homepage. With some research and consulting with peers, I figured out how to set the hero as a background image so that other objects could be properly positioned on top.*
- *The varied sizing and dimensions among the product images proved to be a big challenge for making all of the product cards appear uniform. Ultimately, I ended up manually resizing each image in a separate program (Sketch) to make them approximately uniform sizes and dimensions (square). This made the process of creating uniform product cards on the browse product page immensely more simple.*
- *One of the most confounding phenomena I encountered during this project was handling default and inherited styles, and figuring out how to override them where necessary. Inherited styles like link color and text style, bulleted list items, etc were initially difficult to diagnose and override. One method that I found useful for overcoming these issues was using the inspector panel on my site as I updated the code so I could see what was going on, where unintended styles were coming from, etc. Keeping the inspector panel open was helpful for resolving many different issues.*
- *Seeing and understanding how objects on screen interacted and influenced one another in term of positioning (e.g. divs pushing around other divs, elements changing shape/position when the window was resized, etc) was incredibly difficult as a newcomer to web development. This was particularly true in the case of otherwise invisible elements (e.g. a container with no border). To overcome this issue, I found myself putting obvious, ugly borders on otherwise invisible elements, so I could see how they interacted with other elements, how they would shift and change size when the viewport was adjusted, etc.*

**How is the brand identity of your client reflected through your design choices?
What kind of look and feel did you design for them and why?**

Keeping with my intentions from Assignment 3, I wanted my HTML/CSS prototypes to capture the friendly, casual, “feel-good” vibe that characterizes many online vendors of pet supplies (Chewy, Barkbox, etc). Where appropriate, I tried to capture this aesthetic by way of the site’s color palette, typefaces, and other graphic elements. The primary blue color of the nav, the brightly colored add-cart button, the rounded typeface, and the bubbly graphics/site logo were all chose in service of creating a casual, friendly shopping experience.

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- https://img.chewy.com/is/image/catalog/118546_MAIN._AC_SL1500_V1538411841_.jpg?_ga=2.4512118.439791510.1538852268-1134363641.1536764622&_gac=1.95297262.1538860987.Cj0KCQjwuuHdBRCvARIsAELQRQGLcLYvfMIz_KEYU0hVho-zx7bDwpl15-SSIU3LKCF4B0UII2I-EMaAhTXEALw_wcB
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