Icon Fonts

Icon fonts provide a very flexible way of including tiny

images into our web pages that can be styled just like text.

So that is the reason icon fonts prove very,

very useful in designing websites.

Exercise (Instructions): Icon Fonts

Objectives and Outcomes

In this exercise, we will learn the use of icons in web page design using Font Awesome icons, and bootstrap-social icons. At the end of this exercise, you will be able to:

* Use icons within your website to represent various entities making use of the glyphicons, font-awesome icons and bootstrap-social icons

Note: Some people have pointed out that if they have AdBlocker installed, then the font icons are not showing up in their browser.

Using Icon Fonts and Other CSS classes

* One of the most popular icon font toolkit is Font Awesome. Go to its website <http://fontawesome.io/> to check out more details about this icon font. You can get Font Awesome using npm by typing the following at the prompt:
* npm install font-awesome@4.7.0 –save

Another module that we install is Bootstrap Social that enables the addition of Social buttons to our site. You can find more information about it at <https://lipis.github.io/bootstrap-social/>. To install it using npm, type the following at the prompt:

* npm install bootstrap-social@5.1.1 –save
* We now need to include the CSS files for font awesome and bootstrap-social in the index.html file. Add the following code to the head of the file after the links for importing Bootstrap CSS classes. Do the same change to aboutus.html file:
* <link rel="stylesheet" href="node\_modules/font-awesome/css/font-awesome.min.css">
* <link rel="stylesheet" href="node\_modules/bootstrap-social/bootstrap-social.css">

Let us now use some font icons in our web page and decorate it. Update the navbar's ul list items as follows in index.html:

* <li class="nav-item active"><a class="nav-link" href="#"><span class="fa fa-home fa-lg"></span> Home</a></li>
* <li class="nav-item"><a class="nav-link" href="./aboutus.html"><span class="fa fa-info fa-lg"></span> About</a></li>
* <li class="nav-item"><a class="nav-link" href="#"><span class="fa fa-list fa-lg"></span> Menu</a></li>
* <li class="nav-item"><a class="nav-link" href="#"><span class="fa fa-address-card fa-lg"></span> Contact</a></li>

Similarly update the navbar's ul list items as follows in aboutus.html:

* <li class="nav-item"><a class="nav-link" href="./index.html"><span class="fa fa-home fa-lg"></span> Home</a></li>
* <li class="nav-item active"><a class="nav-link" href="#"><span class="fa fa-info fa-lg"></span> About</a></li>
* <li class="nav-item"><a class="nav-link" href="#"><span class="fa fa-list fa-lg"></span> Menu</a></li>
* <li class="nav-item"><a class="nav-link" href="#"><span class="fa fa-address-card fa-lg"></span> Contact</a></li>

Next, in both index.html and aboutus.html, go down to the address in the footer of the page and replace the "Tel.", "Fax" and "Email" with the corresponding font awesome based icons as follows:

* <i class="fa fa-phone fa-lg"></i>: +852 1234 5678<br>
* <i class="fa fa-fax fa-lg"></i>: +852 8765 4321<br>
* <i class="fa fa-envelope fa-lg"></i>:
* <a href="mailto:confusion@food.net">[confusion@food.net</a](mailto:confusion@food.net%3c/a)>

Finally, let us use the bootstrap-social CSS classes to create the social buttons in the footer in both index.html and aboutus.html, by replacing the social sites' links with the following code:

* <div class="text-center">
* <a class="btn btn-social-icon btn-google" href="http://google.com/+"><i class="fa fa-google-plus"></i></a>
* <a class="btn btn-social-icon btn-facebook" href="http://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id="><i class="fa fa-facebook"></i></a>
* <a class="btn btn-social-icon btn-linkedin" href="http://www.linkedin.com/in/"><i class="fa fa-linkedin"></i></a>
* <a class="btn btn-social-icon btn-twitter" href="http://twitter.com/"><i class="fa fa-twitter"></i></a>
* <a class="btn btn-social-icon btn-google" href="http://youtube.com/"><i class="fa fa-youtube"></i></a>
* <a class="btn btn-social-icon" href="mailto:"><i class="fa fa-envelope-o"></i></a>
* </div>

Save all the changes and commit to your Git repository with the message "Icon Fonts".

### Conclusions

We learnt about using icon fonts in a web project.