

Shannon Lin

PUI Homework 8 - Final

Portfolio Website

Section B

PART 1

My website for this project is a personal portfolio. I wanted to create this website because, as a design major, I actually do need a portfolio in order to further my career. However, additionally, I saw the portfolio as a great opportunity to also take initiative on documenting my work up to now, as well as organize all my documented work in a presentable fashion. In the past, I've used platforms such as Squarespace for the matter, but I thought it would be nice to be able to customize everything to my needs. I see the portfolio itself like the frame for a painting—it should be neutral and not overpowering.

As my website will primarily be for potential employers/recruiters/colleagues, my portfolio will need to be quickly scan-able, yet highly representative. My website not only needed to showcase my work, it needs to have an “About Me” section, as well as a method to contact me, and a place for people to view my resume. It should also have a place where I can put smaller side projects or outside work.

While the homepage at its default state is very simplistic, the user gets a glimpse into all the work on hover. The hover states on my projects “windows” on the homepage aren't just GIFS, they're actually looping images—designed to imitate motion. I chose this format, because it was an interesting coding challenge, as well as a better option, since I could retain the resolution of my images. What I felt was most successful about this website was how I managed to create a very cohesive experience across all the pages by keeping my styles simple and reproduce-able. This way, the user is able to focus on the work, without being distracted by complex animations or bugs.

PART 2

Interactions

- **Where:** In the “Works” page [in the menu]
 - **Interaction:** Hover on any of the project link boxes to display image preview
- **Where:** In the “Works” page [in the menu]
 - **Interaction:** Click on any of the project links to see that project in depth
- **Where:** In project 1, scroll down to the section on “Concept and Goals”
 - **Interaction:** Hover on the word “storytelling” to see the secret GIF.
- **Where:** Click “Contact” on the side nav
 - **Interaction:** Links to email client
- **Where:** Click “Resume” on the side nav, click the Resume Image

- **Interaction:** Links to downloadable resume
- **Where:** Minimize screen size to mobile
- **Interaction:** The mobile version of the site is completely functional

PART 3

Tools

- **Tool:** Vanilla Javascript
 - **Why:** I wanted to challenge myself to use vanilla javascript—it is the most stable and reliable tool, and I wanted to get better at it.
 - **How:** Images of the respective project will display in a loop. Images are called from the folders looped via setInterval and clearInterval. I used simple mouseOver and mouseOut event listeners to trigger the animations.
 - **Value add:** I wanted to make my home page well-designed and simple—to put it in most basic terms, it's an aesthetic I'm going for. However, I still wanted to it to be communicative, so I needed to have image previews somewhere. I feel like usually image previews displayed together tend to clash visually, so having them show up one at a time was my solution.
- **Tool:** Slick.js
 - **Why:** For some of my more complex projects, I didn't want to program my own carousel, when there are perfectly great ones that already exist.
 - **How:** On the project called "Bento Browser" I used it for two sets of images. I customized the arrows and the animation for switching images through the library.
 - **Value add:** For my more complex projects, I have a lot of images, and it would get very long and hard to read to have all the images in a flow. Having image sets compressed in a carousel makes it more organized and easy to scan.

PART 4

I had a lot of iterations for my submission for Homework 7, but ultimately I chose to go with this design since I feel like it was actually the least complex, but most well-designed. The only part that I changed from the mockups was the proportions of the rectangles to look more clean on different screen sizes.

PART 5

The challenge from making this website was knowing that I was actually going to use it as my real portfolio. For me, this project isn't just a short-term prototype—I took it very seriously since I've been wanted to make my own portfolio for a while. Knowing this, I

knew I couldn't do too many gimmicky things that might break on different browsers—I wanted to keep things simple and **stable**. I had to plan ahead on how I was going to make the mobile version work as well.