**Website Planning Document**

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**Objective**

The objective of this website is to build a personal and professional online portfolio that showcases my background, skills, and eventually projects or blogs in a clean, modern, and engaging way. The website aims to serve as a digital introduction to me for potential employers, recruiters, networking contacts, and collaborators. It should reflect both professional competence and personal branding in its design and content.

**Intended Audience**

* **Hiring Managers and Recruiters:** To quickly access my resume, professional background, and past experience without needing to request separate documents.
* **Professional Connections (Networking):** To give peers, alumni, and professional contacts a snapshot of my skills, previous roles, and ways to reach me.
* **Professors, Advisors, and Mentors:** To easily share updates about my work, resume, and projects without emailing large files.
* **General Visitors:** To learn more about my background, projects, and areas of expertise in a clean, accessible way.

**Key Information the Website Will Convey**

* **Introduction and Personal Summary (Home Page):** Who I am, my professional philosophy, brief summary of my academic and work history, and what motivates me.
* **Experience Section:** Detailed breakdown of my professional journey across multiple companies (ETS, CustomerGlu, Arete Advisors, J-PAL) with role descriptions and accomplishments.
* **Resume Section:** Easy access to download my latest resume, and an embedded live preview for convenience.
* **Contact Section:** A simple and clean contact form (built using Formspree) that allows users to send me a message directly through the website.

**Technology Stack Used**

* **VS Code:** As the primary code editor used for writing, editing, and managing the website’s files and structure.
* **HTML:** For clean semantic structure.
* **CSS:** For styling, including custom responsive designs and neumorphic UI enhancements.
* **Bootstrap:** For responsive grid layout, components, and utilities.
* **JavaScript:** For lightweight interaction and page transitions.
* **Formspree:** For form handling and live submissions without needing a backend server.
* **GitHub:** For version control and repository management.
* **GitHub Pages:** For hosting the live version of the website.
* **Google Drive:** For storing and embedding the resume preview file.
* **Excalidraw:** For designing website wireframe

**Folder Structure**

* index.html – Home Page
* experience.html – Experience Page
* resume.html – Resume Page
* contact.html – Contact Page
* style.css – Main CSS file
* script.js – JavaScript file
* images/ – Website images including profile photo and company logos
* planning/ – Contains planning\_document.docx
* design/ – Contains rough website wireframes

**Design Goals and Wireframe**

* **Consistency:** Unified light blue theme across all pages to create a cohesive and professional feel.
* **Clarity and Simplicity:** Content is easy to navigate, well-spaced, and free of visual clutter.
* **Responsiveness:** Designed mobile-first using Bootstrap’s responsive utilities to ensure accessibility across phones, tablets, and desktops.
* **Visual Engagement:** Subtle but meaningful interactions such as neumorphic buttons, animated sketch branding for the navbar, and smooth fade-in transitions on page load.
* **Professional Aesthetic:** Balanced between minimalism and a modern tech-savvy appearance, aimed to appeal to recruiters and professionals in the tech and business fields.

A screenshot of a computer

AI-generated content may be incorrect.

**GitHub Repository Link**

* The complete project, including planning and design documents, is available publicly on GitHub: <https://github.com/ym596/personal_website>
* The GitHub Pages hosted version of the website can be found here: <https://ym596.github.io/personal_website/>

**Key Coding Elements and Features**

* **Bootstrap 5 Framework:** Bootstrap was integrated to streamline the website’s responsive layout and styling. Bootstrap’s grid system, utility classes, navbar components, and responsive breakpoints were heavily used to ensure that the website adjusts seamlessly across devices.
* **Formspree for Contact Form:** The Contact page includes a functional form that uses Formspree’s endpoint API integration. This setup enables form submissions to be emailed directly to me without the need for building a custom server or backend.
* **Neumorphic UI Elements:** Custom CSS was written to create neumorphic visual effects, especially for the “Download Resume” button on the Resume page, the “Send Message” button on the Contact page, the Navbar, which has a light neumorphic raised effect matching the overall soft, clean theme.

**Code References**

* ChatGPT – prompted chatgpt with doubts and bugs throughout the website development process. ChatGPT was also extremely helpful in translating visual descriptions/ vision into code whenever I hit roadblocks
* Opensource Github templates – <https://github.com/codewithsadee/vcard-personal-portfolio/tree/master>
* Inspiration
  + <https://v4.brittanychiang.com/>
  + <https://www.hummingbird.vc/>
  + <https://codewithsadee.github.io/vcard-personal-portfolio/#>