Unit 1 Reflection

I've completed my first unit on how to make a website. I was surprised at how much pre-work has to be done in order to code. I've seen a lot of Hello World tutorials but never to start with the purpose, personas, flows, site map, and mocks. My excitement has been suspended until Unit 2. I originally only had one persona in mind when I came up with my website idea, realizing that it may be useful for others was interesting to explore.

If I had to do it again, I would have spent more time choosing an appropriate scope for the site. It is difficult to think of something that is broad enough to be interesting and will be extensible, but narrow enough that I can create or find enough content to fill it up in a useful way. I think it would be easier to create a website for someone else, because they would be able to answer all of the questions this unit has and I could focus on translating their vision into a website. I have a sales/business background and being able to get into the head of other users was fairly simple.

I'm glad that I have all this structure now, all I have to do is learn how to turn my plan into a reality now!

Learning Outcome:

Apply a structured approach to identifying needs, interests, and functionality of a website.

I've identified the needs of my users by creating their personas, what they're looking for, and creating flows of how they would access that content. The website is based on my personal interest and solves the problem of aggregating content across different media types and platforms. The functionality of the website is outlined in the wireframe images and mockup.