Using AdobeXD to build high fidelity and low fidelity designs is a great free resource for planning web applications.

Time and time again experienced developers have told me how crucial the planning phase is when developing a web application. For most of the projects I completed on FreeCodeCamp.com, I didn’t plan at all and the result was very disappointing. My application would look like I created it in the 90’s. I would ask myself questions like “is it the colors?”, “is it the pictures?”, “is it the font?”, most of the time it was all of the above. I would then spend hours trying a combination of colors and a variety of images only to find out I still didn’t like it.

Here is what a typical workflow would look like =>

I would google what colors looked together.

I would arbitrarily apply them to different components of the site such as navbar, footer, etc …

Search unsplash me for free images.

If I didn’t like the way it was looking, I would go back and forth between the DOM and my IDE trying to find the CSS class or ID properties to change.

There is a better way to do things.

Using AdobeXD makes planning a web application easy. They have pre-build components such as navbar, footers, buttons and forms that you can copy and paste onto your wireframe. AdobeXD also gives you the functionality of saving different colors so you don’t have to remember or continuously put in RGBA or hex colors. But I think the most impressive part of AdobeXD is the prototyping tool. This tool allows you to add real functionality to your links or buttons. See below for example.

By having the high-fidelity aspect of you web app completed can save you a ton of design hassle. You can create a textbox or buttons and adjust the size with a click of mouse without having to worry about padding or margin properties. One you 100% approve how its going to look => you can know code having an end goal in mind. This is much better approach then coding first and hoping that your improvisational skills kick in and make the site beautiful.

In conclusion I plan to use AdobeXD before I start coding any project in the future. I highly recommend this course if you want to dig deeper into the features AdobeXD provides.