

Assignment: Website Project

March 12, 2009

Determine Client/Industry *(due: 3/12/09)*

Identify the type of website you are going to create, specifying an industry and client/company. If you don't know what you want to do, than pick something within the music industry (a band, distributor, "record store", etc.).

- Let me know before end-of-class today (sign-up sheet on my desk)

Moodboard *(due: 3/26/09)*

Determine the feeling/mood that your website will use, gather inspirational materials and build a moodboard.

- You can draw on the standard stock sites, as well as websites both in and outside your selected industry (keep in mind that this is just for inspirational colors & pieces; you will soon be doing an original design)

Site Map *(due: 3/26/09)*

Determine what pages your website needs, based on its industry and users (research similar sites). Most sites will need About Us, Contact Us, Site Map, plus your Homepage and underlying Content pages. Your site should have 6-10 pages.

- Build a proposed Site Map for your site (can be sketched; you don't have to do it in Illustrator or Photoshop)

Wireframe *(due: 4/2/09)*

Before you create your Design Comps you need to wireframe your site pages.

- Create a Wireframe for your Homepage and one Secondary Page
 - This may take multiple tries until you come up with good page structures. Ensure that your content is well organized, flows well, and that users will be able to find what they need.

Design Comps *(due: 4/16/09)*

Create original designs for your homepage and a secondary page.

- This should be a layered file built in Photoshop
 - build it 900pixels x 600pixels @ 150ppi (pixels per inch) in RGB colorspace (8 bit)

Sliced Fireworks Files *(due: 4/30/09)*

Open your two design comps in Fireworks and slice them as necessary.

Name the slices, create any graphical rollovers, and prep the file to export to HTML.

Final Website (HTML & image files) *(due: 5/28/09, 5:30pm)*

Link all webpages and insert all content. You will turn in your finalized Root Folder for review/grading.

Website Project: *Details & Process*

First you will create all of the planning stages of your website along with the design comps. You will have:

- determined your **Topic**: what the site is for (company or industry)
- turned in a **Moodboard**: layered Photoshop file
- turned in your **Site Map**: digital or on paper, site with 6-10 pages
- turned in **2 Wireframes**: one for the Homepage and one for a Secondary page
- turned in **2 Design Comps**: layered Photoshop files; one each for your Homepage and a Secondary page

Next you start the actual building of webpages. Here is a quick overview of the steps you should follow to build out your site:

1. Open your Homepage Design Comp in Fireworks and slice it, preparing it to export to HTML/graphic images. This includes adding Rollovers and the necessary frames (*DW, Fireworks & Photoshop.pdf* and *Fireworks Slicing of Design Comps.pdf*).
2. Open your Secondary Page Design Comp in Fireworks and repeat the process. Prepare this one to be used as a template for all secondary pages.
3. Export HTML from both Fireworks PNG files (mentioned in 1 & 2 above) to create your working files. Dreamweaver will now become your primary tool.
4. Create a New Site in Dreamweaver for your working HTML files (*DW Site Control.pdf*).
5. For your homepage, enter all of your text or additional graphical content (*DW Document Info-Adding Content.pdf*). Also type in your text navigation and setup both text and graphical links (*DW Linking.pdf*).
6. Make other layout adjustments as necessary (centering your layout, formatting text, etc.) utilizing CSS Rules as you can (*Cascading Style Sheets-1.pdf & Cascading Style Sheets-2.pdf*).
7. Add META tags to your page (*DW Document Info-Adding Content.pdf*).
8. Open the HTML file for your secondary page and repeat steps 5 through 7 for this file (leaving out any content that would be specific to a page). Save this file as *template.htm*.
9. In the Finder, make a copy of *template.htm* for each additional page that will be in your site (i.e. *products.htm, contactus.htm, sitemap.htm*, etc.). Duplicate these in the same folder that *template.htm* already exists in (using the Finder's Duplicate command (⌘-D)). Do not move these around in the Finder, instead go back into Dreamweaver and organize them as you would like (putting them in subfolders, etc.). This will maintain their links.
10. Now open each page file and enter any specific type or graphical content. Remember that you can preview these files in a browser any time you like. Don't forget to check your links.
11. If utilizing one, add a contact form on your Contact Us page (*Forms.pdf*).
12. Once your site is complete and you have previewed all pages (including links) you can upload it to a server (*Uploading Your Site.pdf*).