

## Web Design Articles

Now let's assume that this scheme tender belongs to a place that sells products online. The rattling fact that half the users cannot modify the page, translates into losses worth half the amount straightaway (perhaps, modify more!) Hence we present here a blend of assorted creative skills & technical prowess &ndash; and digit is no less important than the other.

In the mass lines, we hit jotted downbound a some points that we noticed during our observation on online sites which are important from the saucer of view of scheme designers. Some of them haw be condemned with a pinch of salt; for it is not possible to please everyone every time. But most of them are simple enough to be used as a conception of thumb.

1. A picture, they say, is worth a cardinal words. A picture file, alas, is also almost as big. Images, no doubt, enhance the look of a page, but it is not best to go overboard in stuffing your tender with a truckload of images. Most net-surfers ingest a dial-up unification and the average instance to alluviation a tender should be no longer than 5 seconds. If it's longer, the surfer module most probably click absent elsewhere. So, within this time, all the images on a tender staleness be loaded as well. So, as a rough yardstick, keep the aggregative tender filler less than 30k.

Another important saucer to note is that each file on the tender requires a removed protocol request to the server. So a aggregation of small images &ndash; modify if they do not add up to a aggregation in terms of bytes &ndash; module andante downbound the loading a lot.

Even when you staleness ingest images for navigation, please give a second thought to the users who module not be seeing those jazzy, fantastic & truly awful buttons that you spent hours to design. Yes, we are talking of the ALT text concept of the IMG tag. Do not block to provide an Alternate Text for each ikon that you ingest for navigation. (It haw be left blank for destined images that are purely for aesthetic reasons, but let that be an exception, rather than the rule.) Though not obviously apparent, ALT text crapper help much users immensely.

Modern browsers offer users a choice to turn off images. This gives an idea of how troublesome the discarded images could be.

A pair of more attributes that make your pages alluviation faster are the HEIGHT and WIDTH attributes. Without these, the application staleness move for the ikon to download since it cannot know how much expanse to yield for them!

2. Navigability & functionality become before artistic excellence. It is no ingest making your place a masterpiece of art if users cannot manoeuver around it &ndash; modify after they reach the main page; they hit no clue as to how to go where they want to go.

3. Especially common, is a category of guidance that some people call Mystery Meat Navigation. That means that unless your mouse moves over an image, you hit no idea where that unification strength take you. Only when the mouse hovers do you wager the actual link. This is unmanageable because users requirement to move their mouse all over the place to find out which part is a unification and which is not.

4. Follow the K.I.S.S. principle: Keep it simple, stupid!

5. Next is a rattling important applicatory suggestion: whenever your full tender is within a TABLE, the tender cannot render (i.e., the tender does not exhibit on the screen) unless the whole plateau is downloaded. You strength hit noticed this on several websites, when there is no state for a long time, and suddenly the whole tender is visible. Hence, to avoid much a situation, what you should do is this: Split the plateau up into two tables digit below the other, and let the top digit be a short plateau that displays meet the tender header and a some guidance links. So now, directly upon downloading this part of the page, users crapper wager the tender header &ndash; and this prepares them for the long move ahead, as substantially as keeps them from leaving your place to go to other sites, in case of a andante connection.

6. The ongoing application wars hit left only digit accident &ndash; the user. As a word of caution, stay absent from all browser-specific functions. Because if a destined feature is supported by digit browser, it module most definitely not be supported by another. Where you staleness ingest much features, it should not restrict the display of the tender in the other application which does not support much functionality. In other words, your tender should degrade gracefully.

7. Creating a newborn application pane should be the authority of the user only. Do not try to popup newborn windows to clutter the user's screen. All links staleness open in the same pane by default. An exception, however, haw be prefabricated for pages containing a links list. It is convenient in much cases to open links in added window, so that the user crapper become backwards to the links tender easily. Even in much cases, it is best to give the user a prior note that links would open in a newborn window.

8. Keep in mind the fonts-challenged users too. The ultra-jazzy "Cloister Negroid MT Light" type that looks so awful on your machine may substantially be degraded into plain old Times New Roman on your user's machine. The reason? He/she does not have the type installed on his/her machine – and that's obvious – there's nothing you can do about the situation, sitting halfway across the globe from them.

9. Stay clear of out-of-the-way hard-to-find fonts. Use plain vanilla fonts such as Arial, Verdana, Tahoma, and Courier. If you must use a jazzy font, make your jazzy fonts into an icon and put that on the page. (And while you're there, do not block Tip #1.)

10. A newborn organisation gimmick that is increasingly being used on the scheme has caught my fancy: It is a rattling functional guidance bar that guides you across all possible paths within the site.