**Web Design Best Practices Checklist**

**Background Information**

* URL: http://rvccmccs01.raritanval.edu/~pcri7068/cisy225/aboutme3/index.html
* Target Audience: Employers, Students, Schools
* Purpose: Provides hobbies, who they are, and about themselves to users.

**Page Layout**

1. x Appealing to target audience
2. x   Consistent site header/logo-comment is not consistent with page. Border and picture behind text is fine.
3. x Consistent navigation area
4. n/a Informative page title that includes the company/organization/site name
5. x    Page footer area includes copyright, last update, contact e-mail address
6. x    Good use of basic design principles: repetition, contrast, proximity, and alignment-not good use of repetition mostly with header. Alignment is good and the contrast is good
7. x    Displays without horizontal scrolling at 1024×768 and higher resolutions
8. x    Balance of text/graphics/white space on page-no whitespace on page
9. x    Good contrast between text and background
10. x    Header and nav occupy less than ¼ to ⅓ of the browser at 1024×768 resolution
11. x    Home page has compelling, interesting information above the fold at 1024×768
12. x    Home page downloads within ten seconds on dial-up connection
13. n/a    Viewport meta tag is used to enhance display on smartphones
14. n/a    Media queries configure responsive page layout for smartphone and tablet display

**Browser Compatibility**

1. x   Displays on popular/current versions of Internet Explorer-Does not display border on header and footer but does display website.
2. x   Displays on popular/current versions of Microsoft Edge- Does not display border on header and footer but does display website.
3. x Displays on current versions of Firefox-Firefox crashes but site displays fine
4. x   Displays on current versions of Google Chrome
5. x   Displays on current versions of Opera
6. n/a   Displays on current versions of Safari (both Mac and Windows)
7. x   Displays on popular mobile devices (including tablets and smartphones)

**Navigation**

1. x  Main navigation links are clearly and consistently labeled
2. x   Navigation is easy to use for target audience
3. n/a   If main navigation uses images, clear text links are in the footer section of the page
4. ❏   If main navigation uses Flash, clear text links are in the footer section of the page **I’m not using Flash.**
5. ❏   Navigation is structured in an unordered list-**Possibly use an unordered list.**
6. ❏   Navigation aids, such as site map, skip navigation link, or breadcrumbs are used **There are not remotely enough pages to justify that.**
7. x   All navigation hyperlinks “work” — are not broken

**Color and Graphics**

1. x   Color scheme is limited to a maximum of three or four colors plus neutrals
2. x   Color is used consistently
3. x   Text color has [sufficient contrast](http://snook.ca/technical/colour_contrast/colour.html) with background color
4. x   Color is not used alone to convey meaning
5. x   Use of color and graphics enhances rather than distracts from the site-**Put images in to distinguish your site more See the words: “Enhances rather than distracts from”? I have no content that would be enhanced by said images.**
6. x   Graphics are optimized and do not significantly slow download
7. ❏   Each graphic used serves a clear purpose-**Use graphics** **There is no reason to use graphics. Graphics for the sake of graphics is silly and I have no material that needs them at the moment.**
8. ❏   Image tags use the alt attribute to configure an alternate text description **I have no images.**
9. x  Animated images do not distract from the site and do not endlessly repeat-Animated text does not distract users

**Multimedia**

1. n/a   Each audio/video/Flash file used serves a clear purpose
2. n/a   The audio/video/Flash files used enhance rather than distract from the site
3. n/a   Captions are provided for each audio or video file used
4. n/a   Download times for audio or video files are indicated
5. n/a   Links to downloads for media plug-ins are provided

**Content Presentation**

1. x   Common fonts such as Arial or Times New Roman are used
2. x   No more than one web font is used
3. x   Techniques of writing for the Web are used: headings, bullet points, brief paragraphs-possibly put text into bullets to make it easier for users to read
4. x   Fonts, font sizes, and font colors are consistently used
5. x   Content provides meaningful, useful information
6. x   Content is organized in a consistent manner
7. x   Information is easy to find (minimal clicks)
8. x   Timeliness: The date of the last revision and/or copyright date is accurate-Possibly put a date onto site in footer
9. x   Content does not include outdated material
10. x   Content is free of typographical and grammatical errors
11. x   Content provides links to other useful sites-possibly put website you like to use in site
12. x   Avoids the use of “Click here” when writing text for hyperlinks
13. ❏   Hyperlinks use a consistent set of colors to indicate visited/nonvisited status-**Use hover and visited in style sheet and change color to show when visited and when hovered so users don’t get confused. I had actually tried that, but it turns out keyframe animations don’t actually care about the pseudoclasses. And I feel the aesthetic, in this one instance, in a 3 page website, trumps that.**
14. ❏   If graphics are used to convey meaning, the alternate text equivalent is provided **No graphics.**
15. ❏   If media is used to convey meaning, the alternate text equivalent is provided **No media.**

**Functionality**

1. x   All internal hyperlinks work
2. n/a   All external hyperlinks work
3. n/a   All forms function as expected
4. x   No JavaScript errors are generated

**Accessibility**

1. ❏   If main navigation uses images, text links are in the footer section of the page **No images.**
2. ❏   If main navigation uses Flash, text links are in the footer section of the page **You really should not be using Flash**
3. x   Navigation is structured in an unordered list-**Use an unordered list No. See above.**
4. n/a  Navigation aids, such as site map, skip navigation link, or breadcrumbs are used **Why is this on the list twice?**
5. x   Color is not used alone to convey meaning
6. x   Text color has [sufficient contrast](http://snook.ca/technical/colour_contrast/colour.html) with background color
7. ❏   Image elements use the alt attribute to configure an alternate text description **Why is THIS on the list twice.**
8. ❏   If graphics are used to convey meaning, the alternate text equivalent is provided **Isn’t this the same as number 7?**
9. ❏   If media is used to convey meaning, the alternate text equivalent is provided **WHY is this ON the list TWICE?**
10. n/a   Captions are provided for each audio or video file used
11. x   Use attributes designed to improve accessibility such as title when appropriate
12. n/a   Use the id and headers attributes to improve the accessibility of table data
13. x   Configure frames with frame titles and place meaningful content in the noframes area **Nobody. Uses. FRAMES. Anymore.**
14. x   The html element’s lang attribute indicates the spoken language of the page
15. n/a   The role attribute indicates [ARIA landmark roles](http://blog.paciellogroup.com/2013/02/using-wai-aria-landmarks-2013/)

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