

Evaluation Activity

This is one of the best parts of the class. The opportunity for each of you to evaluate a website. In order to build great websites, it helps to look at what others are doing and evaluate them. Many web development companies will do an evaluation of their own website by a variety of methods. One easy way is to bring users in and sit them in front of a computer and have them click around and get feedback from them. Here is your chance to do just that. You will pick a website and then evaluate it. I have the outline and criteria below.

Outline

1. Site Overview. This section contains an overview of the site. who are you evaluating, what does the company or entity do, who is the purpose of the site.
2. Site Layout. Describe to someone who has not been to the site, how it is laid out. What are the colors, fonts and graphics. What is your first impression of the site. Clean? lots of white space? cluttered? too busy? What do you like about the site? What do you not like.
3. Navigation. Describe the menu structure and navigation. Is it hard or easy to find what you are looking for? Is the site easy to navigate? What do you like about the navigation? What do you not like?
4. Accessibility. Based on what you learned about accessible web sites, how accessible is it? You might consider running the Wave or Bobby tests on a few pages of the site and report your findings. Discuss any problems or issues you find.
5. Site Changes. based on your writings above, what would you do to improve the site? What changes would you make? What could be done to make the site better, more accessible, or easier to navigate? Any color or layout changes?

Readings

No Readings for the evaluation activity

Elements & Tags

Activities

Your assignment is to evaluate two different web sites. The first one you choose from a list of those provided. You will find an electronic sign up sheet located on the home page ("Evaluation Activity Sign up Sheet"). Once inside you chose from the list and "sign up" That takes care of your first evaluation.

The second one you choose any site you know of and want to evaluate. You do not need to sign up for this site, you just choose it and do the evaluation. Use the criteria listed above in the Outline for both of your evaluations. You may wish to look over the examples to see how students have put them together in the past.

Each evaluation is worth 25 points for a total of 50 points. You create a nice looking web page for each eval that you do. You may wish to type your evals into a word processor, check the spelling then copy the text over into your web page. Use appropriate tags and styles to format each eval. Provide a link to the website you are evaluating.

Make sure your evaluations are complete. "I would not change anything" is not acceptable in your evaluation. Please take the time on this assignment. Thrown together at the last minute evaluations are easy to spot and your grade will be adjusted accordingly. You will be judged for both the look and layout (proper HTML, good visual appeal) of your evaluation as well as your write-up.

Save your evaluations as eval1.html and eval2.html and place them in a folder called evaluations and upload to the server.

Resources

www.webaim.org

<http://www.warp.webaim.org> user code Reeve6670

Reflective Questions

What makes a good web site? How would you go about designing that web site?