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Although there are many websites housed within the World Wide Web and by proxy the Internet, they are not all inherently equal. As Nielsen mentions “Since my first attempt in 1996, I have compiled many top-10 lists of the biggest mistakes in Web design.” (Nielsen, Jakob)

Perhaps the most obvious problem is that of a bad search, this could range from typos and plurals to low search results when it comes to websites. This is the case with Hamsterdance, a website that could contain anything. However, in its current state there is little to see as it has been noted as for sale according to GoDaddy. (Save BIG) Without a working link, and some sort of redirect the website will quickly lose its usability for users that visit.

Many users dislike reading and then coming across a PDF which disrupts their reading flow. Although there is little in terms of written words on Hssports website, there are multiple PDF links that require a user to visit each to read about the content rather than navigating the webpage. (Hssports.com) Without an easy way to glean information many visitors are likely to find another page that will suffice with less effort.

Like that of Ling’s cars the Arngren website is a mess that features numerous links of various colors. Without a clear distinction between links that a user has visited or not there is little to track what you have and have not visited on the webpage (Arngren, Frithjof) Furthermore, it makes finding specific information considerably harder when everything is tightly packed together.

A variety of issues make the nwokillers website rather tough to scan. However, one of the major issues with reading on this page is the variety of colors and font sizes that are meshed with numerous images and videos. (Illuminate Alert Page) In order to create a better design for this website they could perhaps simplify the colors to one for headings and one for content, and same with the variety of fonts.

Another overlooked issue is that of a fixed font size. Not unlike the previous example, Mcsweeney’s website suffers from a large section of what can only be described as word vomit. (Stern, Julian) This includes tags and a vast amount of forward slashes that don’t suffice the user’s goal in anyway.

Perhaps this isn’t always the case, but page titles with a low visibility on search engines are not likely to be seen which is the case with Zingerman’s cheeses website. (Cheese for sale) By creating a more specific and detailed search tag this website could help bring their result from the tenth plus page on Google to the first page.

Returning to Ling’s car website there is an obvious problem with a webpage looking like an advertisement. While this seems to be due to the fact it elicits users to click the close button, or altogether search for the answer to their problem elsewhere. (Valentine, Ling) By removing unnecessary elements of the website such as animated images, or flashing type this websites design could be vastly improved.

Often overlooked the consistency of a website can remove many problems that stem from this, one being confusion. Inconsistency can lead to a sense of uncertainty for users, whether that be missing information or in the case of Pennyjuice. (Penny Juice) By simplifying their color scheme could help to identify key information and navigation that at present is easy to overlook.

It is uncommon but with the website Quora there are often links that a user might expect to reveal further information, but often open new browser windows. As previously mentioned, consistency is key. However, an even more critical function is the ability to easily navigate backwards on the website which is disabled by opening another tab. (Knight, Dave) But this also creates a bordering hostile environment for the user as their screen begins to clutter with various windows they unintentionally opened.

Claim: Finally, one of the most problematic design issues is not answering a user’s questions.

Evidence: The website endlesshorse does just this, as there is no legible text.(Josephson, Colleen) But there is a horse made of various elements that satisfies none of the needs or information that might accompany how one might go about creating such a representation of an animal.

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