

Andy Mantell

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Profile

Combining modern development practices, excellent knowledge of cross browser issues and an eye for design to produce solutions that focus on the user's needs and deliver on goals throughout the process. Bringing attention to detail, fresh ideas and passion; whether it's turning briefs into wireframes, designs into templates or specifications into elegant solutions.

Skills

- Clean, hand-coded & accessible HTML, conforming to the W3C guidelines.
- Extensive knowledge of CSS, cross browser compatibility and Internet Explorer issues.
- Advanced Objected Oriented PHP & MySQL
- Advanced Drupal 7 site building, theming, custom module development, integration with external services.
- Advanced JavaScript (jQuery, MooTools and new technologies such as HTML5 Canvas)
- Solid XML, XSLT, XSD
- Knowledge of a variety of other platforms including Wordpress, Magento & Expression Engine
- Wireframing and Rapid Prototyping in Axure RP
- Strong Photoshop skills
- Experience building email templates
- Subversion & Git
- Thorough code documentation using PHPDoc

Work history

Dec 2009 – Present

Freelance

Since December 2009 I have been working as a freelance web developer, working on a mixture of contract and private work. This has included:

- Frontend template build for Aardman Digital's "Wallace and Gromit's World of Invention" (<http://www.bbc.co.uk/bbcone/wallaceandgromit/hands-on/>)
- Frontend template build for Future Publishing, working on the "Oxford Today" magazine (<https://www.oxfordtoday.ox.ac.uk/>) and Edge magazine (<http://www.next-gen.biz/>)
- Drupal / Ubercart based eCommerce site for selling telephone numbers. This included integration with an external API for fetching available numbers and a integration with an existing MSSQL order system. (<http://tamartelecommunications.co.uk/>)

Dec 2009 - March 2010

Formoda Ltd

At Formoda I was tasked with developing a new Drupal based CMS platform to form a side shoot of their main business. The focus was on bringing Drupal's admin interface up to scratch in terms of usability and functionality. This involved development of a custom admin theme and several custom modules designed to improve aspects such as image management. Another goal was to allow rapid development and deployment of new sites, facilitating turnaround times of under a day. This was achieved by developing highly modular "features" which could be installed at the click of a button. During my time at Formoda, I introduced modern development practices such as version control, efficient task management and bug tracking. The result was a solid CMS solution allowing maximum profit to be made from the lower end of the market whilst giving the client a highly flexible and capable product.

Nov 2007 - Nov 2009

Nameless Media Group

My chief role at Nameless was the development of XHTML templates from Photoshop designs, taking care that the result was true to the original design whilst achieving the highest level of accessibility and search engine friendly markup. As part of this role, I was expected to keep abreast of current developments in accessibility, SEO and web technologies whilst assisting my colleagues in attaining these standards. I gained extensive experience constructing sites in and creating templates for many systems including Drupal and Wordpress.

I worked as lead developer on projects up to 30k, ensuring that the best technical solution was chosen from conception through to implementation. This involved attending client meetings, writing functional specifications and wireframing of websites and web applications, ensuring that the solution was user friendly and achieved the client's goals. During my time at Nameless I gained a solid understanding of usability issues and was a key link between the design and development teams.

Aug 2003 - Aug 2004

Ewan Group plc

This was a yearlong placement between college and university. I worked as part of a team of programmers and statisticians providing database solutions, data analysis and map work for the water industry.

Education

Sep 2004 - Jun 2007

University of Exeter

BSc Cognitive Science – 2:1

This course was a combination of Computer Science and Psychology. My final year dissertation focused on the semantic web and my project involved developing a computer simulation of the frog visual system in MatLab.

Sep 2001 - Jun 2003

Exeter College

A Levels: Mathematics (A), Computer Science (A), Physics (B)

AS Levels: Further Mathematics (C), Critical Thinking (C)

Sep 1996 - Jun 2001

Teign School, Kingsteignton

10 GCSE passes comprising 5 A*, 3 A & 2 B grades, including English & Mathematics.