

Sowing the seeds for change

Best Practices for Teaching Web Design

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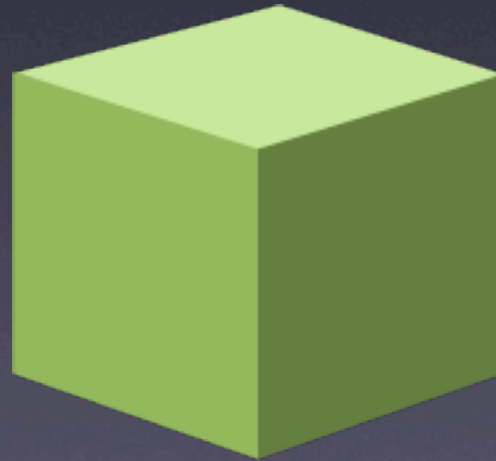
How do you start building a Web site?



Think, design, build.

- Think function, think message.
 - content, information structure
 - design/artistic direction
- Design with function and message in mind.
 - usable
 - device independent
 - for a global audience
- Build it to be:
 - semantically meaningful
 - accessible
 - interoperable

What makes a *good* Web site?



A good Web site is ...

- understandable to all
- workable in all devices
- easy to use
- appealing to look at
- good content

Best practices are:

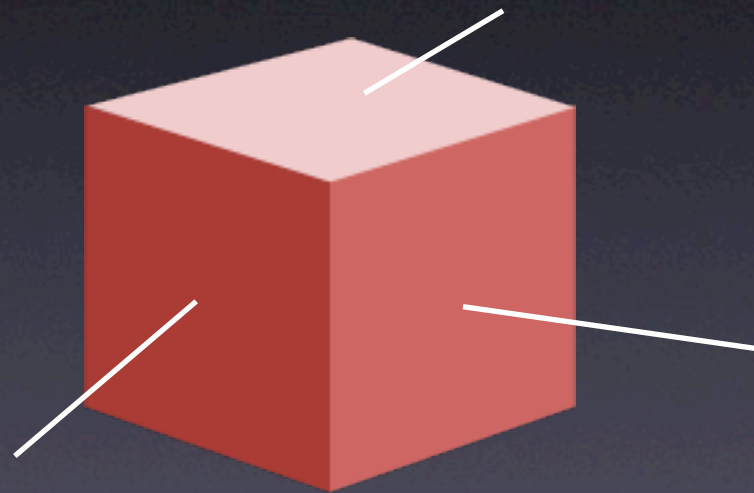
- Separation of markup (HTML/XHTML) from presentation (CSS)
- Usability & Information Architecture
- Accessibility
- Interoperability
- Internationalization
- Aesthetically appealing

Best practices are:

Separation of markup
from presentation

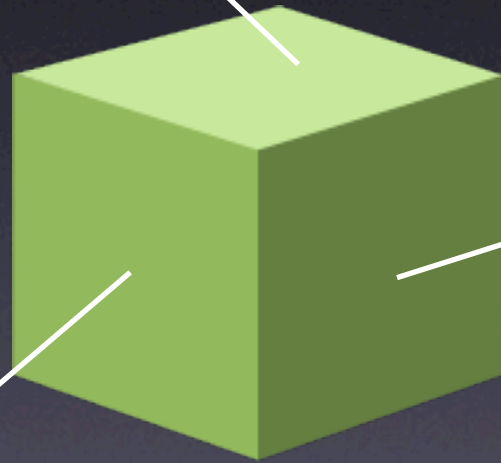
Usability &
information
architecture

Aesthetic appeal



Best practices are:

Accessibility



Interoperability

Internationalization

Teaching it right ...

... begins with knowing it right.

- Keep up to date. Insist on adequate training.
- Exchange tips with your peers and colleagues.
- Encourage reluctant colleagues to accept change.

Teaching it right ...

- Choose textbooks that help you teach standards-based thinking.

- Recommended books:

<http://www.webteacher.ws/recommended.html>

- Your students may be skilled users of the Web and might know more than you do about certain things. Learn from them.

Understanding the impact

- Industry demands Web standards knowledge
- Are your students going to be employable?
- Students who want to learn standards may go elsewhere if your program isn't meeting their needs better.
- A reputation for turning out industry-ready students may have positive impact your faculty/deparment budget.

Resources

- Time lapse design process
<http://mboffin.com/post.aspx?id=1619>
- W3Schools
<http://www.w3schools.com/>
- CSS Discuss Wiki
<http://css-discuss.incutio.com/>
- Web accessibility best practices
<http://cita.uiuc.edu/html-best-practices/index.php>
- Real world CSS Zen for your site
<http://www.thinkvitamin.com/features/css/real-world-css-zen-for-your-site>

Thank you!

We welcome your feedback
and further discussion.

New EduTF mailing list

<http://webdesign-l.com/mailman/listinfo/edu-act>