

Planning how a web page will appear when printed or viewed on a handheld

CSS for other Media

Use Multiple Style Sheets

- Use at least 3 different style sheets to control the rendering on:
 - **Computer Screen**
 - **Print**
 - **Handheld**
- Link to the style sheet
 - *Many built-in browsers on cell phones don't support @media, @import methods of loading style sheets.*
- Put the screen CSS closest to the <body> tag.

Link Code inside <head></head>

- `<link rel="stylesheet" type="text/css" media="print" href="print.css" />`
- `<link rel="stylesheet" type="text/css" media="handheld" href="handheld.css" />`
- `<link rel="stylesheet" type="text/css" media="screen" href="screen.css" />`

Where the red text is your .css file name

Print CSS

- Consider printing the essential information, not the *design*. Graphics and links can be hidden.
- Look at the browser “**Print preview**” to see how it will print.
- Most printers do not print background images defined in CSS - don't place key info such as site name there. Do use CSS, but also add text or alt tags. Alternatively, use alternative content to appear in print only.

Print CSS – how-to-start..

- Copy the screen CSS file, and rename for print.
- Tweak/disable the styles as needed
- Use “display none” on a div wrapped around an item you don’t want to print.
- Change font styles to black & serif. (or sans)
- Remove background images
- Most printers do not print BG images by default, but some do. Consider how it looks if the BG image *is* printed

Handheld devices – sample sizes

- Palm Trio: 320 x 250px. IE 6.0 browser
- Casio 930 CA: 480 x 700px. Native browser
- Sony Ericsson C702: 240 x 266px. NetFront 3.4
- Nokia N78: 240 x 274px. OSS Browser
- Motorola RAZR V3m: 176 x 182px: Openwave 6.2
- iPhone: 960 x 640px. Safari
- Opera Mobile 480 x 800px, most common portrait WVGA screen size on modern Smartphones.

Consider:

- Many phones (BB, iPhone etc.) show screen versions of a site, entire page will appear tiny.
- Is the screen version acceptable in small size, or should a custom page be built for phones?
- Do the elements wrap down in an acceptable way on those phones that display in a single column?
- Do CSS flyouts work?

Guidelines

- Make pages degrade well, use XHTML Basic.
- Don't rely on cookies, Ajax, Flash, JavaScript (?)
(Few phones support flash)
- Longer links easier to tap on screen (Have links include multiple words in text)
- Small images, well optimized for fast download!
- No large/tall images at top of page
- No frames or tables (will not wrap)
- Define measures in relative sizes (em's, %)
- Set fonts to default

Testing for phone screens

- Dreamweaver **Style Rendering** tool bar. If separate CSS files for print, phone, Projection, TTY, TV, are present, it will preview those.
- Dreamweaver includes “**Device Central**” this previews the rendering of many phones brands. *It downloads the latest models screen.*
- In the Firefox browser, install the **Web Developer** plug in, select “Small screen rendering” under “Accessories”. *Approximate view, wraps elements into 1-column- if possible!*
- Download the **Opera Mobile** browser

links

- <http://webdesign.about.com/od/mobile/a/write-web-pages-for-the-iphone.htm>
- <http://webdesign.about.com/od/mobile/a/detect-mobile-devices.htm>
- <http://www.opera.com/developer/tools/>
- <http://drupal.org/project/mobile>
- <http://drupal.org/node/64144>

Interesting reading about the 31 styles issue in IE

- <http://support.microsoft.com/kb/262161>
- <http://drupal.org/node/228818>