

6.813 HW2 – Heuristic Evaluation – YourTurn

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Collaborators: I discussed this with nobody.

Overall

1. Persistent navigation bar. Use of Bootstrap for styling purposes (fig. 1)
 - Heuristic: consistency and standards
 - Severity: none (good)

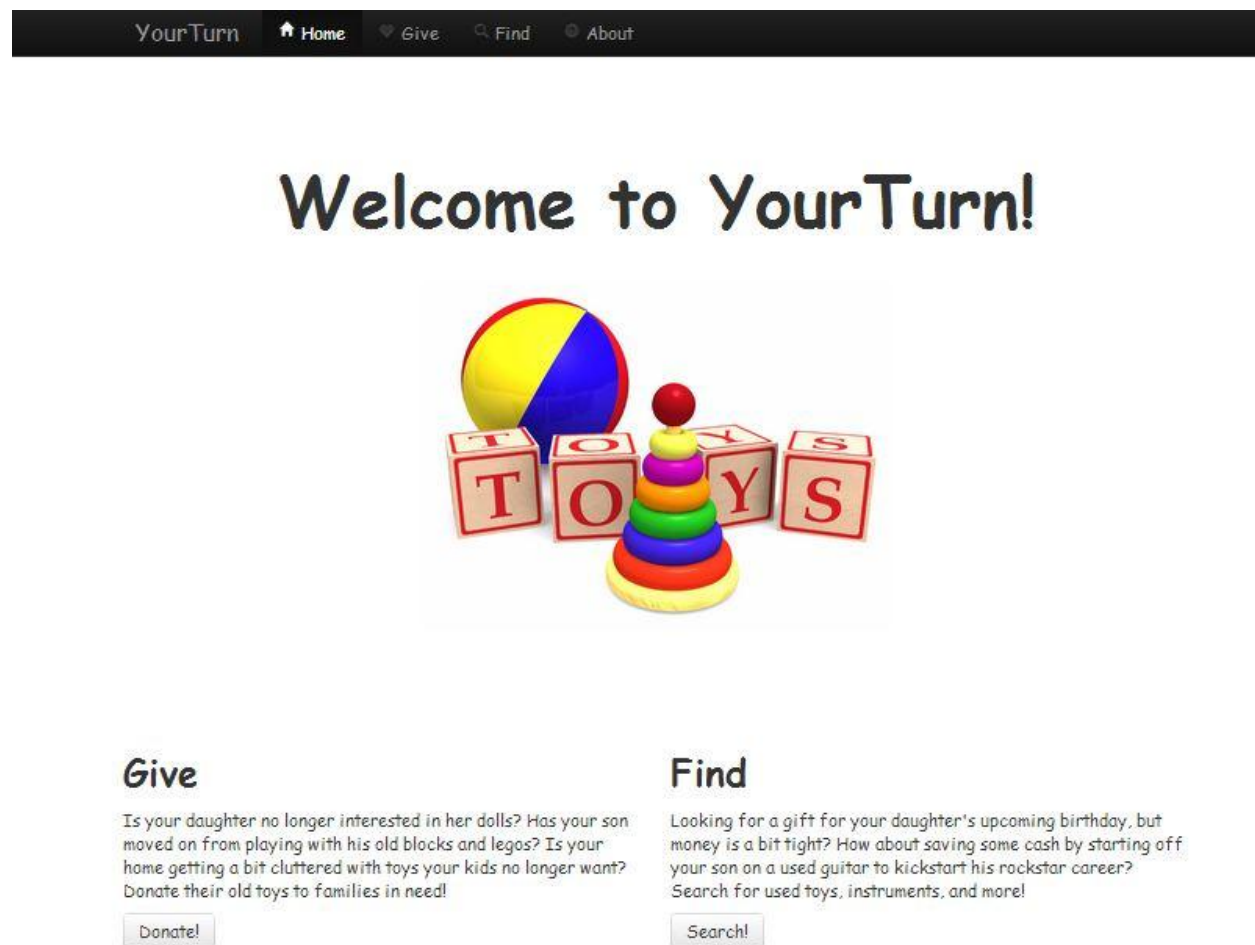


Figure 1: YourTurn homepage. Note the simplicity and the two paragraphs of explanation at the bottom

Homepage

2. Simple homepage design, lots of whitespace, not overwhelming (fig. 1)
 - Heuristic: aesthetic and minimalist design
 - Severity: none (good)
3. Simple directions, straightforward explanation of site's purpose (fig. 1)

- Heuristic: help and documentation
 - Severity: none (good)
4. Lack of YourTurn logo at bottom of page unlike other pages (fig. 1 and 2)
- Heuristic: consistency and standards
 - Severity: cosmetic



Figure 2: YourTurn logo. Found at the bottom of some pages but not others

Give Page

5. The user should have the option to pick multiple age ranges or to define age ranges by typing (fig. 3)
- Heuristic: user control and freedom
 - Severity: major

Donate used toys!

Toy Name

Age Range

Condition

Category

Description

Figure 3: Give page. The drop down menus only allow for one selection

6. The user should have the option to pick multiple categories (fig. 3)
 - Heuristic: user control and freedom
 - Severity: major
7. The dropdown menu should have 'other' or 'miscellaneous' category (fig. 3)
 - Heuristic: user control and freedom
 - Severity: major
8. The user should be able to input information about location of item for pickup or mailing purposes (fig. 3)
 - Heuristic: user control and freedom
 - Severity: minor

Find Page

9. The images are squished into square shape without good scaling (fig. 4)
 - Heuristic: aesthetic and minimalist design
 - Severity: minor

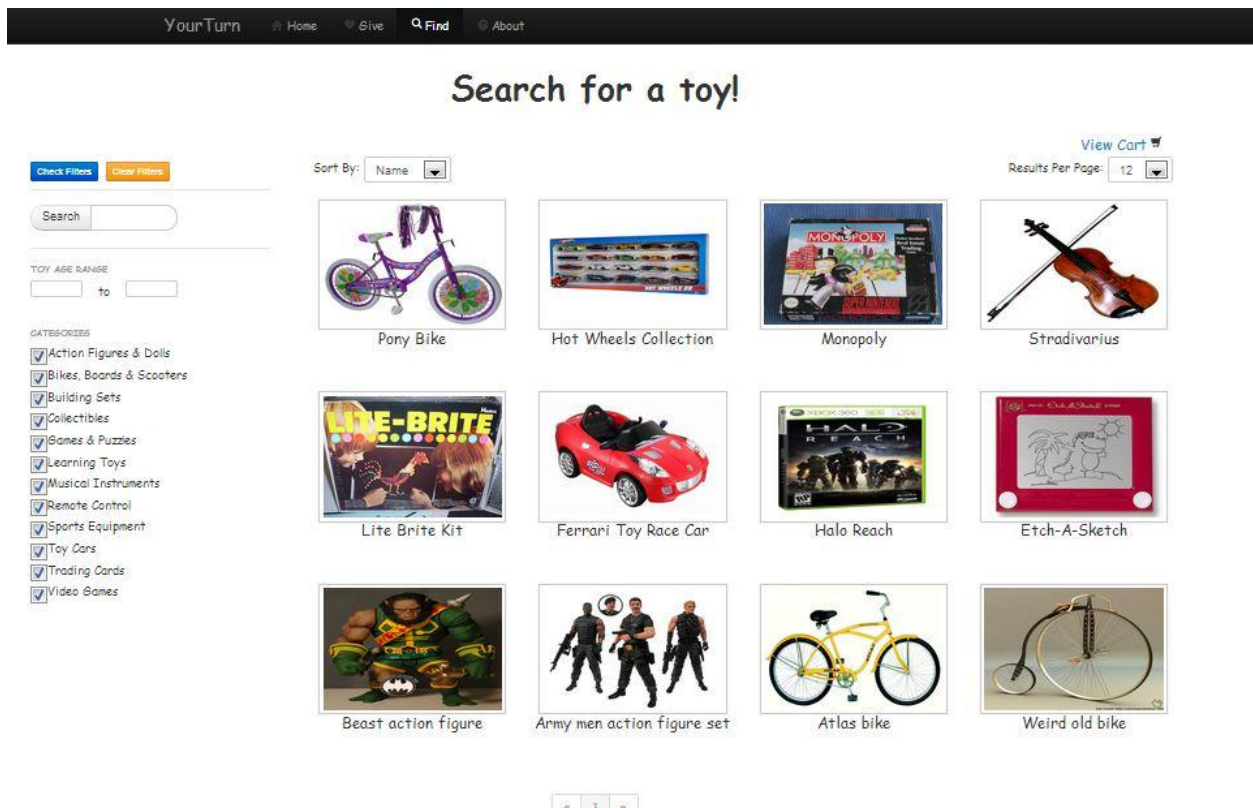


Figure 4: Find page. Note the filters on the left

10. 'View cart' option similar to other websites, shows current state (fig. 4)

- Heuristic: Visibility of system status
 - Severity: none (good)
11. The age range here is typed instead of in a drop down menu like on the Give Page (fig. 5)
- Heuristic: consistency and standards
 - Severity: minor

The image shows a form titled "TOY AGE RANGE". It consists of two empty rectangular input boxes, one on the left and one on the right, separated by the word "to" in a small font. The entire form is enclosed in a light gray border.

Figure 5: toy age range on find page

12. Filters arranged the same as other websites (fig. 4)
- Heuristic: consistency and standards
 - Severity: none (good)
13. The 'clear filters' button doesn't clear the age range, only the checkboxes (fig. 4 and 5)
- Heuristic: flexibility and efficiency
 - Severity: minor
14. There is no way to reset to previous filters
- Heuristic: error prevention
 - Severity: minor
15. There is no information other than title is readily available (fig. 4)
- Heuristic: user control and freedom
 - Severity: minor

About Page

16. There are some spelling errors; 'experience' is 'expearence' and a space is missing between 'they' and 'don't' (fig. 6)
- Heuristic: aesthetic and minimalist design
 - Severity: minor

What is YourTurn?

YourTurn is a student website created for the class User Interface Design and Implementation. We were challenged to go through the iterative design process necessary to create a product with an interface that is intuitive and effieicnt. One requirement of the project was to serve a user population outside of ourselves. After interviewing members our our community, we found that many people expearence difficulty both in getting rid of and in finding used toys. From this YourTurn was born -- a site designed to provide an easy way for members of a community to exchange toys so that theydon't go to waste and make the day of some kids a little brighter!

Figure 6: about page statement with some spelling errors

17. There is a lack of the YourTurn logo at bottom of page unlike other pages (fig. 2)
- Heuristic: consistency and standards
 - Severity: cosmetic

Messages

18. There are no timestamps (fig. 7)

- Heuristic: consistency and standards
- Severity: minor

Messages

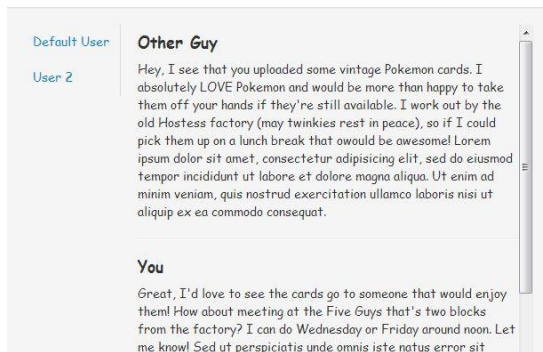


Figure 7: messages. Note the lack of timestamps.

General Notes

Overall, there were no major problems that needed to be fixed. The only large issues were the sections of the site which were noted as purposely left incomplete. The design is simple and straightforward, so a number of the heuristics were irrelevant; for example, I found nothing that fell into the “Error reporting, diagnosis, and recovery” section, especially since the user profile section was not implemented yet. The design is similar to that of other websites; in particular, the find page is reminiscent of sites like Amazon. The user should have an easy time navigating the site since it is built in a recognizable style. I did not find any instances of “Matching the real world” since there were no real world analogies made; I also did not find any instances of “recognition, not recall” since the site is simple enough that not much recall or recognition is necessary.