

# Web Design I



## Good Web Design

Would you write a book and not care if anyone read it? Would you paint a painting and not want people to look at it? Probably the answer to these questions is no. If you've worked hard on creating something like a book or some art work you're going to want others to appreciate what you accomplished. The same goes for creating a website. Usually you want people to use the site and to enjoy visiting the site. Web designers put counters on their sites for the very purpose to see how many people access the site. There is a sense of pride in their work and they want the site to be noticed.

This lesson will involve a discussion of what is good web design qualities and critiquing of web sites for the purpose to not make the same mistakes that others have.

### Good Verses Bad Websites:

First let's take a look at some sites that you consider "good" websites and those that you consider "bad" websites. Find 5 "good" websites and bookmark them in Safari. Then find 5 "bad" websites and also bookmark them in Safari. Next I want you to make a list of what you consider the bad attributes of the "bad" websites and a list of the attributes of the "good" websites. Type out the lists in "Word" and save it to your folder for this assignment ("YourName.gooddesign")

### 9 or 10 Principles of Effective Web Design:

There are certain "elements" in art that helps make a piece of art work more effective and pleasing. In the Art world these "elements" are Shape, Line, Color, Value, Form, Texture, and Space. There are certain "elements" in the world of Web Design as well. Some of these "elements" are similar to Art, but also include the literary world as well. Web Design combines both art and literature so we have to keep that in mind when building a website. As with Art and Literature, Web Design has its own "elements". The below websites discuss the "elements" or "principles" of web design. Go to these sites and compare their "principles" with your lists to see if you have found some common areas. On the same "Word document write a short paragraph about the common things on your list and the below websites.

<http://www.smashingmagazine.com/2008/01/31/10-principles-of-effective-web-design/> **You will need to copy and paste this link into the browser's url line to get it to work.**

<http://psd.tutsplus.com/tutorials/designing-tutorials/9-essential-principles-for-good-web-design/>

## **Critiquing Websites:**

Now that you know the “Principles of Effective Web Design” you will use those principles to critique 3 websites that your teacher has chosen for this lesson. For each website discuss which principles of web design for the following:

1. Which principles of web design did the designer do a good job of using and how those principles were used within the website.
2. Which principles of web design did the designer not use well and indicate examples.
3. What you would do if you could change the website. Be specific not just I’d make it simpler, but tell how you would make it simpler.

Type this out on the same “Word” document that you’ve been using for this lesson.

The websites are as follows:

<http://www.prairiehighschool.org/>

<http://www.bghs.bgsd.k12.wa.us/>

<http://www.seattleschools.org/schools/chiefsealth/>

## **Turning in the Assignment:**

Make sure you have your Name, Period #, and Class at the top of the page (typed). Print out the “Word” document that you have been using for the lesson. Three hold punch the printout and place it in you “Assignment” notebook. We will have some discussion about it so we’ll wait to turn in the whole thing to the “Turn in Tray”.