

SYNERGY • 20
13

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DataFlex Web Application Symposium – Part 8 **The designer's perspective**

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Data Access Europe

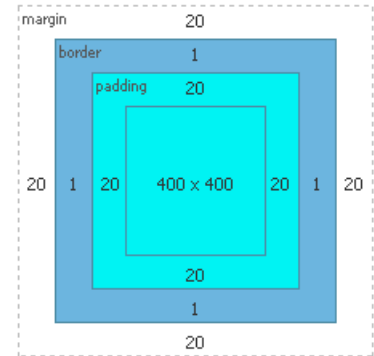
Styling your web application

It might take you some time
(depending on what you want)
but it's fun!

Styling your web application

- You'll need...
 - to understand how the framework works
 - good knowledge of CSS
 - Understand the CSS Box Model
 - a few tools
 - be persistent

"dimensions of a block element are calculated by width, height, padding, borders, and margins"



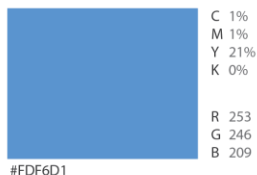
Creating the current themes

- High Contrast & Web Crème
 - Playing around with the framework
 - Trying to understand the framework
 - Did some experimenting with the framework
 - Again trying to understand how the framework works...
 - ... I finally got it!

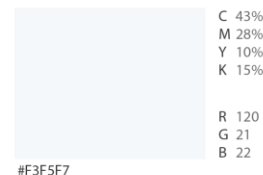
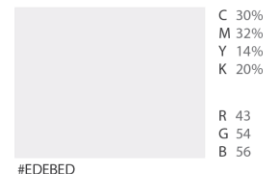
Creating the current themes

- Defined a style
- Created a color chart

Web Crème



High Contrast



Creating the current themes

Created Photoshop mockups (partially)
because in browser is quicker

File Views Reports Demo Themes

Clear/Add Clear all Save Delete

Order Entry

Order Number: Customer Number: Order Date:

Customer Name:

Street Address:

City: Zip: Ordered By:

State: Salesperson:

Terms: Ship Via:

Item ID	Description	Unit Price	Price	Quantity	Total
<input type="text" value="0"/>		€0,00	€0,00	0	€0,00

File Views Reports Demo Themes

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Creating the current themes

- CSS only (except the icons)
- Cross browser checked
- Beautified the GUI with CSS3
- Checked final results
- Delivered

What you **shouldn't** do

- Disturb the framework positioning
 - Don't use positioning
 - Randomly add paddings, margins, borders
- Apply CSS hacks

What you **should** do

- Know what you're doing
 - Create a mockup or hire someone to do it for you
 - Create a color chart
 - Create a color palette (ColorPic)
- Disable browser cache
- Use your skills and learn along the way
- Be creative and experiment

Make sure you apply styles to the correct Id or Class

There are many classes – be happy about it – use **Firebug** to find the right one

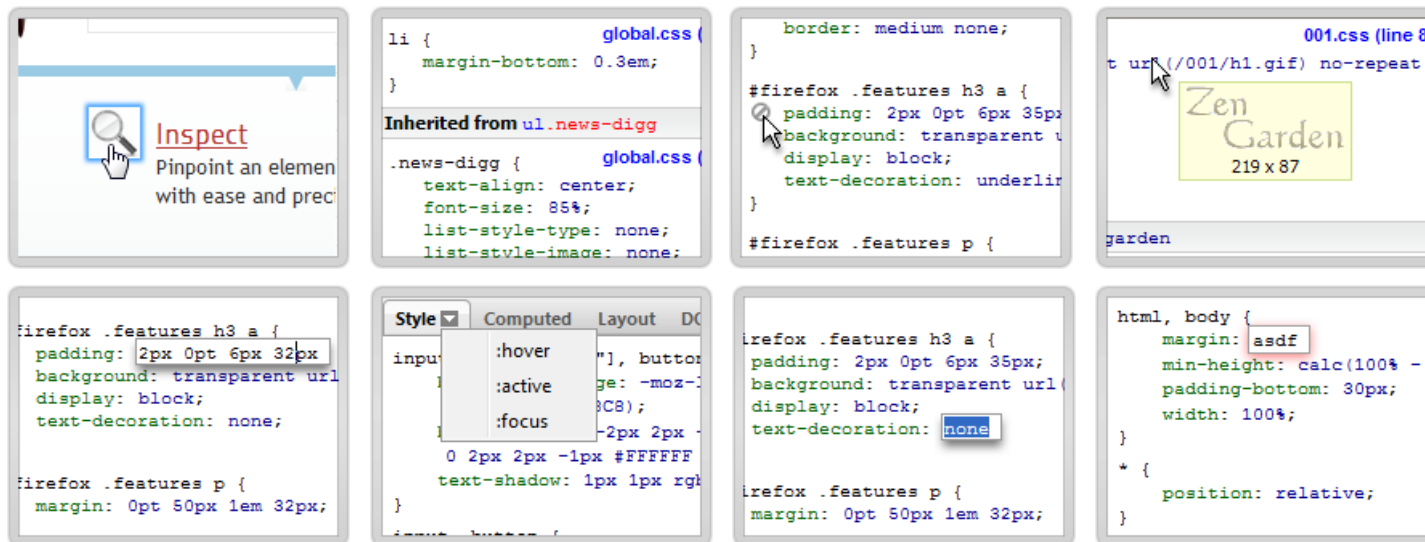
Tools

- Adobe Photoshop or Paint.NET
- FireFox with Firebug
- ColorPic

*“develop using “modern”
web-browsers with
standards first, then tweak
for buggy versions of
Internet Explorer, not the
other way around”*

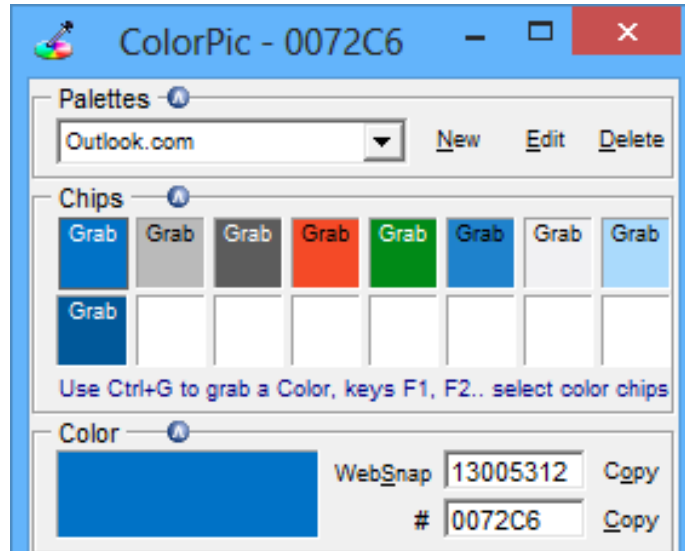
Tools

- Firebug will be your BFF



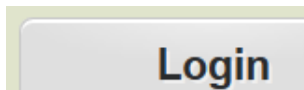
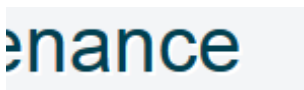
Tools

- Use ColorPic for creating your color palette



Applying CSS3 techniques

- Rounded corners
- Gradients
- Box shadows (inset)
- Text shadows
- @font-face
- Transitions, text selection, and more



*It's okay to
have **different**
experiences in
different
browsers*

Let's put these things to use

Different approaches

Create your application



Style your application

or

Style your application



Create your application

*We got great results by working **the other way around!***

Inge Ingelogd als R. Fermont ↗

Dashboard

Personalia

Dossiers

Instellingen

ZOEK IN DOSSIERS

2009.001055.21 🔍

ACTIEVE DOSSIERS

INACTIEVE DOSSIERS

▼ Dossier 2008.001035.01	>
▼ Dossier 2008.001035.05	>
▼ Dossier 2008.011035.09	>
▲ Dossier 2009.001055.21	>

Dossier informatie

DossierID: 2009.001055.21	Dossier aangelegd op: 18-07-2012
Naam dossier: Fermont R.M.	Dossier afhandelen voor: 31-12-2012
Soort dossier: Samenlevingscontract	

▼ Dossier 2010.201035.78	>
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Selling web applications

- Your options:
 - Use an existing theme
 - Modify an existing theme
 - Create your own theme

Looking for
a great custom
theme?

Hire me :)

Get started

We made our stuff look great so you can start right away, but if you want to make the investment you can make it even look better!