

JAMES MCQUARRIE

web consultant, designer & developer

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Whether you need an informational, brochure style website, a corporate or personal blog, or a fully blown web application (consumer or enterprise level) I can help define and design it from scratch, or review and redesign it.

With over 8 years experience of defining, designing and developing web sites and applications for companies ranging from small family run businesses, through to multinational corporations and government departments, I am well versed in delivering quality, easy to use, user-centered designs that will help sell your organisation, products and services.

What I can offer you

- Requirements gathering and analysis
- User Experience design
- Information Architecture design
- Information design
- Interface design
- xHTML and CSS3 development
- Prototyping
- Wire framing

I am comfortable working in Agile environments, with or without guidance and can work with both technical and non technical people across your organisation.

I follow a user-centered design methodology that puts the end users and their goals at the heart of every design decision made on a project, and I aim to get to a working, browser-based prototype of a design as fast as possible to test it in it's natural environment.

I also take pride in making sure that all of my development is as accessible as possible and is always cross-browser, cross-platform and cross-device compatible.

What I've done for others

Consultive Magazine - August 2010

I designed, developed and launched Consultive Magazine (www.consultivemagazine.com) in collaboration with a company called LightArc. Consultive Magazine is an online publication that publishes weekly articles written by some of the worlds leading consultants.

The articles are aimed at people who are thinking of becoming consultants, who have recently become a consultant and are looking for tips to help them get a head, and at people who have been in the industry for a while and want to learn from their peers.

I continue to work on the design and the development of the site. I am also co-editor and occasional author for the site too.

Make Me A Pin Up - July 2010

I launched Make Me A Pin Up (www.maekmeapinup.com) in July 2010. Make Me A Pin Up is an photo editing service. We take customer's favourite pin up photos and for a fee edit them to add an aged, retro finish to make them look like a 1950's pin up poster. I designed, launched and continue to run the site myself.

Sabbatical - December 2009 - June 2010

I took a six month sabbatical at the end of 2009 to spend some time working on a number of projects that will be launched over the coming year and to prepare for taking the leap into the world of contracting.

Front End Architect - ProcServe - May 2007 - December 2009

I was responsible for the User Experience of the ProcServe Trading Network, a multi-million pound collaborative e-procurement network that allows organisations to trade online. During my time at Procserve:

- I was instrumental in making the company's development process user-centered
- I defined and designed a new customer facing product called OTIS that allowed ProcServe to reach a new market with their offering
- I conducted customer requirements gathering workshops (both internal and external customers)
- I prototyped and wire framed new and future functionality for ProcServe's own products and presented these back to both internal and external stakeholders
- I coded xHTML and CSS templates for the development team to integrate with the company's solutions (fully accessible and cross-browser compatible)
- I established and chaired a company wide Development Council that included the CEO, Head of Sales, Head of IT and Head of Operations amongst others. The council prioritised development effort.

IT Consultant Analyst - PA Consulting - September 2005 - May 2007

I worked as a User Experience consultant within PA's "Information Systems Implementation" practice and advised clients on the User Experience, Information Architecture, and Information and Interface design. During my time at PA:

- I defined the requirements and then designed and developed the User Interface for a mobile telecommunications company's content and advertising management application.
- I designed and developed the User Interface for a pharmaceutical start up's online product management application
- I defined the requirements and then designed the User Interface for a consumer e-auctioning application at an early stage start up
- I designed and developed a web portal for a financial organisation
- I recoded the User Interface for a schools building web application to make it cross browser compatible.

Web designer - Freelance - 2001 - 2005

During my degree I supplemented my income by working as a freelance web designer. During this time I designed and developed a number of informational, brochure sites for small and medium sized companies. Including:

- A family run restaurant and bar
- A Holiday cottage business
- A PR consultant

Education

I have a 2:1 degree in Computer Science & E-business from Loughborough University (2001 - 2005)