

Session #7: Wireframing Tools



What's out there?



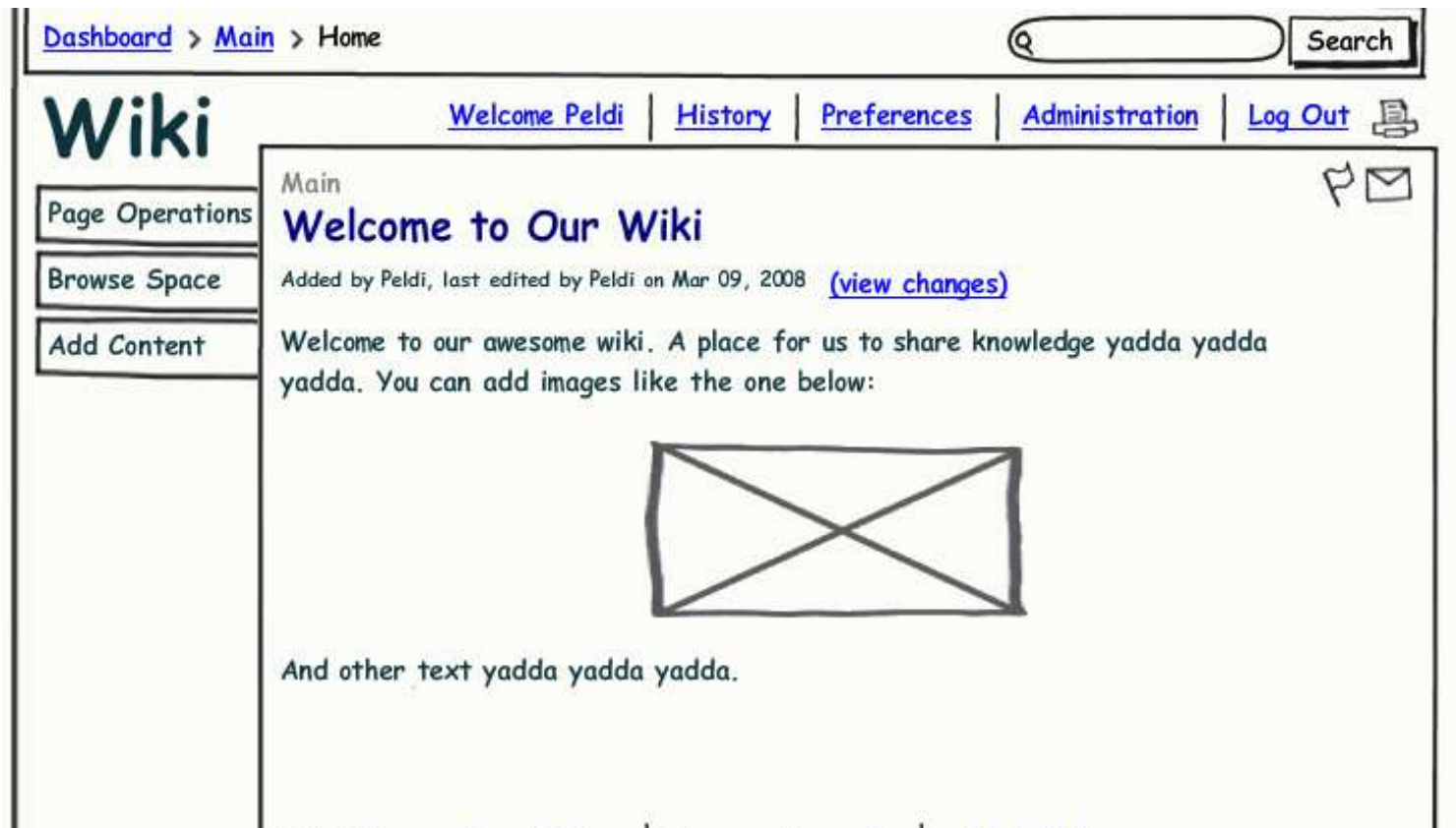
Low Fidelity

- Sketchy and incomplete—has some characteristics of the target product but is otherwise simple, usually in order to quickly produce the prototype and test broad concepts

Low Fidelity Tools

- Pencil and Paper
- Whiteboard
- Visio
- Powerpoint
- Balsamiq

Low Fidelity Wireframe



High Fidelity

- Close to the final product
- Realistic Interaction and visuals
- Prevents too much design
- Ensures requirements are met
- Keeps UX in our minds

Why Axure?

Methods & Tools Comparison Matrix

Use this chart to help you select the right method or tool for your next project.

	Paper	Digital	Narrative	Interactive	Rapid	Early	Late	Mac	Windows	Cost	Web	Mobile	General	Reusable Code	Collaboration	Distribution	Accessibility
Paper	●	◐	●	◐	●	◐	N/A	N/A	FREE	●	●	○	○	●	○	○	
PowerPoint/Keynote	◐	◐	●	◐	●	◐	●	●	\$70-679	●	◐	○	○	◐	◐	◐	
Visio	●	◐	●	◐	●	◐	N/A	●	\$139-559	●	◐	○	○	◐	◐	●	
Fireworks	◐	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	\$149-299	●	●	○	◐	◐	●	◐	
Axure RP Pro	◐	●	●	●	●	●	N/A	●	\$599	●	◐	○	○	◐	●	●	
HTML	◐	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	FREE	●	●	◐	●	●	●	●	

HOW TO READ THIS TABLE

● Ideal ◐ Capable, but Not Ideal ○ Not Suitable

Prototyping: A Practitioner's Guide, Todd Zaki Warfel, Rosenfeld Media, ISBN: 1-933820-21-7, rosenfeldmedia.com/books/prototyping

Axure Demo



Axure Pros

- Allows us to make wireframes fast. We can drag and drop everything we need
- It allows numerous interactions
- Components are reusable
- We can add comments
- Export both html and specs in word
- Cool widget library

Axure Cons

- Html is not reusable (images and absolute positioning of divs)
- Cost \$589 (keep that edu email)
- Tables only accept text

Axure Features

- Annotated wireframes
- Basic Interactions
- Dynamic Panels
- Master Templates
- Flow Diagrams
- Interactive Prototypes
- Functional Specifications

Omnigraffle

- Mac and Ipad only
- Much more than interactive wireframes
- Is diagramming/organizational software
- Bézier lines and shapes, Mini-inspectors
- Style tray, Stencil search
- Canvas, Different styles
- Auto layout, Graphing tools

From Omnigraffle



Omnigraffle Pros

- Great for a pixel-perfect, vector driven wireframe
- Version 6 is great
- New tools aid consistency among canvases
- Full Retina display support
- Nice helpful, artificial intelligence.

Omnigraffle cons

- No slice/crop tool
- Mac only
- Can't search on-screen help
- Expensive too (but less than axure)

The power of a little html/css



Tips

- Research and Data Gathering First
- Iterate from low to high fidelity
- Structure->Presentation->Behavior
- Use a grid for your design (alignments and such)
- Test usability at all stages

Links

- [Lynda.com axure 7.0 pro course](#)
- [Lynda.com omnigraffle course](#)