

Dear Diary,

I was trying to think of a way to write about something that wasn't about a project, maybe some huge event that just happened in my life or something. Oh! I did just get married, but I want to talk to you about this company called Innovative Development Associates (I'll talk about marriage later).

So I came in connect with this client in Douglasville back in 2005 when I was out and about. He had just started this recruiting business and wanted to get some space on the web to inform users about his company. That was the main goal at that time, to get his name out on the internet. Two years later he came to me and stated that he would like for his site to be able to upload resumes as a new feature, so the with a new goal came a new challenge. The first goal remained the same, the inform users of his company. But now the second goal was to have users be able to upload their resume and he will be able to view it.

The first thing I wanted to do immediately was two things, cry and also update the layout of his new site. I wanted to cry because uploading things and making them sit somewhere to be viewed means using PHP and MySQL! Two things that I'm not very comfortable with, here are a couple of screenshots for his new layout.

Home

Innovative Development Associates is a national search firm that recruits the full spectrum of professional job seekers. Such as Engineers, Healthcare, IT, etc. We are motivated and determined to ascertain the "Best" candidate for the position.

Our Mission is to be innovators in assessing the goals and needs of our clients as well as our candidates. We are committed to providing a secure atmosphere of integrity and discretion.

"Your recruiter for Healthcare,
Engineering, and Information Technology"



Color Choices

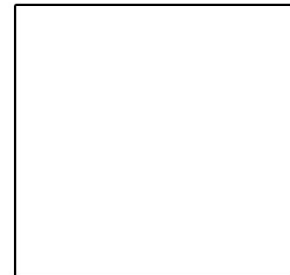
Color choices were pretty much the clients' call, I did have a little input on what he wanted and liked. He wanted his site to look more corporate than personal, this was a key factor in the uploading feature of his site. He felt that a more corporate look would convey trust, therefore users will be more apt to uploading their resumes. After doing my research I found that corporate sites used a lot of white space, which is why I decided to do just that with the new layout. Here are the color hexadecimal codes below;



#3a50b5



#a4b0e9



#000000

Process Flow

Anytime that you have interaction with a database (which is what MySQL is) there is a process that the application and user must go through. The user end of this process is pretty simple so I'll explain that to you first. So the user clicks on the "Post Resume" page seen below.

Innovative Development Associates

Your recruiter for the Healthcare, Engineering, and IT fields

[Home](#) | [About Us](#) | [F.A.Q](#) | [Post Resume](#) | [Contact Us](#)

Post Resume

Select Your Industry

(Please Select) ▾

Name:

Email:


Upload Resume (PDF)

Confidentiality

Our company will keep your resume in confidence once it has been submitted. If you fit are chosen as a possible candidate, we will contact you via email or telephone. Otherwise we will keep your resume on file for the next 6 months.

Posting your resume

Please upload your resume in a Adobe PDF (.pdf) format.

 [Convert your document to a PDF](#)

[Home](#) | [About Us](#) | [FAQ](#) | [Post Resume](#) | [Contact Us](#)

As you can see there is a form that consists of 4 fields, select your industry, name, email, and upload resume. There is also some verbiage off to the right side of the page telling the user about the confidentiality of their resume and to upload their resume in pdf format. This format was chosen to avoid viruses and macros being uploaded into the database. If the user doesn't have the resume in pdf format, there is a link that will take them to Adobes' website where they can convert up to 5 documents into pdf format for free. Pretty cool huh? Yeah I thought so too. Anyhow, once they have the resume in pdf format they would upload it into the database. It's as simple as that from a users' standpoint. Now from viewpoint of the application itself, this is where the process is a little longer.

First of all the form is validated, meaning that the user will be prompted if they forget to fill out a field. The form validates in logical order as well, it checks to see if the user has chosen their industry first, input their name, filled in the email address, and then uploaded a resume. If all goes well and the user has uploaded the correct format, the resume will be submitted to the database. This database consists of the same fields that the form has, and PHP takes the information from the form and stores it into the database.

PHP also sends the owner of the company an email with the name, email address, and a link to where the resume is stored. When he receives this email and clicks on the link, it will open up the resume in Adobe Acrobat Reader. It's a relatively small application by todays standards, but a major step for me.

[Sitemap](#)

And just like my last diary entry to you, I've put in a sitemap so you can understand the structure of the site.

