

# Design Best Practices and Tips for the Holiday Season and Beyond



Guliz Sicotte
Director of
Services



Jessica Mokrzecki Design Manager

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# Agenda

- Why Design Matters
- Best Practices
- Worst Practices
- Seasonality
- Mobile
- Q&A

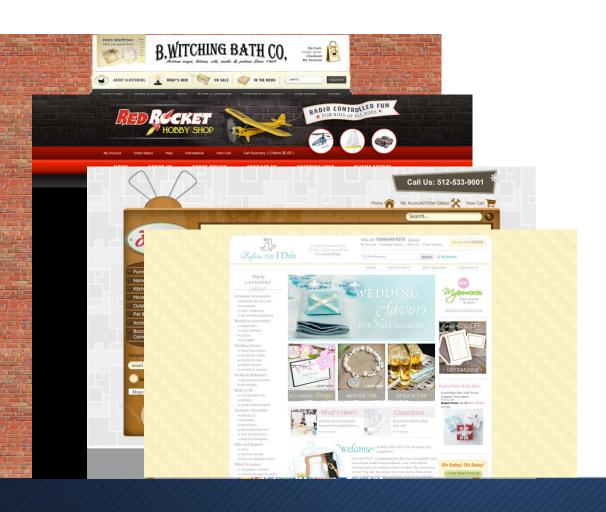


# **Terminology**

- Template vs. Homepage
- Typography
- Above-the-fold
- Dynamic menus
- Call-to-action (CTA)



# **Why Design Matters**

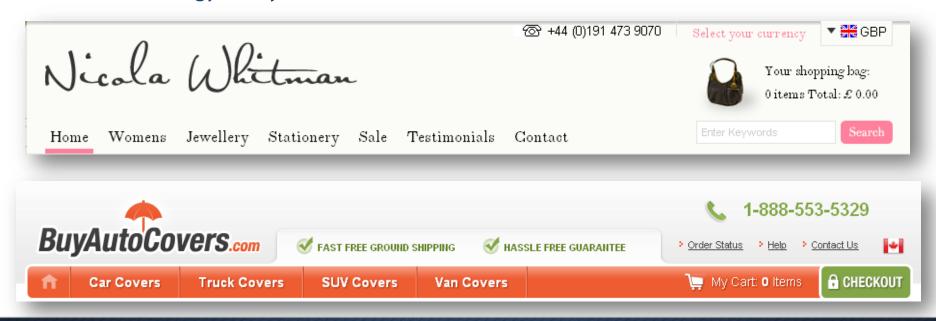


- Identity
- Differentiation
- Credibility
- Conversion



### **Best Practices – Menu's**

- Have a separate menu bar for product categories.
- Make sure your menu allows users to go where they want without delay.
- Customers should know right away the types of products you sell.
- Use terminology that your customers can understand





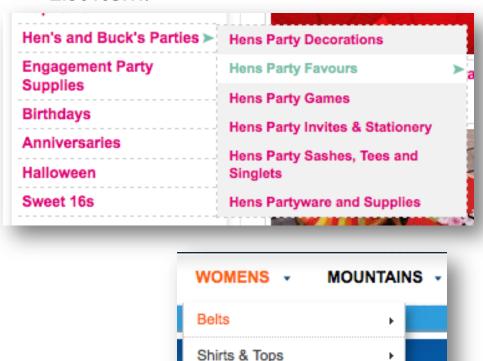
### **Best Practices – Menu's**

t e r e s a l d a m a 🔻 Welcome, Log in MY ACCOUNT NEWSLETTER CONTACT US NEW PRODUCTS NECKLACES BRACELETS EARRINGS BROOCHES Search ☐ 1st Nav Menu Volusion Gear (3) {click to add new category} Bluetooth (1) ■ Category 1 (5) ☐ 6th Nav Menu Sub Category 1 (24) {click to add new category} Sub Category 2 (23) New Category (22) ☐ 7th Nav Menu New Category (21) {click to add new category} Your Sub Category Name 1 (9) New Category (20) ■ 8th Nav Menu Your Sub Category Name 2 (10) {click to add new category} Your Sub Category Name 3 (11) Other (2) Your Category Name 4 (4) □ 2nd Nav Menu **SALE** (12) Your Other Links 2 (13) Your Other Links 3 (14) ☐ 3rd Nav Menu Some More Links 1 (17) Some More Links 2 (18) Some More Links 3 (19) Your Category Name 7 (7) Your Category Name 8 (8) Your Category Name 6 (6)



## **Best Practices – Menu Types**

There are three main types of navigation menu's, DropDown, Tree Expand and List Item.

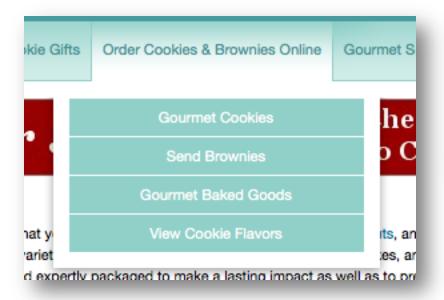






### **Worst Practices – Dropdowns**

There are three main types of navigation menu's, DropDown, Tree Expand and List Item.









## **Best Practices – Menu Types**

There are three main types of navigation menu's, DropDown, Tree Expand and List Item.

newborn essentials

organic baby clothes

onesies & one-pieces
shirts & tops
bottoms- pants & shorts
outwear, sets & sweaters
dresses & skirts
accessories
organic toddler clothes
organic baby bedding

### Headpieces Wedding Headbands Wedding Tiaras Flowers & Feathers Combs & Hair Pins Wedding Jewelry Jewelry under \$30 Rhinestone & Crystal Pearl Jewelry

#### Dog Beds

- > Bolster & Donut Dog Beds
- > Dog Blankets & Dog Mats
- > Rectangle & Pillow Dog Beds
- > Round Dog Beds
- > Sofa & Double Donut Dog Beds
- > Eco Friendly Dog Beds
- > Designer Dog Beds
- > Square Dog Beds

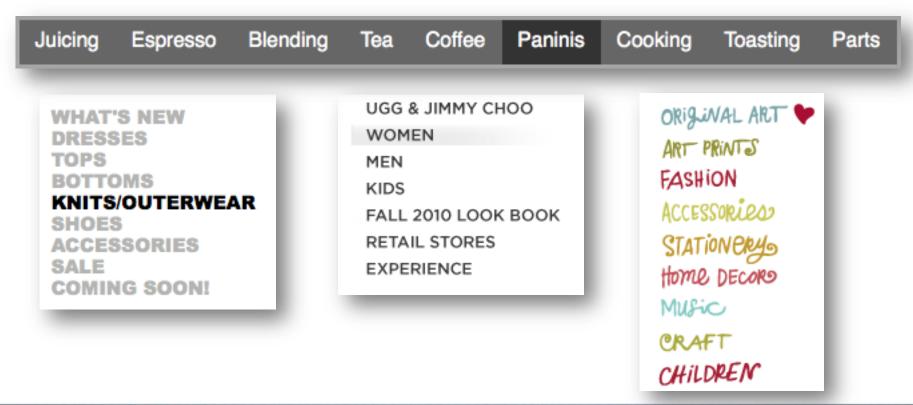
Dog Bowls

Dog Carriers

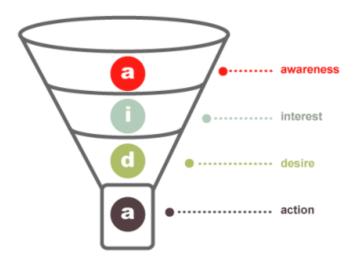


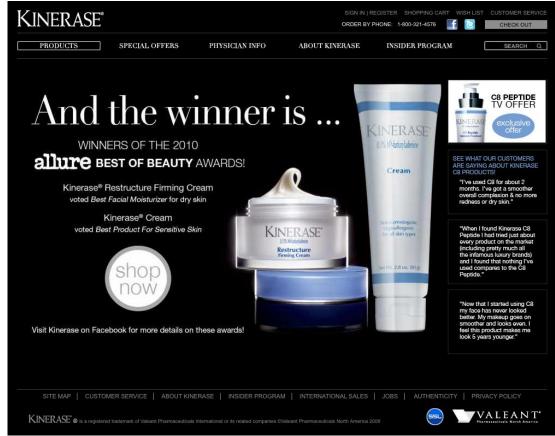
### **Best Practices – Menu Types**

There are three main types of navigation menu's, DropDown, Tree Expand and List Item.











- Place promotions in the sweet spot
- Use slideshows if necessary







Use "hero shots" to showcase your product in its environment





Include featured products





- Always provide the next action step
- Use action-oriented words

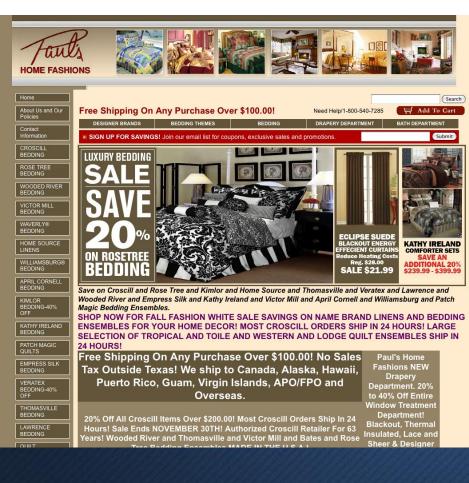


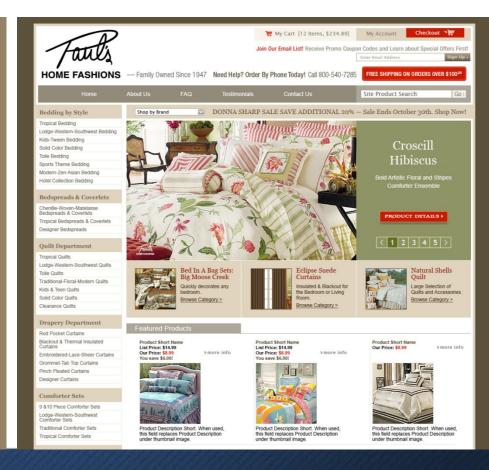




FIND A STORE

# **Worst Practices – Homepage**







## **Best Practices - Checkout design**

- Sub-Category Summary
- Product Page
- Soft Add to Cart Box
- Shopping Cart Summary Page
- One Page Checkout



# **Best Practices – Checkout Design**





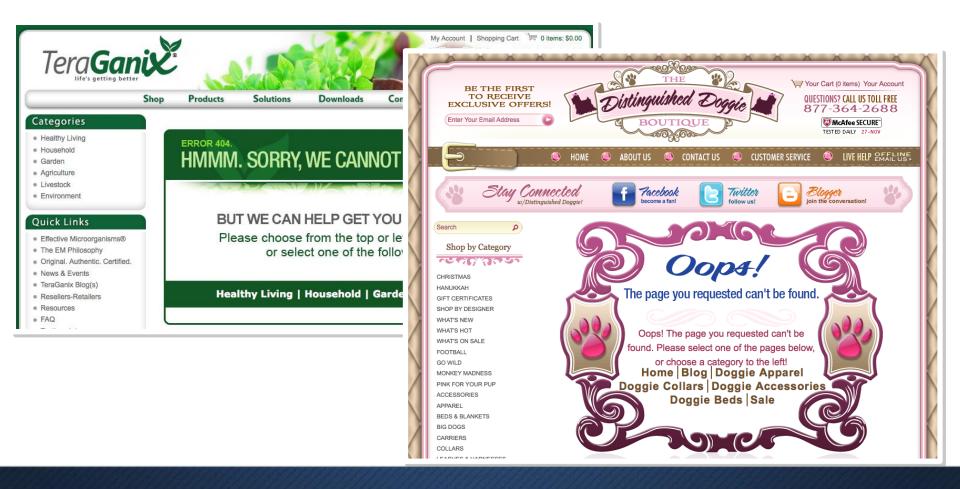
## **Best Practices – Other Pages**

### 404 Page

- A designed 404 page is another way to prove to a customer your credibility. You want to keep users in your site
- You should always let customers know they have reached a page that cannot be found. Use Humor.
- NEVER redirect to your homepage, this is confusing and can lead to abandonments
- NEVER blame the customer



## **Best Practices – 404 Page**





### **Worst Practices – 404 Page**

#### The page cannot be found

The page you are looking for might have been removed, had its name changed, or is temporarily unavailable.

#### Please try the following:

- Make sure that the Web site address displayed in the address bar of your browser is spelled and formatted correctly.
- If you reached this page by clicking a link, contact the Web site administrator to alert them that the link is incorrectly formatted.
- Click the <u>Back</u> button to try another link.

HTTP Error 404 - File or directory not found. Internet Information Services (IIS)

#### Technical Information (for support personnel)

- Go to <u>Microsoft Product Support Services</u> and perform a title search for the words HTTP and 404.
- Open IIS Help, which is accessible in IIS Manager (inetmgr), and search for topics titled Web Site Setup, Common Administrative Tasks, and About Custom Error Messages.

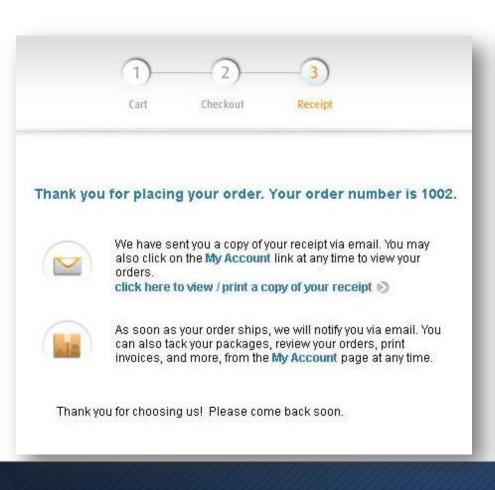


### **Best Practices – Other Pages**

- Thank You Page
  - A confirmation of an order reassures your customers and makes them feel safe
  - Make sure this page carries the theme of your website
  - This is another opportunity to add a promotion or offer for their next order



## **Best Practices – Thank You Page**





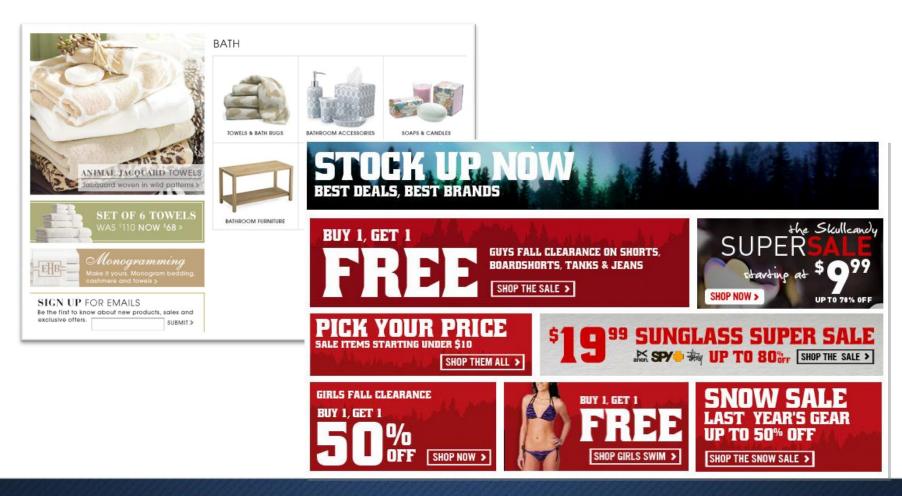


### **Best Practices – Other Pages**

- Landing Page
  - Should promote one product line or sale
  - Make sure it is clear what you are promoting, good images and appealing typography
  - Call to action buttons
  - Keep it simple. If pages are too long your visitors will not read all of the info and may be turned off.
  - Make text short, try bullet points. If needed you can always add a read more link



# **Best Practices – Landing Page**





### **Best Practices – Other Pages**

### Contact Us Page

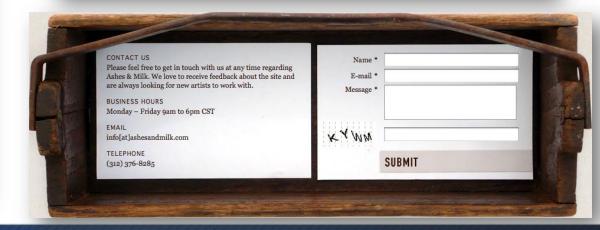
- Having a contact us page shows your customers that you care about them.
- Make sure this page lists your address and a way for customers to send you a message.
- Provide online live customer service to your customers by adding Live Chat.
- According to industry research an online buyer who uses Live Chat is 20% more likely to make a purchase than a customer who does not.



### **Best Practices – Contact Us Page**

Contact
Studio: South Coast of NSW.
Postal address: Fleur Gunn & Christine Land PO Box 515, Moruya NSW 2537
Phone: 0417 326432
Email: fgunn@bigpond.net.au
Markets: Moruya Country Markets most Saturdays
WATCH FOR UPDATES ON OUR OTHER MARKET LOCATIONS
Send a message now Remember to add your email address if you would like a reply
Message *
Email Address  Submit

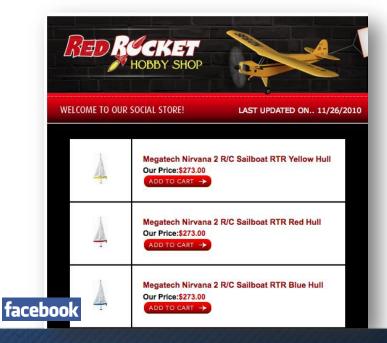
Contact us
Please feel free to contact Through the Cottage Door at any time with any enquiries and we will get back to you as soon as possible.
Through The Cottage Door 50 Rufford Avenue
Yeadon
LS19 7QR
Tel: 0113 2504400
Email us at support@throughthecottagedoor.co.uk or fill out our form.





- Create seasonal landing pages to target holiday traffic
- Encourage visitors to purchase by giving them tine-sensitive promotions
- Show top selling holiday products on your homepage
- Promote your store during the holidays in social media







# free shipping every day!

through 12/20, with \$99 purchase, exclusions apply.

promo code: GIFTS



### BLACK FRIDAY SPECIALS! incredible deals through 11/27

Charter Club Cashmere Crewneck Sweater Reg. \$99 SPECIAL \$39.99

shop all specials now











# Our gift to you... Free Shipping

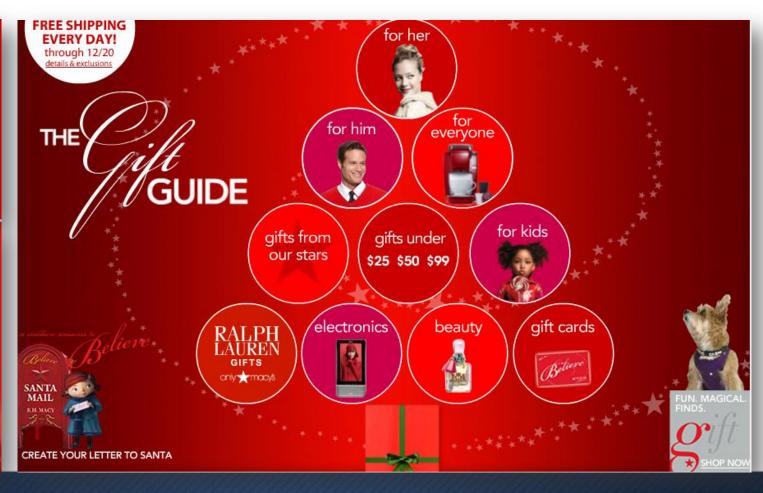
On select online and catalogue purchases totaling \$100 or more. Now through Dec. 22 (noon CT)

View details >

Sale Now On

Up to 50% Off Top Brands

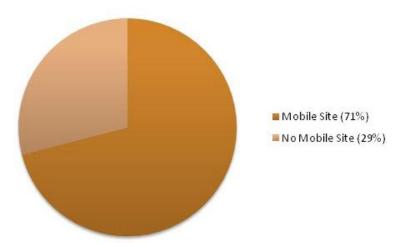
Whilst Stocks Last



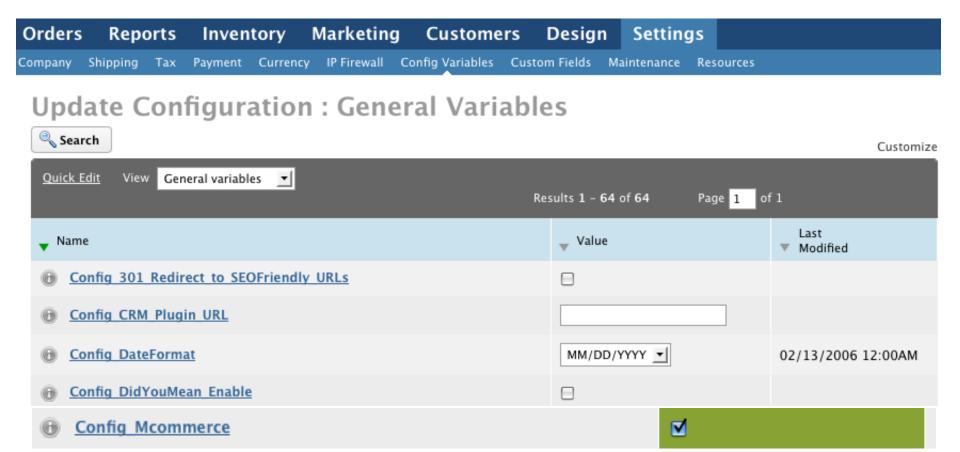


### Mobile

- U.S. mobile commerce sales
  - \$1.20 billion in 2009
  - \$2.42 billion in 2010
  - \$119 billion in 2015
- 30% of sites are not mobile optimized



### Mobile





### Mobile

- Designing for mobile:
  - Reduced screen size
  - Simplicity
  - More links than images





## Thank you!

To learn more about Volusion's design services visit:

www.volusion.com/ecommerce-web-design/

**Happy Selling!** 

