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CHECKLIST: DESIGN HANDOFF FOR FRONTEND DEVELOPMENT

This checklist helps verify that all important aspects for a successful design handoff have been considered. Use it as a guide to ensure developers receive all necessary information for implementation

Bookmark: An updated version and explanations can be found at <https://www.blueshoe.io/>



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DESIGN SYSTEM FUNDAMENTALS

COLOR PALETTE

- Primary colors defined (with all variants: light, dark, saturated)
- Secondary colors defined
- Neutral colors (backgrounds, texts, borders)
- State colors (Hover, Focus, Disabled, Error, Success, Warning, Info)
- Hex values or CSS variables documented for all colors
- Color contrasts checked for accessibility
- _____

TYPOGRAPHY

- Font families defined (Web Fonts or System Fonts)
- All font sizes documented (Headings H1-H6, Body, Captions, Labels)
- Line heights defined for all text styles
- Font weights documented (Regular, Medium, Bold, etc.)
- Responsive Typography (how do font sizes change at different breakpoints?)
- Text colors defined for different contexts
- _____

SPACING-SYSTEM

- Consistent spacing system defined (e.g., 4px, 8px, 16px, 24px, 32px, 48px, 64px)
- Spacing between components documented
- Container padding defined
- Responsive spacing (how do spacings change at different breakpoints?)
- _____



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COMPONENTS

COMPONENT STATES

- Default state documented
- Hover state documented
- Focus state documented (important for accessibility)
- Active state documented
- Disabled state documented
- Error state documented
- Success state documented

- _____

COMPONENT VARIANTS

- Size variants (Small, Medium, Large)
- Color variants (Primary, Secondary, Tertiary)
- Layout variants (with/without icon, different text lengths)
- Context variants (in different environments: Header, Footer, Modal)

- _____

SPECIFIC COMPONENTS

- Buttons (all states and variants)
- Form elements (Inputs, Textareas, Selects, Checkboxes, Radio Buttons)
- Cards
- Modals/Dialogs
- Navigation (Desktop and Mobile)
- Footer
- Header
- Lists
- Tables
- Alerts/Notifications

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RESPONSIVE DESIGN

BREAKPOINTS (Bootstrap Standard Recommended)

- Extra Small (xs) - <576px (small portrait smartphones)
- Small (sm) - ≥576px (large landscape smartphones)
- Medium (md) - ≥768px (tablets)
- Large (lg) - ≥992px (standard desktops)
- Extra Large (xl) - ≥1200px (large desktops)
- Extra Extra Large (xxl) - ≥1400px (very large screens)

- _____

BREAKPOINT DOCUMENTATION

- Layout changes documented for each breakpoint
- Component adaptations documented for each breakpoint
- Navigation behavior documented for each breakpoint
- Typography changes documented for each breakpoint
- Spacing changes documented for each breakpoint

- _____

Grid System

- Is a grid being used?
- How should the grid be structured? (12 Columns Default)

- _____



NAVIGATION

Navigation Concept:

- How deep does the navigation go?
- Does the navigation require additional information such as images or text?
- Which essential functions should be included in the navigation (Search, Contrast Mode, Account, Shopping Cart...)?

DESKTOP NAVIGATION

- Default state documented
- Hover state documented (incl. animation/transition)
- Focus state documented
- Active state documented
- Transitions and animations specified
- _____

Dropdown menu behavior documented:

- Trigger behavior (Hover vs. Click)
- Dropdown position and alignment
- Dropdown styling (background, shadow, border)
- Animation (Fade-in, Slide-down, etc.)
- Sub-menu behavior
- _____

MOBILE NAVIGATION

Hamburger menu design documented:

- Icon position and size
- Animation on open/close
- Icon transformation (to X)
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Off-Canvas menu documented:

- Slide direction (from left, right, top)
- Background overlay
- Menu width and position
- Animation and transition
- _____

Menu items on mobile:

- Layout (List, Grid, etc.)
- Spacing between items
- Touch target sizes (minimum 44x44px)
- _____

MOBILE DESIGN

MOBILE-FIRST APPROACH

- Mobile designs available for all important pages
- Mobile designs available for navigation
- Mobile designs available for main components
- _____

MOBILE SPECIFICATIONS

- Touch targets defined (minimum 44x44px)
- Component adaptations documented for mobile
- Layout changes documented for mobile
- Touch interactions specified (Swipe, etc.)
- Performance considerations for mobile included
- _____



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INTERACTIONS AND ANIMATIONS

HOVER EFFECTS

- Hover effects defined for all interactive elements
- Transition duration and easing specified
- Cursor changes documented
- _____

ANIMATIONS

- Page transitions defined
- Loading states documented
- Micro-interactions specified
- Animation duration and easing defined
- _____

ASSETS AND EXPORTS

IMAGES

- All images optimized for web
- Images available in various sizes (Retina, etc.)
- Image formats defined (WebP, JPG, PNG, SVG)
- _____

ICONS

- Icons exported as SVG
- Icon sizes defined
- Icon colors documented (if adaptable)
- _____



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LOGOS

- Logos available in various formats (SVG, PNG)
- Logo variants (Light, Dark, Monochrome)
- _____

DOCUMENTATION AND ORGANIZATION

FIGMA FILE STRUCTURE

- Design System clearly organized (Colors, Typography, Components)
- Spacing system documented
- Breakpoints documented
- Page designs structured (Desktop and Mobile separated)
- Clear labeling of drafts and finished designs
- Comments and annotations available
- _____

ACCESSIBILITY

ACCESSIBILITY FEATURES

- Focus states defined for all interactive elements
- Color contrasts checked (WCAG AA or AAA)
- Touch target sizes for mobile (minimum 44x44px)
- Alt texts defined for images
- ARIA labels documented for complex components
- Counterpart to the hover effect defined for touch devices
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SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS

CONTENT STRATEGY

- Placeholder content defined
- Content lengths considered (short vs. long texts)
- Image ratios defined
- _____



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ADDITIONAL NOTES

NOTES

NOTE: This checklist should serve as a guide. Not all points have to be met in every project, but the more complete the design handoff is, the more efficient the implementation can be.

TIP: Go through this checklist together with the development team to ensure all important aspects are covered.