

Average screen resolution and designing web sites to fit them

As a designer or an owner of a website it is important to take into consideration the most prevalent screen resolutions, and especially those which your target audience is using. The days of the 640x480 screen resolution is long gone and today with the widespread use of widescreen monitors and laptops it has become important for owners and designers alike to update their existing websites to suit prevailing trends.

According to 5shadestemplates 55% - 75% of people today are using monitors with screen resolutions of 1440 x 900 pixels. This means that if you are designing a website at a lower resolution your target audience may end up having to scroll from side to side in order to properly get a look at your page, which is not good for most businesses that rely on people staying on their website.

Designing Web Pages with Fixed Width

As the name implies 'Fixed Width' web pages do not automatically adjust to a user's screen or browser, so if the design is too wide your visitor will have to scroll from one side to another. In order to get a Fixed Width page right you need to know the lowest most commonly used resolution of your intended audience. Once you know what the prevailing resolution is you will also have to find out how much space you get in each browser. Using a resource like anybrowser.com should help you get an idea of browser space. However, if you are not sure who your target audience is then you are better off not designing a Fixed Width page but rather a fluid page as described below.

Liquid Width Page

A flexible liquid type design will automatically align itself according to the resolution being used and the browser it is being displayed in. All page elements will try to accommodate themselves according to the user's screen. When designing a flexible page you'll need to use a certain percentage of width for the containers around the page i.e. a table or a div.

The first thing you need to do is to decide upon the maximum width you are designing for, so for instance if you use a design which takes up around 60% of the space on a screen then you need to keep in mind that everything which includes the elements should add up to a total of 60% of space on the screen.

The one mistake that many designers make is that they use pictures which are too wide. So for instance if you are going to use 60% width then all your images and header should fit within that width or you'll see the horizontal scroll bar appearing

About the Author

5 Shades [website templates](#) are complete ready-made web designs of the highest quality. Each design normally comes with 5-9 pre-built pages. [web templates](#) are the perfect solution for quick, easy and attractive custom website design. All of our web design templates are fully customizable by any editor on the market and are available for instant download after purchase. Check back often, tons of new web design templates are added daily!

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