

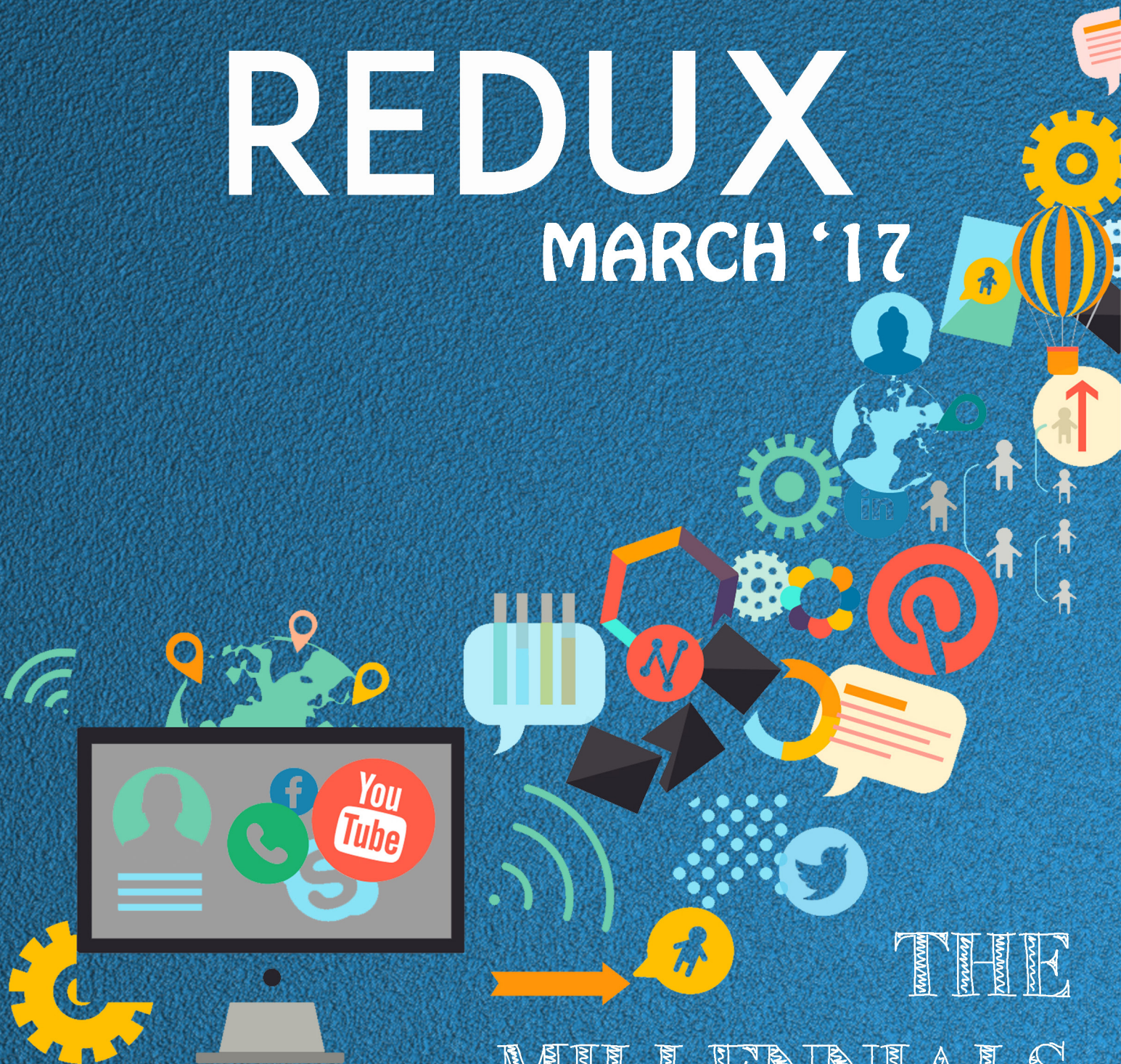


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CYNOSURE '17
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REDUX

MARCH '17



THE

MILLENNIALS

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INDEX

The Editor's desk 1

Github 1

Smashing Magazine 2

The Net Ninja 3

TheNewBoston 5

Scotch 8

funfunfunction-Learning
with fun 10

CSS-TRICKS 11

Sherlock and the Doctor 13



The Editor's desk

"The theory that can absorb the greatest number of facts, and persist in doing so, generation after generation, through all changes of opinion and detail, is the one that must rule all observation."

-Adam Smith

Millennials have seen the development of MP3 players, YouTube, and smartphones as well as the impact of technology in all aspects of their lives from healthcare, transportation, all the way to communication with myriad topics in between. Millennials are poised to reshape the economy by the technological advances present during their childhood, college career, and into the workplace. They are expected to create a better future using collaborative power of digital technology. Their unique experiences will change the ways we buy and sell, forcing companies to examine how they do business for decades to come. This generation is known for its ability to multitask effectively.

They live within the flow of technology, generating waves with their innovation. "Wars come and go, but my soldiers remain eternal." These words by Tupac provide some deep advice to millennials, telling us that while technologies are temporary, the concepts they are based on most certainly are not, encouraging them to strengthen concepts over learning syntax.

We, the Editors of CSI VESIT bring to you the latest edition of 'Redux' with the theme 'Millennials'. We sincerely thank all our readers, for their constant and wholehearted participation that helps us grow year after year. We would also like to extend our heartfelt gratitude to our Staffs-In-Charge for their unconditional and irreplaceable support. We are indebted to Arvind N. our Jr. Web Editor for helping with the magazine design and Trena D. with the template. A big thank you to the entire Council for their hard work and determination that made the past semester a great success.

Whatever your next step may be, we hope to be a source of knowledge and guidance for you. 'The scariest moment is always just before you start. After that, things can only get better.' So be lionhearted and face the path ahead with an open mind!

GitHub

Utsav Das

The world is surely better off with this application that allows programmers across the world to build and maintain their repositories. A true ode to all that open source and collaboration stands for, GitHub allows hardened programmers and budding coders alike to work together on publicly accessible repositories, or projects, which may include everything from scalable applications to your hobbies, to work and share their ideas and insights on a common platform.



GitHub makes it possible for multiple people with diverse backgrounds and specialties, who, in GitHub's own words, could be down the hall or 5 timezones away, can work together to bring their best to the table while developing applications that belong to everyone, in the true sense of the term.

The key word as far as the essence of GitHub is concerned, is 'version control'. With several programmers working at different times on the same source code, working on their own different versions is crucial to avoid total pandemonium. Every developer may have to rectify several changes which cause unforeseen bugs or crashes and return to the last stable state of the code. Also every developer has to work on an independent version of the code and make the changes permanent only once all the bugs have been fixed.

GitHub not only allows this way of developing but has successfully made it the norm by enabling developers to create a branch of the existing code at a particular point in its lifetime. This creates a clone of the entire code for the programmer to work on. Regardless of the way the branch behaves after changes, the original code (called the master) from which the other version 'branched off' remains unaffected.

GitHub can be paired with other applications like GitKraken which provide a GUI for easier version control and commits from the desktop. Other websites like BitBucket have also sprung up in the wake of GitHub's success which go further and provide free private repositories against GitHub's \$7 paid ones.

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Smashing Magazine

-Mihir Wagle

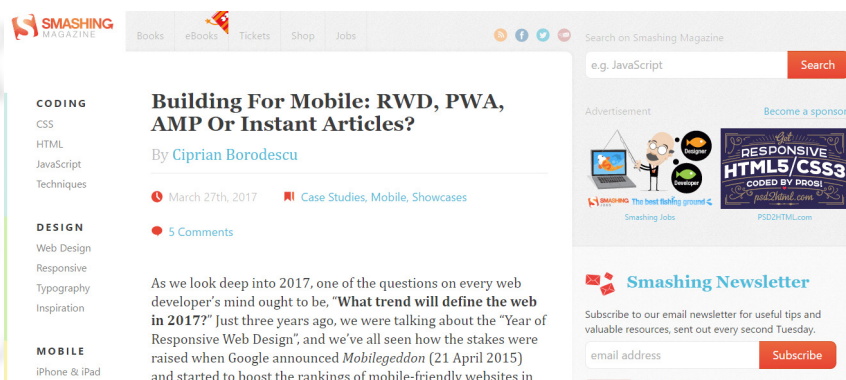
As the internet began embedding itself into our lives in the 1990s, designers all over the world realized that the future lay in pixels and not paper. As they dived into the internet, trying to replicate the same great layouts and design on the web as they had in magazines, they faced a problem. They had to learn much from scratch without any tips or tricks whatsoever.

SMASHING
MAGAZINE



The void created by this problem was filled by the Smashing Magazine which offered editorial content and resources to budding developers, helping them start off. The magazine covers many categories including coding, design, graphics, and UX design. Despite covering so many fronts, the editorial team has ensured the quality of the information being conveyed. An interesting addition is that the website has both ebooks and printed books available for users, giving more freedom to developers and fitting their needs instead of making them conform to the product. Founded in 2006 by Sven Lennartz and Vitaly Friedman, Smashing magazine has grown exponentially and has become a real resource for both budding and veteran developers.

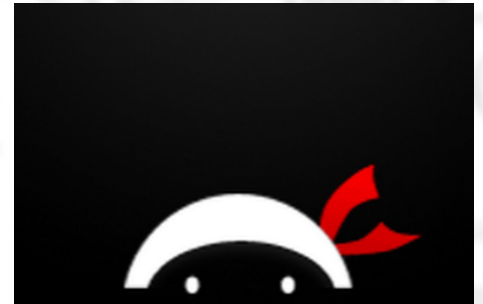
The primary reason for this site's success has been a focus on the quality rather than the quantity of the information provided to users and the fact that they are independent and thus unbiased. As the internet grows, burrowing deeper into our lives, becoming the quotidian, we find that the reason for this website existing gets more and more substantial as more and more developers delve into the internet. We now have a lot more sites to help us get started but very few ones which offer such complete information over a wide range of topics.



THE NET NINJA

-Utsav Das

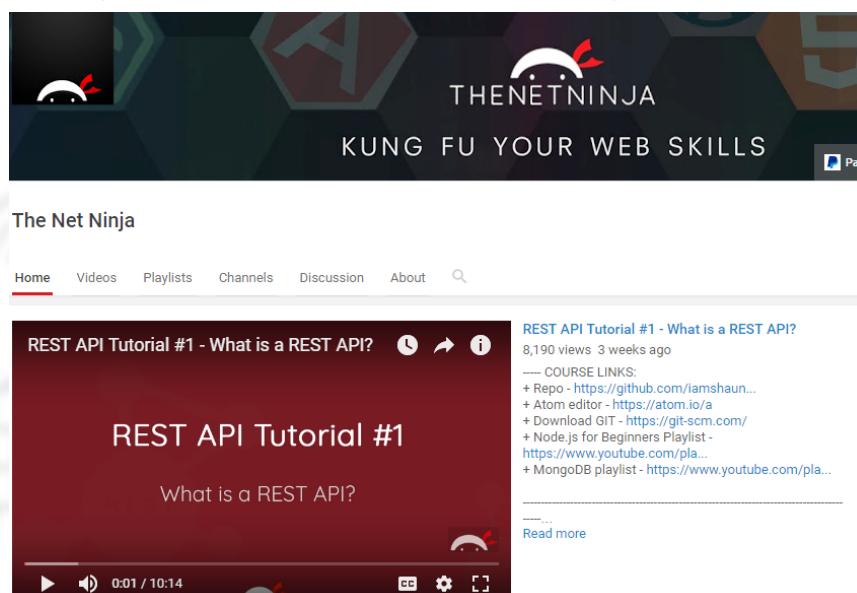
Let's face it. No more half-measures. Let's get down to those tacks of brass we have always been meaning to. Video tutorials are boring. Well most of them are. And by most of them I mean the ones on YouTube; because let's not beat around the proverbial bush; who is going to pay \$12 a month for enrolling on a site, interesting as it may be, for viewing series which claim to be everything under the sun other than boring. And the ones out there for free on YouTube can't really be that good considering that they are being made for free and we can very well imagine how much time and effort one can put into something without being paid. We are therefore caught in this strenuous catch 22 situation, with no light at the end of that other proverbial tunnel.



Enter (sneakily; with all due respect to ninjas) the Net Ninja. He is a Good Samaritan in every sense of the term. In a video tutorial world devoid of colour, this man, or more aptly, ninja, brings to the masses something that makes learning web development gorgeous, as it is meant to be.

He publishes great looking screen casts with the right amount of viewer-friendly slides with speed and razor-sharp precision. It is not so stealthy if you are subscribed to the channel though. If you do, you get to stay updated on some of the best tutorials on YouTube across a plethora of topics based on RESTful APIs, dynamic databases like MongoDB, Angular 2, CSS concepts and plenty of videos to make you switch to the MEAN stack post-haste.

As the ninja rightly said, start watching to Kung Fu your skills!



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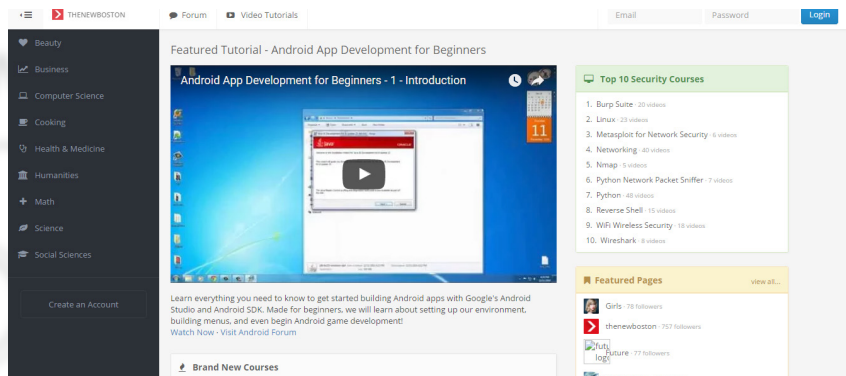
TheNewBoston

-Mihir Wagle

TheNewBoston started off as a YouTube channel in 2008, providing online courses for programming. It has since then expanded to cover business, cooking, humanities, math and science amongst many more domains.

The courses mainly tend programming for novices but have lately started branching to cover other domains as well. If you want to start learning a technology from scratch, this channel is great, but otherwise feels a bit on the slower side. If you've already been introduced to the technology, consider viewing at X2.0 for some fast learning.

Most people learn better when they are being taught practically as is the case in most YouTube videos. TheNewBoston provides good, easy to understand courses to help you learn this way. However, this is not even the best part. The channel has since expanded to a website which hosts an active online community, all at no charges to the user. The site is funded by donations processed via Patreon. Having a good video to learn from is all very well and good but useless unless it comes with a platform to solve doubts. Having more than 4350 video tutorials on the YouTube page and an enthusiastic and helpful community to guide you ahead makes TNB stand apart. The fact that all this is free is icing on the cake, which was already attractive to begin with.



Scotch

-Utsav Das

Their slogan 'Developers bringing fire to the people' is sure to pull you in to start developing your web applications with a fresh perspective if their gorgeous website and highly relevant tutorials and articles don't.

With a site featuring all things 'Web Development', the team at Scotch provides a great platform for budding developers as well as industry stalwarts to learn new trends and improve their skills to keep pace with the growth of the industry.

The site splits their functionalities into four projects which Scotch's team of developers and designers maintains.

1. Scotch.io

The site consists of tutorials on the most essential skills that a developer can and should possess in terms of writing and deploying the most relevant production-grade code possible. It lists popular and developer-friendly code editors, courses on developing trending niche web applications and tutorials on hot topics like Angular 2 while offering brushing-up series on web technology foundations like JavaScript.

2. The Pub

No matter how many episodes we view, the best way to learn at the end of the day is through interaction with our peers and picking their brains. The Pub does just that, providing exposure to the latest that there is from the best that there are.

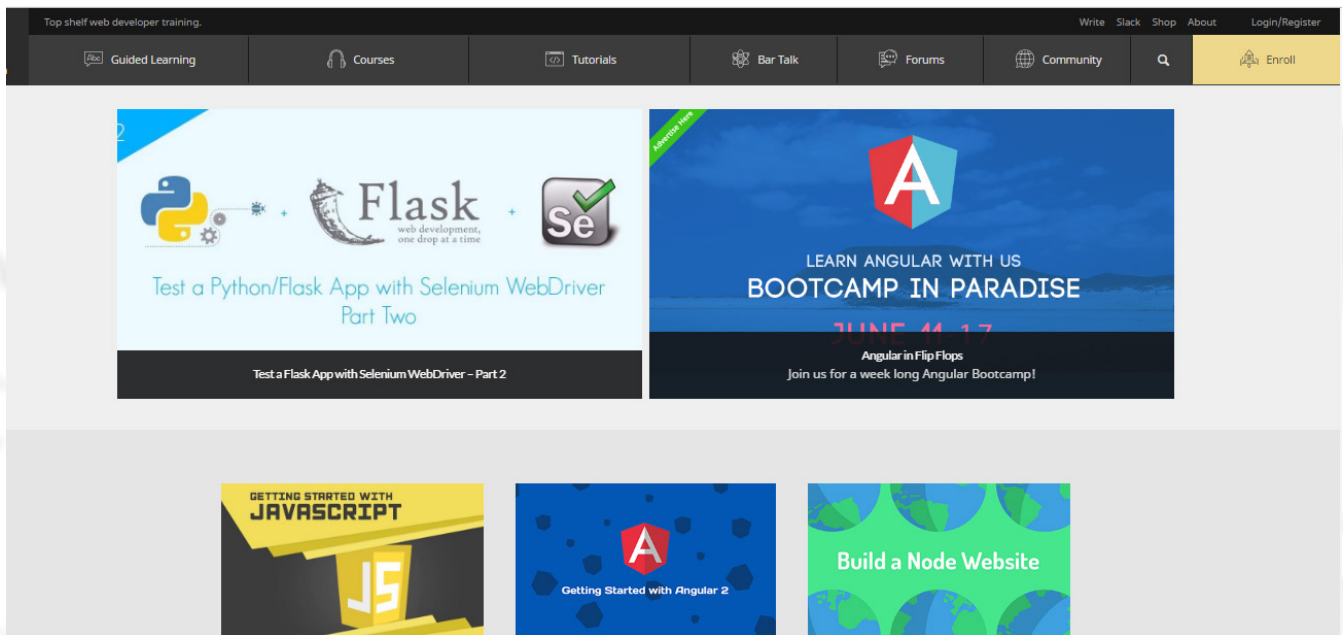
3. Scotch School

It features lessons on all the skills that will really matter in your job. It is what it sets out to do and, unsurprisingly, what it does.

4. Scotch Digital

And what will they do with such a vibrant and enthusiastic community of developers and problem solvers? Well they solve problems by partnering with organisations and equipping them with the most cutting edge technologies in terms of web design.





funfunction-Learning with fun

-Mihir Wagle

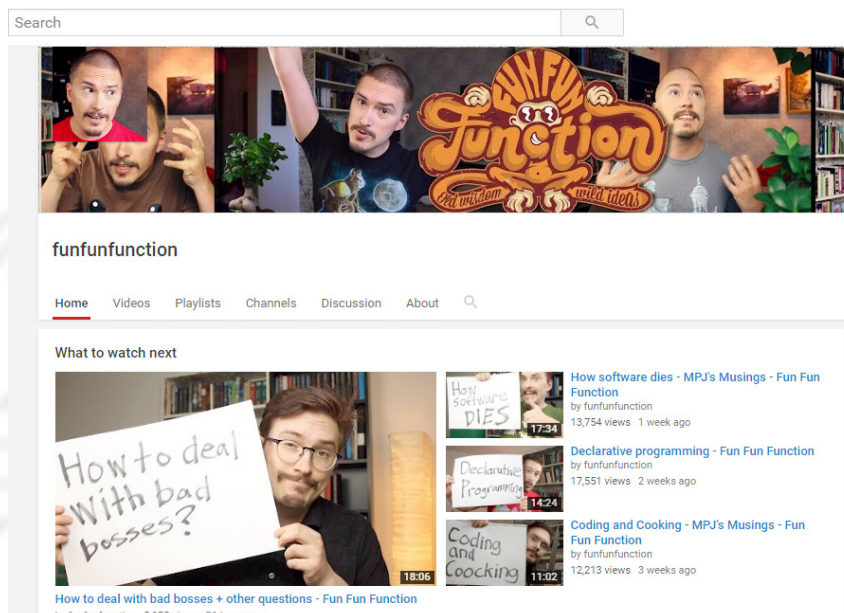
On YouTube, one can find a treasure trove of learning material for every programming language. These videos span learner levels starting at the beginner level and going up to the expert level. They tend to cater to all consumers without any discrimination.



This Youtube channel is run by Mattias Petter Johansson, or mpj in short. Mattias is a Swedish engineer, currently working as a front end developer for Spotify. His past work experience includes being a developer at Blackberry.

Mattias started this channel to help people increase their confidence whilst programming. He looks at both old and wild, new ideas ensuring that his viewers are having fun while learning.

There may be a lot of information available to all who seek it but most of it is unstructured. This channel anchors itself as an island in this ocean of videos, offering help to all travelers who venture its way. Mattias puts in a lot of energy to make such excellent videos and his passion is clearly visible in the quality that the videos exude. Also, the use of humor ensures that viewers are paying attention to his words. Each video follows an interesting theme or problem and true to the name of the channel serves content which whilst functional is also a lot of fun!



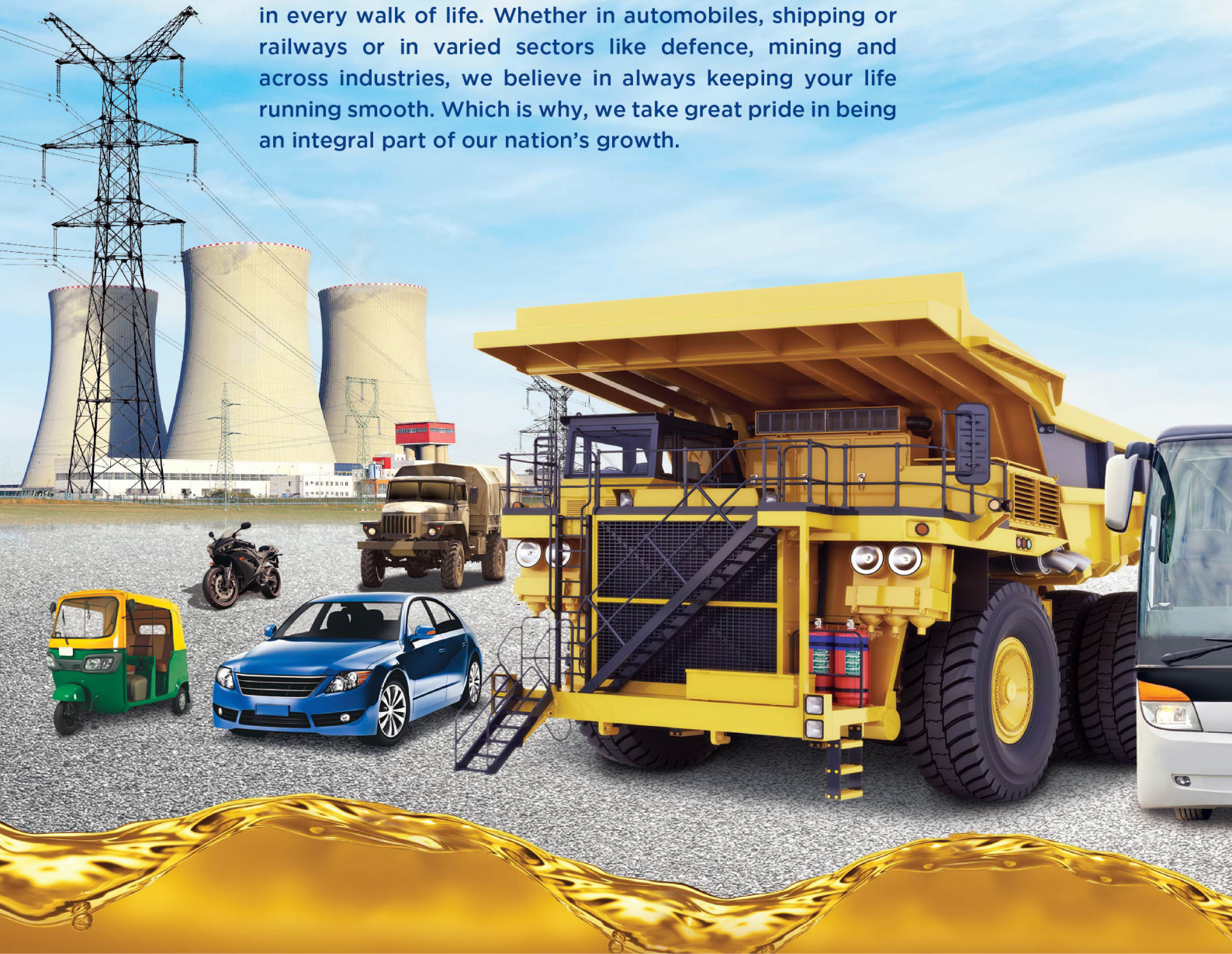


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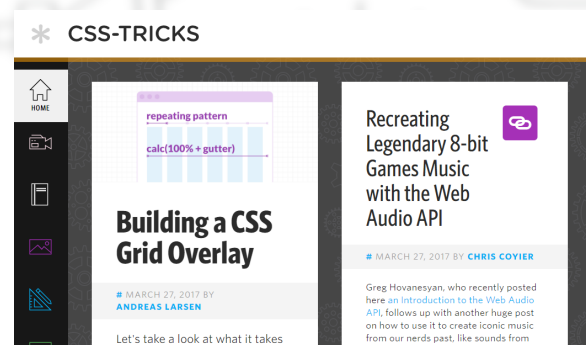
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CSS-TRICKS

-Mihir Wagle

There is no HTML without CSS. It is to the mark-up language what Robin is to Batman. We are reliant on CSS to make our websites look gorgeous and then move on to other tools like Angular or JQuery to make them dynamic. As of this moment, it is safe to say that front-end development revolves around CSS.



Despite that, we often end up at a loss as what to do in a particular situation where we don't know which attribute to use among the sea of styles that years of development of CSS, which has evolved into CSS3, has presented to us.

With multiple approaches to any given situation, hairs being pulled out by novice front-end developers are not an uncommon sight as they make futile effort after futile effort to position that elusive div element on the page. To use position: absolute or flex: flex-wrap, that seems to be the question as we navigate the treacherous terrains of making a website responsive and a sight for sore developer eyes.

CSS-Tricks offers a balm to this pain by citing great solutions to frequent as well as niche problems faced by beginners as well as veterans. There are useful tips and tricks for getting a particular layout or effect exactly right and impress all those who love nitpicking your website to its untimely, and often extremely frustrating, demise.

Its Almanac feature offers a list of all selectors and properties that we need to make our website look great on any device with the most apt styles.

The conclusion is unambiguous, you wish to get an edge in your front-end skills, you show up at CSS-Tricks door.

Sherlock and the Doctor

-Mihir Wagle

I sat alone in my room while John watched a rerun of Breaking Bad in the living room. I had a splitting headache. I felt as if I was losing control. I grabbed my glass to have a swig of water, the glass shattered in my hand. When did I develop such strength? Something was taking over me. How perfectly absurd. I wanted to wail but no noise came out. I seemed to be imprisoned in my own body, without an iota of control. What was happening? I tried retreating to the comfort of my mind palace. I managed to get in but wherever I walked, I could see a door showing the view out of my eyes, my body's eyes. I saw Redbeard. He was whimpering. When I went near him and pet him, he yelped and bolted away. I saw Moriarty as well. He giggled and said, "He's alive!" Moriarty then burst into a fit of maddening laughter and seemed to literally melt into the shadows. I was not interested, I was horrified. What was happening to me. I sat by the door, viewing what my body saw. I was in the back of my own mind, something right out of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde.



I named the presence The Puppeteer. It seemed correct, since I was nothing more than a puppet. The Puppeteer was controlling my body rather well. Anyone who knew me well wouldn't have found anything amiss. He got up and waved, the glass reformed on the carpet. Intrigued, I moved towards the door to have a clearer view. As soon as I did, I was sucked outside my mind palace and into my body. However, I was effectively paralysed. He controlled me. I was genuinely afraid, and that doesn't happen often. He walked outside into the living room. John was there watching TV. He told John that he was going for a walk and left. He sounded just like me, he had to, he was within me. His presence was continuously pushing me back, compressing me, encaging me. I was merely a spectator. I decided to observe, there was

nothing else to do. I needed to understand what was going on.

He went down to Speedy's and ate a sandwich. I could taste it. It was late evening, why was he eating an hour before dinner? He paid and left, walking briskly in the direction of Hyde park. I loathed Hyde park. It was calm quiet and mostly devoid of life. I preferred the hustle of the rest of the city. The park was boring, as Moriarty would have put it. Mycroft would love it. It was so like the Diogenes.

He entered through the Queen Elizabeth gate and walked on inside the park probably going towards its center. He stopped in front of a peculiar blue telephone booth and picked up the receiver and said, "Hello Doctor!", albeit in a mechanical voice. No sooner did he say this than the doors opened. The inside of the box was much bigger than the outside. How could this be? A peculiarly dressed man walked towards me. He said, "Hello! I am the Doctor! You are Sherlock Holmes? I'm going to tell Möbius to give you back control over your body. He loved the sandwich!" Soon enough I felt the Puppeteer, now identified as Möbius leaving me. I staggered and the Doctor caught me. "There, there. It will take you some time to acclimatise. Sit here." He helped me onto a chair and continued. "I am the Doctor. I am a time lord and a million other things but right now I require your assistance." He had a calm voice but seemed to be slightly insane. As I nodded, he continued. "A few years in the future, Moriarty will be back with vengeance. The person who shot himself, was merely a pawn. Under orders. He had no choice in the matter. The idea of Moriarty is still alive. She is busy plotting, at the center of her fine web with far reaching vibrations spreading in all directions. Her actions will cause a ripple in the time stream which leads to the collapse of the Holmes family and indirectly, the United Kingdom. You are the only one who can save all the Holmes. Also... Tell no one about me. You will lose your credibility and we certainly don't want that. Do we?" He then proceeded to lead me out of the booth. I stepped back into Hyde park and turned to see the booth, quite literally, vanishing into thin air. I was astounded, and that doesn't happen often. I was doubting my own sanity. I had so many questions, but no way of answering them.

As I walked back to 221 B Baker street I began to think that the Doctor was merely a figment of my imagination. He could have been imaginary but that implied my subconscious mind had noticed something. I had a case on my hands. That much, at least, was clear!

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