How to prototype in Axure (like a badass)

With Danielle Tomson of OCCOM
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We help business turn their ideas into software.
Why am I teaching you may ask?
We invented Prototype Driven Development (PDD)
BAD-ASS

PROTOTYPER
Name the application

A platform to buy flight tickets on a certain date and time, with the ability to filter by price, airline, or date.
Words are ambiguous
WHAT WE HAVE HERE is a failure to communicate
Goals

By the end of this you should

- Know when to prototype
- Know how to communicate through prototyping to different stakeholders
- Have basic Axure knowledge + some skills of bad-assery
**Functional:**
Creating an interactive representation of an application before code is written, in order to discuss, test, and validate concepts and features.

**Technical:**
Developing a light-weight technical proof of concept that validates technical assumptions.
Tools

- Paper and Pencil
- Axure
- iRise
- Balsamiq
- UXPin
- InVision
What Axure prototyping isn’t

- A finished design
- The finished product
- Code
- Perfect
Goals of Prototyping

Communication

Clarity

Validation
Name the application

A platform to buy flight tickets on a certain date and time, with the ability to filter by price, airline, or date.
TRAVEL ALERTS

🔥 It looks like it could rain. Be sure and pack an umbrella!

Dismiss Alert

TRAVEL DETAILS

🕒 Leave by 6:10 am

Dismiss Alert

 Jaysak Lule

SAN FRANCISCO

🌡️ 63°F Chance of Rain

NEW YORK
Prototyping speaks to all
StayCation wants to build a web platform that can allow users to search for and book places to stay around the world, based off of dates and locations.
Before we prototype

We facilitate an *Idea Stack* ideation workshop to define:

- Problem
- Inspiration
- Personas
- User Narratives
Find a place to stay.
Rent from people in over 34,000 cities and 192 countries.

Where do you want to go?          Check in          Check out          1 Guest          Search

New York             Rio de Janeiro             Barcelona
“We need to be able to have scheduling.”

“I want them to create accounts so we can track their behavior.”

“Are we going to advertise specific cities?”
Find a place to stay.
Rent from people in over 34,000 cities and 192 countries.

Where do you want to go?  
Check in  
Check out  
1 Guest  
Search

Top cities to advertise:
New York  
Rio de Janeiro  
Paris

Scheduling capabilities:
Profiles
Design

“What’s important?”

“What are the hierarchies?”

“What might responsive design look like?”
Find a place to stay.
Rent from people in over 34,000 cities and 192 countries.

Where do you want to go?  
Check in  Check out  1 Guest  Search

Searching and discovery is important, put in header, fixed

Scheduling most important

Responsive template?

New York  Rio de Janeiro  Barcelona
“How is information organized?”

“How does it work?”

“Where do things go?”
StayCation

Find a place to stay.
Rent from people in over 34,000 cities and 192 countries.

Where do you want to go?  Check in  Check out  1 Guest  Search

New York  Rio de Janeiro  Barcelona

Profile, do they keep credit card information?

Given this set of information, what kind of database structure should we implement?
When do I prototype? 

CONSTANTLY
Confidence and Psychology

Perfection is the enemy of good.

VOLTAIRE
• Draw it out
• Scrappiness is an asset
• Get feedback early and often
• If you are having a hard time articulating an idea, it needs to be broken down more
• For inspiration, use Google
Remember, it is prototyping.

Go Wild
StayCation Requirements

● Profiles with accounts
● Searching
● Scheduling
● Advertising
Overview

2. Using guides
3. Layout of a page
4. Masters (templates)
5. Basic interactions
6. Presenting
7. Validating
Where is everything?
Set-up guides

To get a standard 1024 x 768 Aspect Ratio

- Right Click > Grids and Guides
- “Create Guides”
- Elect “960 Grid: 12 Columns”
- Add “42” for margin in the Column
Create Guides

Presets: 960 Grid: 12 Column

Columns
# of Columns: 12
Column Width: 60
Gutter Width: 20
Margin: 42

Rows
# of Rows: 0
Row Height: 40
Gutter Height: 20
Margin: 0

Create as Global Guides

Cancel  OK
Basic Widgets

Lay out a page using:

- Header text
- Text Input for search
- Icon to show “profile” concept
- Create scheduling tool using text inputs and drop downs
Don’t forget to name your widgets!
Some widgets have additional properties.
Masters

Create a Master (reusable template) in order to replicate your header and easily change it.
Group the widgets and right click
These are essential to creating “changing” pieces of information.
Find a place to stay in over 100 cities on the planet!

Where do you want to go?  
Check in  
Check out  
Number of Guests  
Search!

Check out our deals to Paris

Cut
Copy
Paste
Paste Special
Set Hidden
Ungroup
Order
Convert to Master
Convert to Dynamic Panel
Note the manager
Link up pages
Present
Find a place to stay in over 100 cities on the planet!

Where do you want to go?  
Check in  
Check out  
Number of Guests:  
Search!

Check out our deals to Paris
Center the page in browser
Learning more

Online Training for Axure RP

Start with the Core Training to get a working knowledge of Axure RP. Then, explore More Adventures below to become an Axure Master.

Have questions? Try searching or email support@axure.com.

Core Training: Complete 6 Tutorials in 1 Hour

View Core Training PDF

1. GETTING STARTED
2. WORKING WITH PAGES
3. WIDGETS & MASTERS
Axure Forums
Welcome to the Axure Forums.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topics</th>
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<td>Javascript Query - Styling dynamic panels using OnPageLoad</td>
<td>Today</td>
<td>Advanced Prototyping</td>
<td>nkrisc</td>
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<td>Setting Masters as images in a repeater</td>
<td>Today</td>
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<td>Javascript Query - Styling dynamic panels using OnPageLoad</td>
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<td>How do I add/remove items from one repeater based on the current content of another repeater?</td>
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<td>Today</td>
<td>Advanced Prototyping</td>
<td>Lizzie</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Watch out, we got a badass over here.
Thanks!

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