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Nobody would think of leaving the house without their iPhone or BlackBerry these days. The mobile phone performs almost all the functions that a regular PC would do,including internet access. This also means that mobile website designers have to adjust to the changing scenario and design websites in such a way that will meet the expectations of cell phone web surfers. Let us get a sneak peek into the hurdles that lay in front of a mobile web designer and how they can be surpassed.

• Variable Screen Sizes

The primary hurdle in designing websites on mobiles is the changing size of mobile phone screens. In case of a desktop computer, the screen sizes are more or less close to each other. But with rapidly changing mobile technology, mobile phone screen sizes are variable each day. Hence, to cater to variable screen sizes the designer should be well aware of all the latest gizmos that are being launched in the market.

• Limited understanding of mobile phone web browsers

Unlike the desktop computer web browsers, mobile web browsers have certain characteristics as well as drawbacks. Web designers who are adept at designing for PC browsers find it harrowing to do the same for a cell phone browser. The designer should take initiative in learning new ways to cater to the changing browsing experience.

• Rapidly changing technology

The only thing constant in this world is change, and mobile phone technology is no different. Mobile web designers will agree that there will be no day in their working life when they know everything as regards to mobile web know-how. This is because every hour of the day, a new mobile development skill is taking shape and it is difficult to cope up with it. But for those who stay in the groove will find greater benefits and more sales.

• Testing challenges

User testing for mobile websites is a difficult task. This is because a mobile website has to be tested on different mobile phones that have varied screen sizes and other features. With at least one new mobile phone being launched every day, it is practically impossible to get your website tested on all the cell phones in the market!

Testing should become part of new development initiatives.

• Choosing the Right Content

Since mobile phones have a smaller and limited screen space in contrast to a desktop computer, it becomes very crucial to select the right kind of content for your website. The challenge here is to decide on what should stay and what should go.

As far as the challenges are concerned, none of them are such that cannot be overcome. You could set the QVGA (or 240 x 320) as the standard screen size for mobile web design Vancouver as the latest phones have bigger screen sizes and will cause no issues.

In-depth knowledge about mobile browsers and functioning can surely come in handy while developing a website for mobiles. Keeping abreast of all the developments on the mobile web technology front can take care of the changes in technology and also fulfill the user's requirements.

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