

## Wireframes

### Design Wireframes

A wireframe is a basic visual interface guide that suggests the structure of an interface and the relationships between its pages. They serve as a blue print that defines each Web page's structure, content and functionality. Wireframes are created before any design work is started so that the focus is on layout without the distraction of color and visual elements.

### Gathering Requirements

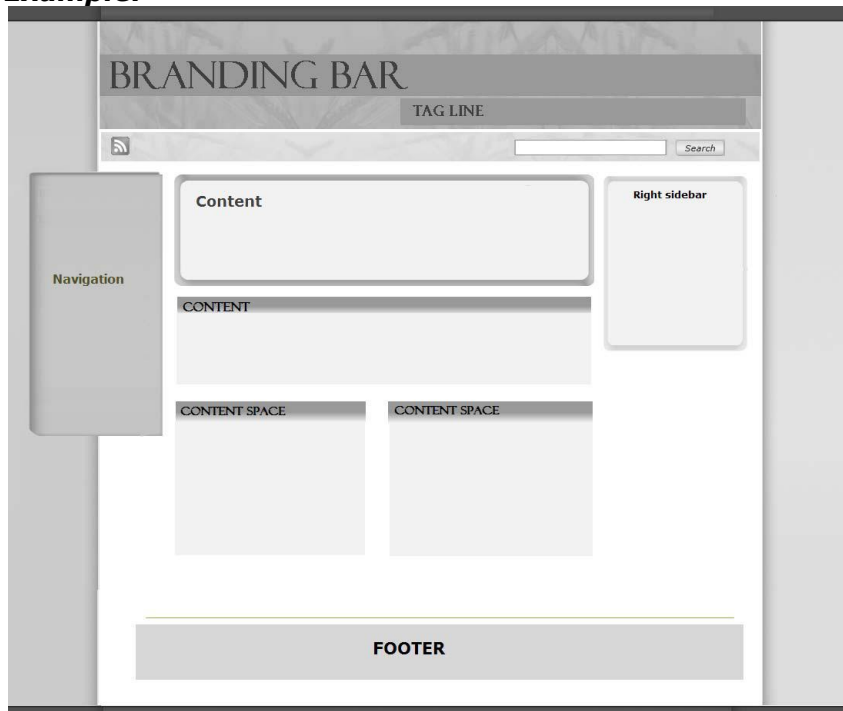
Using wireframes will often help to flush out new requirements and questions that may not have been considered by the project team. Wireframes often end up evolving into the requirements for a system. Wireframes can be created using a variety of software applications, for example, Visio, Excel, Word, Illustrator, Photoshop and Power Point.

### Important Elements

Wireframes should include all the important elements of a Web page. These include:

- Navigation
- Company logo
- Content area sections
- Search function
- User log in areas if appropriate

### Example:



## Functional Wireframes

This is another type of wireframe that is used in building web applications. It shows not only how each page is structured but information about each widget, button, field, each piece of content, and what page is rendered by an action. It provides a map of the entire page in the Web site, its function and features. Even the message that may be rendered by a behavior can be included on this type of wireframe.

I wanted to provide some background for this Web application process so that it would be clear what the wireframes represent. The purpose of the Web application is to provide a tool for users to create and maintain FAQs. Users can be either general users (who create and maintain their FAQs) or a system administrator who not only has the same authority to create and maintain FAQs but also maintains users (i.e., assigns new users or deletes existing users). The following screen captures are some of the general user wireframes.

## Wireframe Content

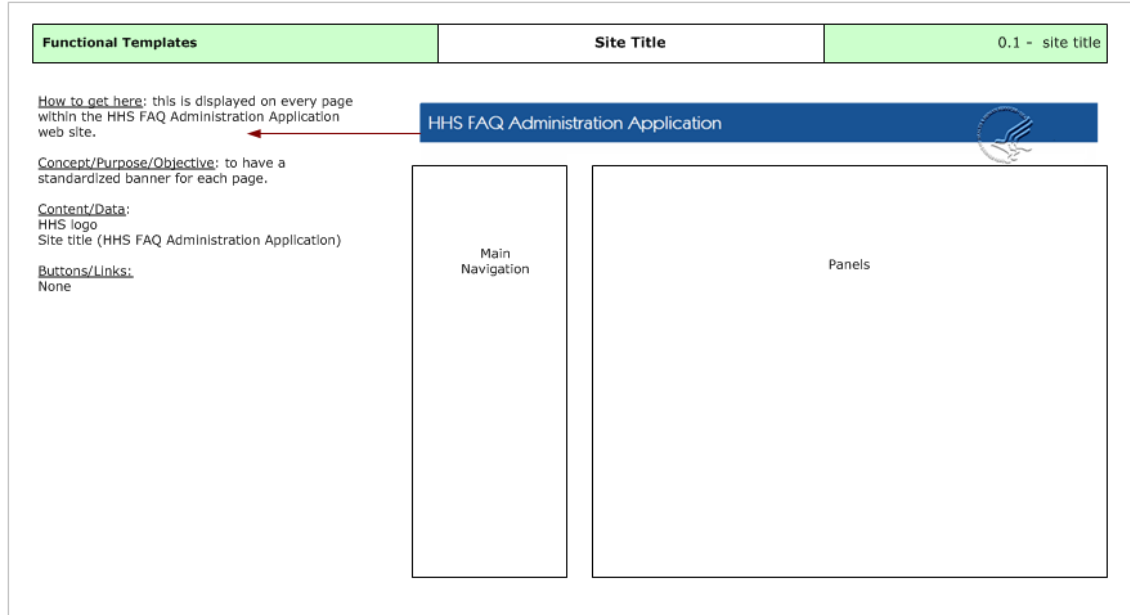
Each wireframe contains the following information and a description:

- *Title*: This is at the top of every wireframe. The wireframe title describes the purpose of the wireframe. Each is numbered with a 1.0 or 1.1 nomenclature.
- *How to get here*: this section describes how the user got to this panel
- *Concept/Purpose/Objective*: this section describes what the objective or purpose is for this panel.
- *Content/Data*: this section describes all the content on the panel including any buttons or icons.
- *If/Then*: This section describes a user behavior and the result of that behavior (e.g., what panel is rendered after the 'If' condition is met).
- *Navigation Links/Buttons*: this section describes any navigation links on the page.
- *Error conditions*: this section describes any errors that may result from a user behavior and what message wireframe they will receive.

The following wireframe examples should make the content a bit clearer.



## Site Title Wireframe



Any information that appears on every page should also have a wireframe. You can see that this wireframe is for the site title and that it appears on every page. Note the nomenclature is below 1.0 (this indicates to the user that the wireframe does not relate to a page). Since your site has either a navigation menu or tabs – there would be a similar wireframe describing the navigation scheme. If your site has footers on every page, you would also want to document the footer with a wireframe.

## Login Wireframe

This is an example of a login wireframe. There is a Functional Templates label at the top left corner then the title of the wireframe and then the nomenclature and category it belongs to.

<b>Functional Templates</b>	<b>Login</b>	1.0 - login
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How to get here: User selects URL.

Concept/Purpose/Objective: To provide the user with a user name and password field for role authentication.

Content/Data:  
 User name field  
 Password field  
 Submit button  
 Username and password help link

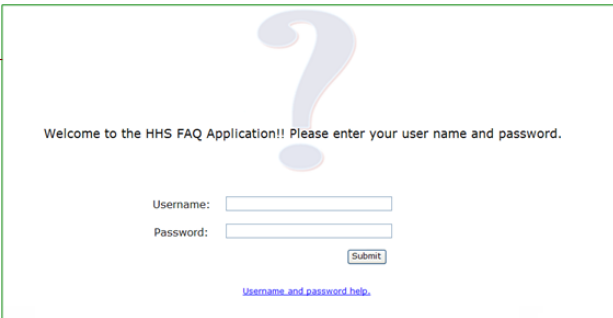
Buttons/Links:

<b>If:</b>	<b>Then:</b>
Users enters correct user name and password and selects Submit button	Go to 2.0 HHS FAQs Administration application home
User enters incorrect user name or password and selects Submit button	Go to 1.2 log in failed
Users selects Username and Password help	Go to 1.1 - user name and password help

Navigation Links/Buttons:  
None

Error Conditions:  
User enters the wrong username and password they would receive the 1.2 log in failed message.

Site Title



Welcome to the HHS FAQ Application!! Please enter your user name and password.

Username:

Password:

[Username and password help.](#)

## Create a New FAQ Wireframe

This wireframe is a bit more complicated but clearly shows the wireframe fields. Here the user wants to create a new FAQ and either submits it to the wireframe system or saves it as a draft. The question id is automated and the submitting office is recognized by the user's id (they are static fields). User has to enter the question and the answer and select any categories/sub-categories for the question. The user can add any related FAQs to include with this FAQ.

Functional Templates
Create a New FAQ
3.0 - create a new FAQ

How to get here: User selects Create a New FAQ from .2 main navigation

Concept/Purpose/Objective: To allow the user to create a new FAQ question and answer.

Content/Data:  
 Question ID static field  
 Submitting Office static field  
 Question text panel  
 Answer text panel  
 Categories & Sub-categories header  
 Categories & sub-categories explanatory text  
 Categories & sub-categories JTree with check boxes  
 Add Related FAQs header  
 Explanatory text  
 Keyword(s) or Question ID text field  
 Search button  
 Related FAQs table title  
 Related FAQs table

Buttons/Links:  
If:  
 User selects Search button for related FAQ search  
 User selects Question link

User selects Remove Related FAQs button  
 User completes all fields and selects Clear Fields button  
 User completes all fields and selects Save as Draft button

User selects Submit for Approval

Navigation Links/Buttons:  
 See the 0.2 Main Navigation panel (user will see one of 3 options for left navigation menu depending on authentication)

Create a New FAQ is highlighted in white background with black text.

Site Title

Main Navigation

### Create a New FAQ

Question ID: 412  
 \* Submitting Office: OS/ASPA

**\* Question:**

How do I invite the Secretary of HHS to our conference, event or meeting?

**\* Answer:**

All invitations for the Secretary's time for conferences, events, or meetings must come in writing. Requests must be faxed to (202) 690-7203. You can help us process your request by providing as much information as possible in your invitation. For all requests, please include:

- \* Name
- \* Mailing address
- \* Phone and fax numbers for the event contact person
- \* Specific topic of the meeting
- \* Who will attend to the meeting
- \* Dates for the meeting
- \* Any other information about the meeting that may be helpful to us.

For conferences or events, please include the following details in your request:

- \* Date
- \* Time
- \* Location of the event
- \* Topics you would like the Secretary's speech to address
- \* Whether members of the press or media will attend
- \* Number of people you expect will attend the conference or event

A letter confirming receipt of your request will be mailed to you. We will confirm or decline requests for the Secretary's attendance at a conference or event approximately 1 month prior to the date of the event.

**\* Categories & Sub-Categories**  
 Select the Categories and sub-categories you would like to display the FAQ with from the tree.

- About HHS
- Disasters & Emergencies
- Grants & Funding
- Health & Health Care
- Health Information Privacy (HIPAA)
- Human Services
- Web Site
- Web 2.0

**Add Related FAQs**  
 Enter a keyword(s) or FAQ ID number to search for related FAQs to include related FAQs to be displayed with your FAQ.  
 Keyword(s) or ID Number:

Question ID	Question	Submitting Office
<input type="checkbox"/> 234	How far in advance of a conference, event or meeting, should I submit an invitation to the Secretary of HHS?	HHS/OS
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 417	Once I send in an invitation to the Secretary of HHS, may I list him as "invited" on the website or other materials?	HHS/OS



## Search FAQs

The following three panels will show why the nomenclature is important. The user wants to search all FAQs in the database. Note that the main category is Search or Browse:

Functional Templates	Search Results	5.1 - search results																												
<p><b>How to get here:</b> User enters keyword(s) or ID number in 5.0 search or browse FAQs.</p> <p><b>Concept/Purpose/Objective:</b> To allow the user to view a FAQ in the database.</p> <p><b>Content/Data:</b>                      Search Results title                      Keyword(s) or ID number search field with entered text                      Instruction text                      Number displayed of number of results text                      Results table</p> <p><b>Buttons/Links:</b>  <b>If:</b>                      User enters new keyword(s) or ID number and selects search button                      If user selects question link</p> <p><b>Then:</b>                      Database is searched for matches, then go to 5.1 Search results                      Go to 5.2 Search results                      Displaying selected FAQ</p> <p><b>Navigation Links/Buttons:</b>                      See the 0.2 Main Navigation panel (user will see one of 3 options for left navigation menu depending on authentication)</p> <p>Search or Browse FAQs is highlighted in white background with black text.</p> <p><b>Error Conditions</b>                      If no search results match the keyword(s) or ID and no results are returned, the user will receive a message indicating that the research did not result in any matches.</p>	<p>Site Title</p> <p><b>Search Results</b></p> <p>Keyword(s) or ID Number: <input type="text" value="the Secretary"/> <input type="button" value="Search"/></p> <p>Select the Question link to view the FAQ.</p> <p>1 - 6 of 6</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>ID</th> <th>Question</th> <th>Created</th> <th>Modified</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>7</td> <td>Who is the current Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services?</td> <td>08/01/2008</td> <td>08/11/2008</td> </tr> <tr> <td>23</td> <td>How do I invite the Secretary of HHS to our conference, event or meeting?</td> <td>08/01/2008</td> <td>08/21/2008</td> </tr> <tr> <td>42</td> <td>How far in advance of a conference, event or meeting, should I submit an invitation to the Secretary of HHS?</td> <td>08/01/2008</td> <td>08/21/2008</td> </tr> <tr> <td>12</td> <td>What is the Secretary's Blog?</td> <td>08/01/2008</td> <td>08/14/2008</td> </tr> <tr> <td>8</td> <td>Once I send an invitation to the Secretary of HHS, may I list him as "invited" on the agenda or other materials?</td> <td>08/01/2008</td> <td>08/16/2008</td> </tr> <tr> <td>223</td> <td>How can I obtain a copy of the HHS Secretary's biography and photograph?</td> <td>08/01/2008</td> <td>08/5/2008</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	ID	Question	Created	Modified	7	Who is the current Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services?	08/01/2008	08/11/2008	23	How do I invite the Secretary of HHS to our conference, event or meeting?	08/01/2008	08/21/2008	42	How far in advance of a conference, event or meeting, should I submit an invitation to the Secretary of HHS?	08/01/2008	08/21/2008	12	What is the Secretary's Blog?	08/01/2008	08/14/2008	8	Once I send an invitation to the Secretary of HHS, may I list him as "invited" on the agenda or other materials?	08/01/2008	08/16/2008	223	How can I obtain a copy of the HHS Secretary's biography and photograph?	08/01/2008	08/5/2008	
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Functional Templates	Search or Browse FAQs	5.0 - search or browse FAQs
<p><b>How to get here:</b> User selects Search or Browse FAQs from .2 main navigation</p> <p><b>Concept/Purpose/Objective:</b> To allow the user to search for and view all FAQs in the database system.</p> <p><b>Content/Data:</b>                      Search or Browse FAQs                      Explanatory text                      Search header                      Keyword(s) or ID Number text field                      Search button                      OR text and separator line                      Browse Categories &amp; Sub-Categories header                      Category &amp; Sub-category Jtree                      Submit button</p> <p><b>Buttons/Links:</b>  <b>If:</b>                      User enters keyword(s) or ID and selects search button</p> <p>User selects categories &amp;/or sub-categories and then the Submit button</p> <p><b>Then:</b>                      Database is searched for matches, then go to 5.1 Search results                      Database is searched for matching categories/sub-categories, then go to 5.2 search results.</p> <p><b>Navigation Links/Buttons:</b>                      See the 0.2 Main Navigation panel (user will see one of 3 options for left navigation menu depending on authentication)</p> <p>Search or Browse FAQs is highlighted in white background with black text.</p> <p><b>Error Conditions</b>                      If no search results match the keyword(s) or ID and no results are returned, the user will receive a message indicating that the research did not result in any matches.</p> <p>Note:                      The selection (check) of a sub-category or categories will not select categories/sub-categories higher in the tree structure.</p>	<p>Site Title</p> <p><b>Search or Browse FAQs</b></p> <p>Search for an FAQ by keyword(s) or ID Number or browse FAQs by Web site and/or Category.</p> <p><b>Search</b></p> <p>Keyword(s) or ID Number: <input type="text"/> <input type="button" value="Search"/></p> <p>OR</p> <p><b>Browse Categories &amp; Sub-Categories</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> About HHS</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Disasters &amp; Emergencies</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Grants &amp; Funding</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Health &amp; Health Care</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Health Information Privacy (HIPAA)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Human Services</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Web Site</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Web 2.0</li> </ul> <p><input type="button" value="Submit"/></p>	

Since the search wireframe has an associated behavior (search & submit) and results for that behavior, there would be a results wireframe (Note this wireframe is numbered 5.1 to indicate that). This wireframe indicates the user searched by keyword or ID number.



This wireframe indicates that the user selected to browse by category/sub-category.

<b>Functional Templates</b>	<b>Browse Results</b>	5.2 - browse results
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How to get here: User selects category(ies) or sub-category(ies) and Submit button from 5.0 search or browse FAQs

Concept/Purpose/Objective: To allow the user to browse categories and/or sub-categories of FAQs.

Content/Data:  
 Browse Results Page title  
 Category  
 Sub-Category  
 Sub-Category header  
 Sub-category table  
 Sub-Category header  
 Sub-category table

Buttons/Links:  
If: User selects question link      Then: Go to 5.2.1 Browse results display selected FAQ

Navigation Links/Buttons:  
 See the 0.2 Main Navigation panel (user will see one of 3 options for left navigation menu depending on authentication)

Search or Browse FAQs is highlighted in white background with black text.

Site Title

**Browse Results**

**Category:** About HHS FAQs  
**Sub-Category:** The Secretary FAQs

**About the Secretary**

Question ID	Question	Submitting Office
234	How far in advance of a conference, event or meeting, should I submit an invitation to the Secretary of HHS?	HHS/OS
417	Once I send an invitation to the Secretary of HHS, may I list him as "invited" on the agenda or other materials?	HHS/OS

**Inviting the Secretary**

Question ID	Question	Submitting Office
234	How far in advance of a conference, event or meeting, should I submit an invitation to the Secretary of HHS?	HHS/OS
417	Once I send an invitation to the Secretary of HHS, may I list him as "invited" on the agenda or other materials?	HHS/OS
234	How far in advance of a conference, event or meeting, should I submit an invitation to the Secretary of HHS?	HHS/OS
417	Once I send an invitation to the Secretary of HHS, may I list him as "invited" on the agenda or other materials?	HHS/OS

**The Secretary's blog**

Question ID	Question	Submitting Office
234	How far in advance of a conference, event or meeting, should I submit an invitation to the Secretary of HHS?	HHS/OS
417	Once I send an invitation to the Secretary of HHS, may I list him as "invited" on the agenda or other materials?	HHS/OS
234	How far in advance of a conference, event or meeting, should I submit an invitation to the Secretary of HHS?	HHS/OS
417	Once I send an invitation to the Secretary of HHS, may I list him as "invited" on the agenda or other materials?	HHS/OS

The end result for this section is for a user to select and view one FAQ from the browse panel. The nomenclature indicates this is the result of the 5.2 panel.

<b>Functional Templates</b>	<b>Browse Results - View Selected FAQ</b>	5.2.1 - browse results display selected FAQ
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How to get here: User selects a FAQ link from 5.2 browse results panel.

Concept/Purpose/Objective: To allow the user view the selected FAQ.

Content/Data:  
 Browse Results Page title  
 ID Number  
 Question header  
 Question content  
 Answer header  
 Answer content  
 Back to Browse results link

Buttons/Links:  
If: User selects back to Browse Results link      Then: Go to 5.2 Browse results panel

Navigation Links/Buttons:  
 See the 0.2 Main Navigation panel (user will see one of 3 options for left navigation menu depending on authentication)

Browse Results is highlighted in white background with black text.

Site Title

**Browse Results**

**ID Number:** 215

**Question**  
 Who is the current Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services?

**Answer**  
 Michael O. Leavitt was sworn in as the 20th Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services on January 26, 2005. As secretary, he leads national efforts to protect the health of all Americans and provide essential human services to those in need. He manages the largest civilian department in the federal government, with more than 66,000 employees and a budget that accounts for almost one out of every four federal dollars.

A biography and photograph of Secretary Leavitt is available at <http://www.hhs.gov/about/bios/dhasec.html>.

← [Back to Browse Results](#)

