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CHECKLIST: DESIGN HANDOFF FOR FRONTEND DEVELOPMENT

This checklist helps verify that all important aspects for a successful design handoff have been considered. Use it as a guide to ensure developers receive all necessary information for implementation

Bookmark: An updated version and explanations can be found at <https://www.blueshoe.io/>



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DESIGN SYSTEM FUNDAMENTALS

COLOR PALETTE

- ☐ Primary colors defined (with all variants: light, dark, saturated)
- ☐ Secondary colors defined
- ☐ Neutral colors (backgrounds, texts, borders)
- ☐ State colors (Hover, Focus, Disabled, Error, Success, Warning, Info)
- ☐ Hex values or CSS variables documented for all colors
- ☐ Color contrasts checked for accessibility
- ☐ _____

TYPOGRAPHY

- ☐ Font families defined (Web Fonts or System Fonts)
- ☐ All font sizes documented (Headings H1-H6, Body, Captions, Labels)
- ☐ Line heights defined for all text styles
- ☐ Font weights documented (Regular, Medium, Bold, etc.)
- ☐ Responsive Typography (how do font sizes change at different breakpoints?)
- ☐ Text colors defined for different contexts
- ☐ _____

SPACING-SYSTEM

- ☐ Consistent spacing system defined (e.g., 4px, 8px, 16px, 24px, 32px, 48px, 64px)
- ☐ Spacing between components documented
- ☐ Container padding defined
- ☐ Responsive spacing (how do spacings change at different breakpoints?)
- ☐ _____



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COMPONENTS

COMPONENT STATES

- ☐ Default state documented
- ☐ Hover state documented
- ☐ Focus state documented (important for accessibility)
- ☐ Active state documented
- ☐ Disabled state documented
- ☐ Error state documented
- ☐ Success state documented
- ☐ _____

COMPONENT VARIANTS

- ☐ Size variants (Small, Medium, Large)
- ☐ Color variants (Primary, Secondary, Tertiary)
- ☐ Layout variants (with/without icon, different text lengths)
- ☐ Context variants (in different environments: Header, Footer, Modal)
- ☐ _____

SPECIFIC COMPONENTS

- ☐ Buttons (all states and variants)
- ☐ Form elements (Inputs, Textareas, Selects, Checkboxes, Radio Buttons)
- ☐ Cards
- ☐ Modals/Dialogs
- ☐ Navigation (Desktop and Mobile)
- ☐ Footer
- ☐ Header
- ☐ Lists
- ☐ Tables
- ☐ Alerts/Notifications
- ☐ _____



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RESPONSIVE DESIGN

BREAKPOINTS (Bootstrap Standard Recommended)

- ☐ Extra Small (xs) - <576px (small portrait smartphones)
- ☐ Small (sm) - ≥576px (large landscape smartphones)
- ☐ Medium (md) - ≥768px (tablets)
- ☐ Large (lg) - ≥992px (standard desktops)
- ☐ Extra Large (xl) - ≥1200px (large desktops)
- ☐ Extra Extra Large (xxl) - ≥1400px (very large screens)
- ☐ _____

BREAKPOINT DOCUMENTATION

- ☐ Layout changes documented for each breakpoint
- ☐ Component adaptations documented for each breakpoint
- ☐ Navigation behavior documented for each breakpoint
- ☐ Typography changes documented for each breakpoint
- ☐ Spacing changes documented for each breakpoint
- ☐ _____

Grid System

- ☐ Is a grid being used?
- ☐ How should the grid be structured? (12 Columns Default)
- ☐ _____



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NAVIGATION

Navigation Concept:

- ☐ How deep does the navigation go?
- ☐ Does the navigation require additional information such as images or text?
- ☐ Which essential functions should be included in the navigation (Search, Contrast Mode, Account, Shopping Cart...)?

DESKTOP NAVIGATION

- ☐ Default state documented
- ☐ Hover state documented (incl. animation/transition)
- ☐ Focus state documented
- ☐ Active state documented
- ☐ Transitions and animations specified
- ☐ _____

Dropdown menu behavior documented:

- ☐ Trigger behavior (Hover vs. Click)
- ☐ Dropdown position and alignment
- ☐ Dropdown styling (background, shadow, border)
- ☐ Animation (Fade-in, Slide-down, etc.)
- ☐ Sub-menu behavior
- ☐ _____

MOBILE NAVIGATION

Hamburger menu design documented:

- ☐ Icon position and size
- ☐ Animation on open/close
- ☐ Icon transformation (to X)
- ☐ _____



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Off-Canvas menu documented:

- ☐ Slide direction (from left, right, top)
- ☐ Background overlay
- ☐ Menu width and position
- ☐ Animation and transition
- ☐ _____

Menu items on mobile:

- ☐ Layout (List, Grid, etc.)
- ☐ Spacing between items
- ☐ Touch target sizes (minimum 44x44px)
- ☐ _____

MOBILE DESIGN

MOBILE-FIRST APPROACH

- ☐ Mobile designs available for all important pages
- ☐ Mobile designs available for navigation
- ☐ Mobile designs available for main components
- ☐ _____

MOBILE SPECIFICATIONS

- ☐ Touch targets defined (minimum 44x44px)
- ☐ Component adaptations documented for mobile
- ☐ Layout changes documented for mobile
- ☐ Touch interactions specified (Swipe, etc.)
- ☐ Performance considerations for mobile included
- ☐ _____



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INTERACTIONS AND ANIMATIONS

HOVER EFFECTS

- ☐ Hover effects defined for all interactive elements
- ☐ Transition duration and easing specified
- ☐ Cursor changes documented

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ANIMATIONS

- ☐ Page transitions defined
- ☐ Loading states documented
- ☐ Micro-interactions specified
- ☐ Animation duration and easing defined

☐ _____

ASSETS AND EXPORTS

IMAGES

- ☐ All images optimized for web
- ☐ Images available in various sizes (Retina, etc.)
- ☐ Image formats defined (WebP, JPG, PNG, SVG)

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ICONS

- ☐ Icons exported as SVG
- ☐ Icon sizes defined
- ☐ Icon colors documented (if adaptable)

☐ _____

Updates and discussions at <https://www.blueshoe.io/>

We welcome additions and contributions of all kinds.



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LOGOS

- ☐ Logos available in various formats (SVG, PNG)
- ☐ Logo variants (Light, Dark, Monochrome)
- ☐ _____

DOCUMENTATION AND ORGANIZATION

FIGMA FILE STRUCTURE

- ☐ Design System clearly organized (Colors, Typography, Components)
- ☐ Spacing system documented
- ☐ Breakpoints documented
- ☐ Page designs structured (Desktop and Mobile separated)
- ☐ Clear labeling of drafts and finished designs
- ☐ Comments and annotations available
- ☐ _____

ACCESSIBILITY

ACCESSIBILITY FEATURES

- ☐ Focus states defined for all interactive elements
- ☐ Color contrasts checked (WCAG AA or AAA)
- ☐ Touch target sizes for mobile (minimum 44x44px)
- ☐ Alt texts defined for images
- ☐ ARIA labels documented for complex components
- ☐ Counterpart to the hover effect defined for touch devices
- ☐ _____



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SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS

CONTENT STRATEGY

- ☐ Placeholder content defined
- ☐ Content lengths considered (short vs. long texts)
- ☐ Image ratios defined
- ☐ _____



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ADDITIONAL NOTES

NOTES

NOTE: This checklist should serve as a guide. Not all points have to be met in every project, but the more complete the design handoff is, the more efficient the implementation can be.

TIP: Go through this checklist together with the development team to ensure all important aspects are covered.