

# graded browser support & progressive enhancement

Mark Norman Francis

<http://cackhanded.net/presentations/fling07>

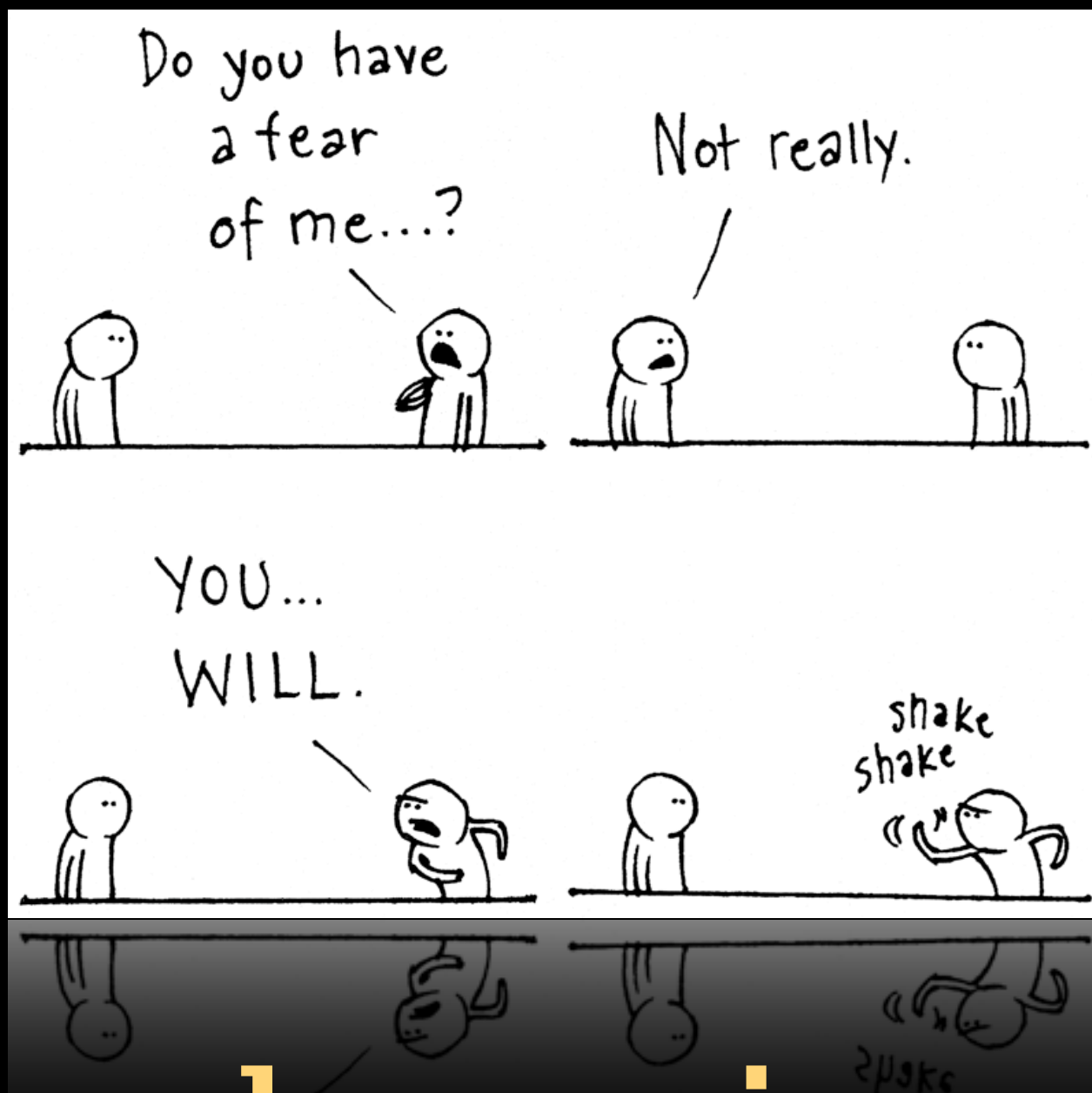


who am I?

author backend beard cackhanded  
codereviews critic CSS  
eternalhippy frontend HTML  
JavaScript iñtërnâtiônàlizætìon  
kingofthebritons longhair manager  
microformats noeyefordesign PHP  
perl semanticwanker shakeshake  
sysadmin webdeveloper yahoo!

I apologise for this. It amused me at the time.

I'd like to look explain one of these things in a little bit more detail.



# code reviews

One of the things I do at work is run code reviews. In brief this is a stage before formal Q.A. testing in which other members of the Web Development team and sometimes the back-end Engineering team go through code, templates and the CMS structure to look for common gotchas and optimisations. I call it "collective wisdom".

This is why I am going to tell you about GBS and point out all of the ways that Yahoo! doesn't follow it's own rules. Never mind, eh?

**YAHOO!** DEVELOPER NETWORK

**Yahoo! UI Library: Graded Browser Support**

Yahoo! UI Library

- Home
- YUIBlog
- YUI Discussion Forum
- YUI on Sourceforge
- API Documentation
- Examples & Implementations
- YUI Theater
- YUI License

YUI Articles

- YUI FAQ
- Graded Browser Support**
- Bug Reports/Feature Requests
- Serving YUI Files from Yahoo!

YUI Components

- Animation
- AutoComplete
- Browser History Manager
- Button BETA
- Calendar
- Connection Manager
- Container
- DataSource BETA
- DataTable BETA
- Dom
- Drag & Drop

**Graded Browser Support**

- [A-Grade Browser Support Chart](#)
- [History and Rationale](#)

**A-Grade Browser Support Chart**

This chart lists all browser versions that receive A-grade support as defined by [Graded Browser Support](#).

	Win 98	Win 2000	Win XP	Mac 10.3.x	Mac 10.4
IE 7.0			A-grade		
IE 6.0	A-grade	A-grade	A-grade		
Firefox 2.0.*	A-grade	A-grade	A-grade	A-grade	A-grade
Firefox 1.5.*	A-grade	A-grade	A-grade	A-grade	A-grade
Opera 9.*	A-grade	A-grade	A-grade	A-grade	A-grade
Safari 2.0*					A-grade

**Changes**

**Primary Changes**

graded  
browser  
support

“Support does not mean  
that everybody gets the  
same thing.

“Support does not mean that everybody gets the same thing. Expecting two users using different browser software to have an identical experience fails to embrace or acknowledge the heterogeneous essence of the Web. In fact, requiring the same experience for all users creates a barrier to participation.”

“Availability and  
accessibility of content  
should be our key priority.”

“An appropriate support strategy allows every user to consume as much visual and interactive richness as their environment can support.”

“Consider television. At the core: TV distributes information. A hand-cranked emergency radio is capable of receiving television audio transmissions. It would be counter-productive to prevent access to this content, even though it’s a fringe experience.



YOU  
MUST  
BE  
36"  
TALL  
TO  
RIDE

THE  
TEA  
CUPS

[http://flickr.com/photos/  
caitlinburke/147151894/](http://flickr.com/photos/caitlinburke/147151894/)

Some viewers still have black-and-white televisions. Broadcasting only in black-and-white — the “lowest common denominator” approach — ensures a shared experience but benefits no one. Excluding the black-and-white television owners — the “you must be this tall to ride” approach — provides no benefit either.”

the grades

<b>A-Grade</b>	<b>Full support: the most recent browsers on the most popular OSs; receive all HTML, CSS, JS and are actively tested against</b>
<b>C-Grade</b>	<b>Core support: browsers known to be incapable of modern standards and functionality; receive HTML only</b>
<b>X-Grade</b>	<b>No support: unknown browsers assumed to be capable; receive all HTML, CSS, JS and a warning</b>

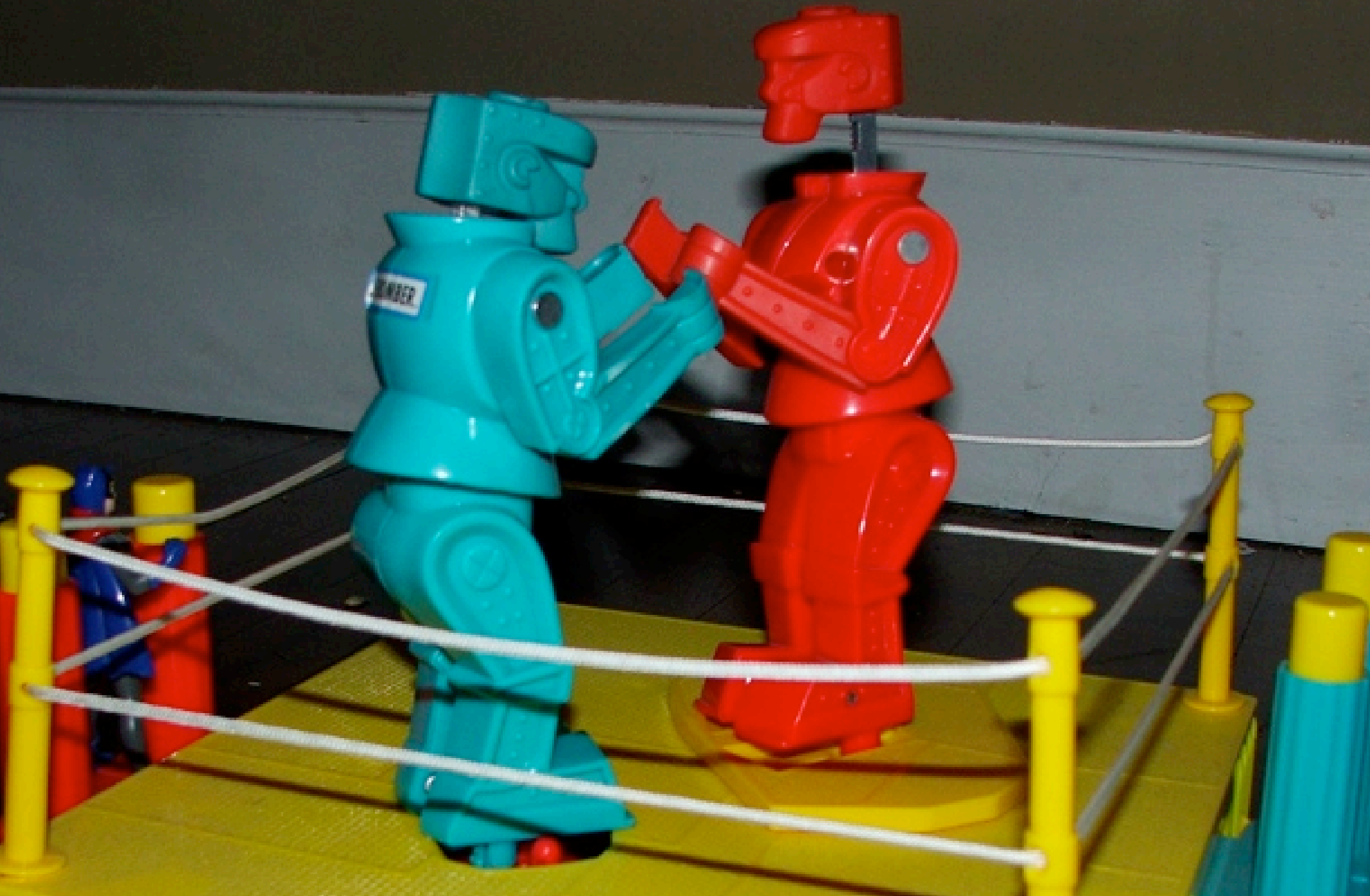
- A-Grade**
- IE6 on Windows 98, 2000 & XP
  - IE7 on XP
  - Firefox 1.5 & 2.0 on Windows 98, 2000 & XP; OS X 10.3 & 10.4
  - Opera 9 on Windows 98, 2000 & XP; OS X 10.3 & 10.4
  - Safari on OS X 10.4

- C-Grade**
- IE < 6
  - Firefox < 1.5
  - Opera < 9
  - Safari on OS X 10.3 or below

- X-Grade**
- everything else

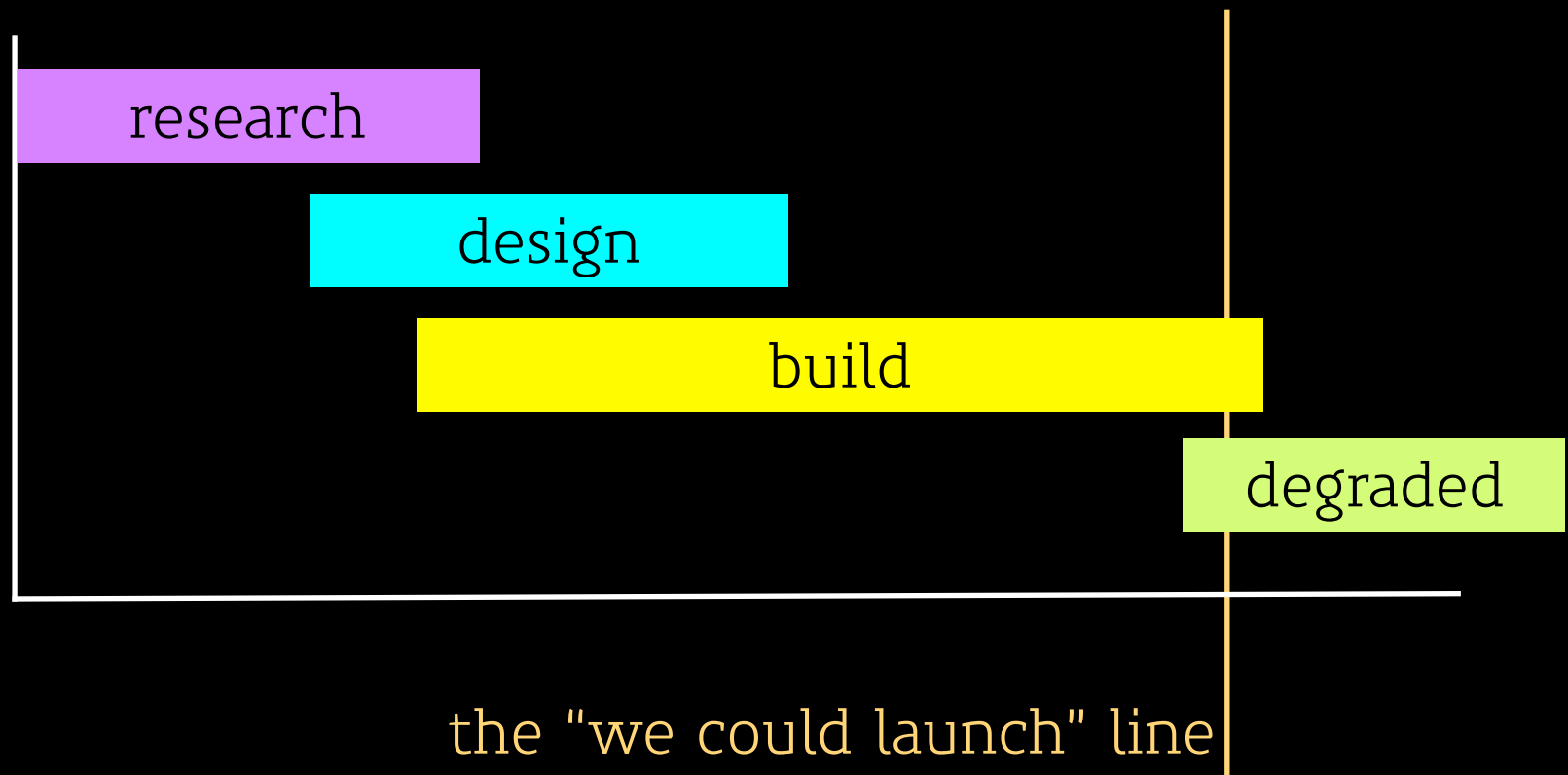
“Progressive enhancement  
is a core concept of  
Graded Browser Support.”

progressive enhancement  
vs.  
graceful degradation



There is a problem however, in that many people do not see the difference between graceful degradation and progressive enhancement. There is a misconception that it is the same goal just seen from two different perspectives. Indeed, I've even had to explain it to my boss at work, and I'm still not sure it's clear to him. The article has this to say:

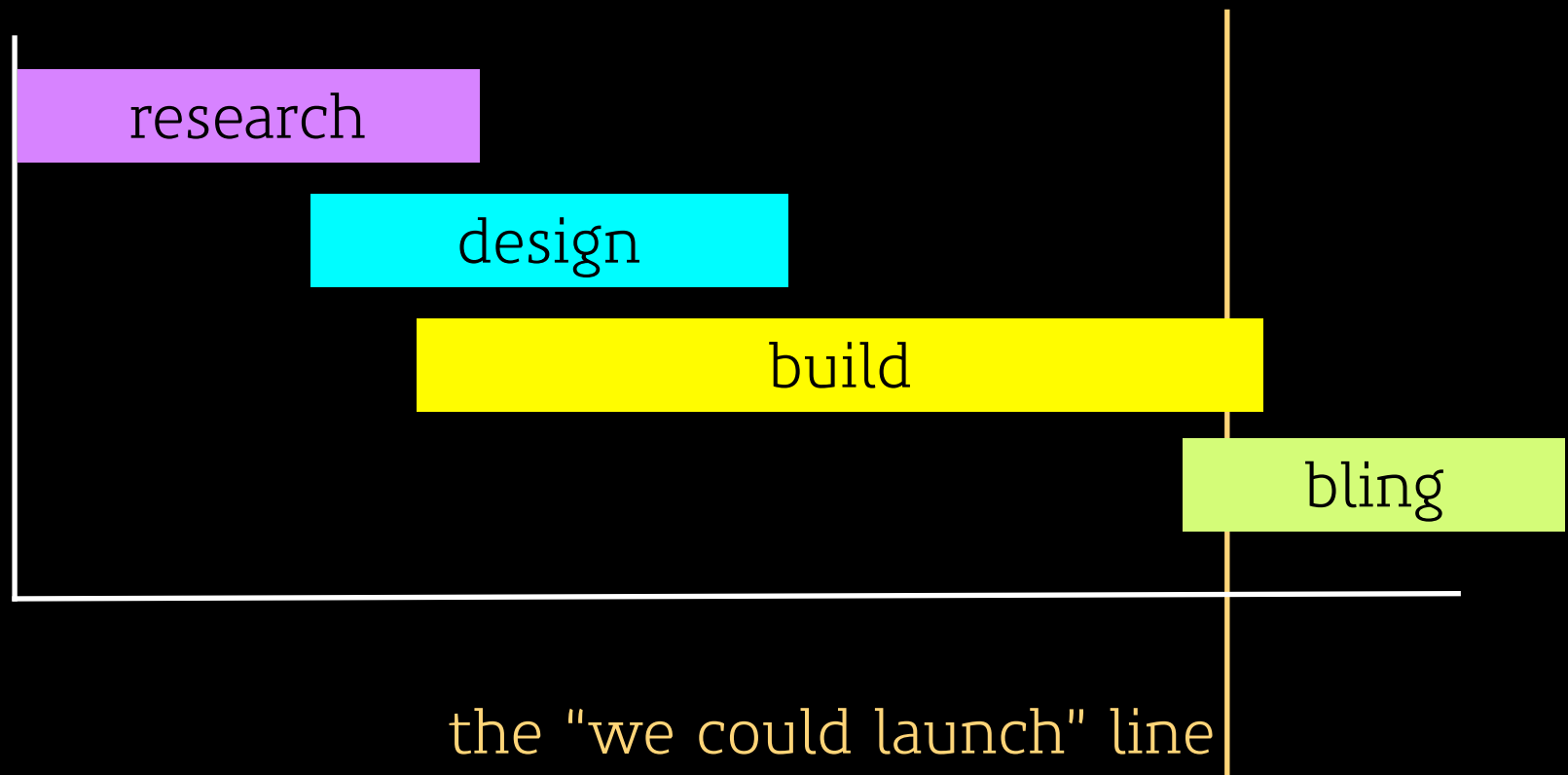
“These two concepts influence decision-making about browser support. Because they reflect different priorities, they frame the support discussion differently. Graceful degradation prioritizes presentation, and permits less widely-used browsers to receive less (and give less to the user). Progressive enhancement puts content at the center, and allows most browsers to receive more (and show more to the user). While close in meaning, progressive enhancement is a healthier and more forward-looking approach.”



# graceful degradation

Any project is squeezed as time-to-launch grows short. If your "accessibility" is the last stage of your build process (graceful degradation) it's quite possible you'll never actually get time to do it.





# progressive enhancement

If you take care of your accessibility and content up front, it will work for everyone. Then you can spend as much time as deemed necessary adding the extra 'bling' to your site.

some examples of  
right and wrong

Who doesn't love flickr? A poster-child for Web 2.0 and a wholesale embracer of Ajax techniques. And a whole lot of fun to boot.

In a capable browser, Flickr allows some very nice in-page editing. Clicking in the title or the description turns it into a form allowing you to edit it quickly and easily.



# Forget free Coca-Cola - this is staff motivation

SAVE OR Cancel

ADD NOTE SEND TO GROUP ADD TO SET BLOG THIS ALL SIZES ORDER PRINTS ROTATE DELETE X



Uploaded on March 26, 2007 by cackhanded

### cackhanded's photostream



You are at the last photo

2,938 photos

View as slideshow

more | browse

### Tags

- Yahoo! Europe [x]
- Yahoo! [x]
- 125 Shaftesbury Avenue [x]
- canteen [x]
- Byte [x]
- The Byte [x]
- magic mushrooms [x]
- mushroom [x]

Forget free Coca-Cola - this is staff motivation on Flickr - Photo Sharing!

http://flickr.com/photos/mn\_francis/435010076/

Forget free Coca-Cola...

flickr GAMMA

Signed in as [cackhanded](#) (36 new) Help Sign Out

Search everyone's photos


SEARCH

Home You Organize Contacts Groups Explore

# Forget free Coca-Cola – this is staff motivation


To take full advantage of Flickr, you should use a JavaScript-enabled browser and [install the latest version of the Macromedia Flash Player.](#)

ADD NOTE SEND TO GROUP ADD TO SET BLOG THIS ALL SIZES ORDER PRINTS ROTATE DELETE X



Uploaded on March 26, 2007 by [cackhanded](#)

[cackhanded's photostream](#)

 You are at the last photo **2,938 photos** [View as slideshow](#)

[browse](#)

Tags

- Yahoo! Europe [x]
- Yahoo! [x]
- 125 Shaftesbury Avenue [x]
- canteen [x]
- Byte [x]
- The Byte [x]
- magic mushrooms [x]
- mushroom [x]

However, with JavaScript off Flickr displays the 'helpful' message: "To take full advantage of Flickr, you should use a JavaScript-enabled browser and install the latest version of the Macromedia Flash Player."

Clicking in the title or the description now does nothing.

Forget free Coca-Cola - this is staff motivation on Flickr - Photo Sharing!

http://flickr.com/photos/mn\_francis/435010076/

Forget free Coca-Cola...

flickr GAMMA™

Signed in as [cackhanded](#) (36 new) Help Sign Out

Search everyone's photos


SEARCH

Home You Organize Contacts Groups Explore

# Forget free Coca-Cola – this is staff motivation

To take full advantage of Flickr, you should use a JavaScript-enabled browser and [install the latest version of the Macromedia Flash Player](#).

ADD NOTE SEND TO GROUP ADD TO SET BLOG THIS ALL SIZES ORDER PRINTS ROTATE DELETE X




Soup £2.00  
Leek & potato  
With bread & toppings

Bistro £3.75  
Chicken & magic mushroom  
lasagne with tomato salad

Uploaded on March 26, 2007 by [cackhanded](#)

### cackhanded's photostream



You are at the last photo

2,938 photos

[View as slideshow](#)

[browse](#)

### Tags

- Yahoo! Europe [x]
- Yahoo! [x]
- 125 Shaftesbury Avenue [x]
- canteen [x]
- Byte [x]
- The Byte [x]
- magic mushrooms [x]
- mushroom [x]

So let's take a look at the buttons above the image. When you click on them now, they do nothing. Why is this?

Forget free Coca-Cola - this is staff motivation on Flickr - Photo Sharing!

http://flickr.com/photos/mn\_francis/435010076/

Forget free Coca-Cola...

flickr GANMA

Signed in as cackhanded (36 new) Help Sign Out

Search everyone's photos SEARCH

Home You Organize Contacts Groups Explore

## Forget free Coca-Cola – this is staff motivation

Uploaded on March 26, 2007 by [cackhanded](#)

[cackhanded's photostream](#)

You are at 2,938

```

<script type="text/javascript">
  _decorate( _ge('photo_gne_button_add_note'),
    asagne with 435010076 );
</script>
```


The code for the buttons clearly explains why. They are activated by JavaScript, and there is no fallback anchor. So clicking on them without JavaScript enabled does nothing.

There are other basic problems with the button code as well. Note the lack of the alt attribute on the buttons.

Forget free Coca-Cola - this is staff motivation on Flickr - Photo Sharing!

http://flickr.com/photos/mn\_francis/435010076/

Forget free Coca-Cola...



With bread & toppings

**Bistro** £3.75

Chicken & magic mushroom lasagne with tomato salad


**Vegetarian** £3.00

Vegetable Lasagne with tomato & basil salad

**Jackets** £2.25

Chicken & magic mushroom lasagne with a tomato salad.

### Comments

 **kapowaz pro** says:



And I'm sure I remember you telling me that Yahoo were a bunch of hippies at heart...

Posted 6 days ago ( [permalink](#) | [delete](#) )

### Tags

- Yahoo! Europe [x]
- Yahoo! [x]
- 125 Shaftesbury Avenue [x]
- canteen [x]
- Byte [x]
- The Byte [x]
- magic mushrooms [x]
- mushroom [x]
- badger badger badger badger [x]
- lasagne [x]
- recipe [x]
- salad [x]
- tomato [x]
- staff motivation [x]

### Additional Information

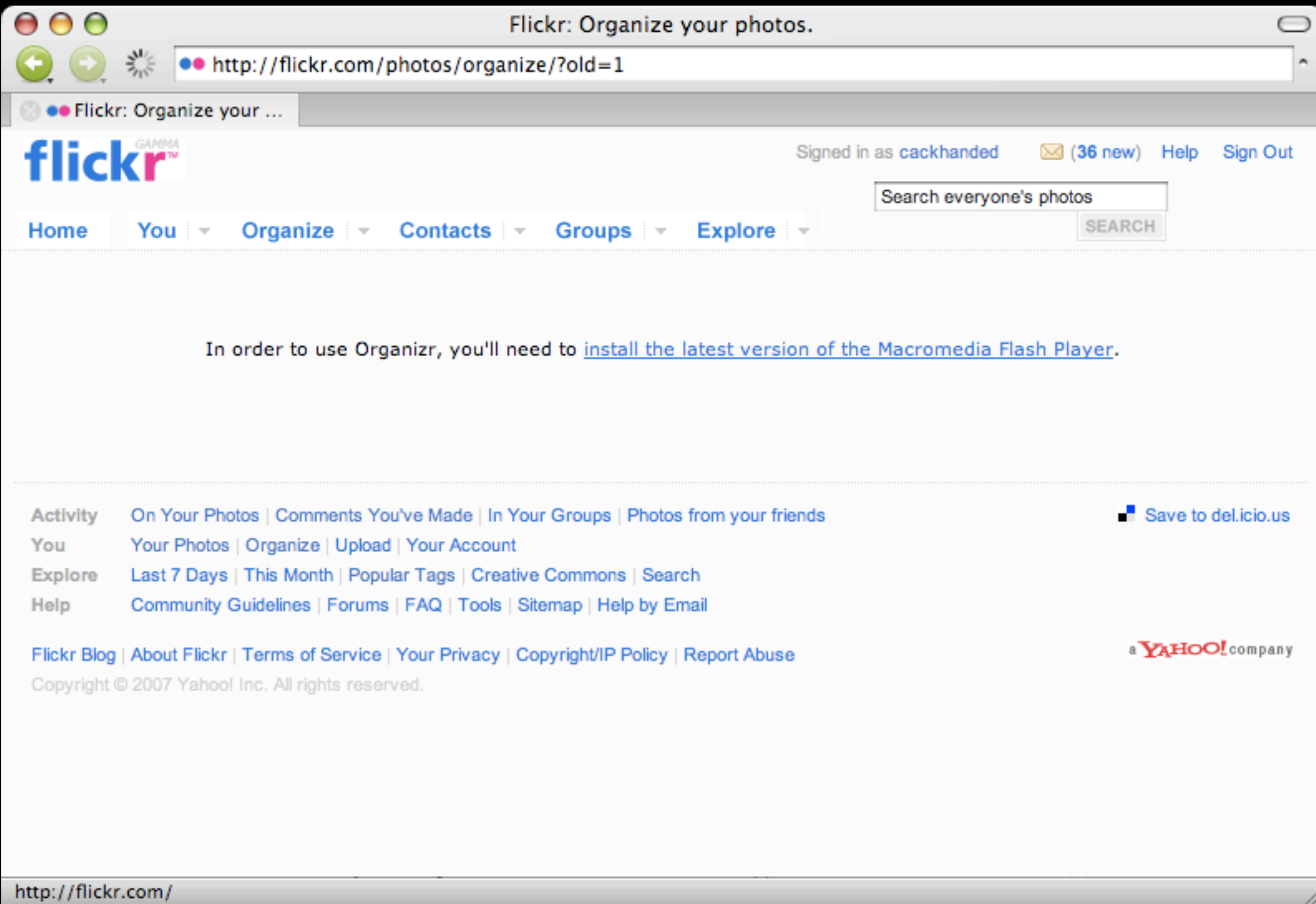
  Some rights reserved. ([edit](#))

- Place this photo on a map
- Taken with a Nokia N80.  
[More properties](#)
- Taken on [March 26, 2007](#) ([edit](#))
- See [different sizes](#)
- [3 people](#) call this photo a favorite
- Viewed **78 times** (Not including you)
- [Edit title, description, and tags](#)

Also, where did the ability to add a tag go?

Well, at least we can change titles and descriptions and add tags to photos using the older Flash-based Organizer, can't we?





Ah no.

We can't use the Organizer. The error you get tells you to install the latest version of the Flash Player. I have that installed, trust me. I just don't have JavaScript turned on. The Organizer is inserted with JavaScript, without any fallback other than this incorrect and misleading error message.

this is not

In order to use Organizer, you'll need to [install the latest version of the Macromedia Flash Player.](#)

progressive

enhancement

Activity On Your Photos | Comments You've Made | In Your Groups | Photos from your friends

Save to del.icio.us

You Your Photos | Organize | Upload | Your Account

Explore Last 7 Days | This Month | Popular Tags | Creative Commons | Search

Help Community Guidelines | Terms of Service | Tools | Site Map | Help | Contact Us

Flickr Blog | About Flickr | Terms of Service | Privacy Policy | Contact Us | Report Abuse

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this is not even

In order to use Organizr, you'll need to [install the latest version of the Macromedia Flash Player.](#)

graceful

degradation

Activity On Your Photos | Comments You've Made | In Your Groups | Photos from your friends

Save to del.icio.us

You Your Photos | Organize | Upload | Your Account

Explore Last 7 Days | This Month | Popular Tags | Creative Commons | Search

Help Community Guidelines | Terms of Service | Privacy | Copyright | Help

Flickr Blog | About Flickr | Terms of Service | Privacy | Copyright | Help

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this is just

In order to use Organizer, you'll need to [install the latest version of the Macromedia Flash Player.](#)

criminally

inadequate

Activity On Your Photos | Comments You've Made | In Your Groups | Photos from your friends

Save to del.icio.us

You Your Photos | Organize | Upload | Your Account

Explore Last 7 Days | This Month | Popular Tags | Creative Commons | Search

Help Community Guidelines | Help | Support | Feedback

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del.icio.us/help/tagometer

http://del.icio.us/help/tagometer

del.icio.us/help/tago...

clue us in – take the [del.icio.us survey](#) [hide this](#)

**del.icio.us / help / tagometer** [popular](#) | [recent](#)

[your bookmarks](#) | [your network](#) | [subscriptions](#) | [links for you](#) | [post](#) logged in as **mn\_francis** | [settings](#) | [logout](#) | [help](#)

---

### Tagometer Badge

With our JSON powered Tagometer Badge, you can add some flair to your site. With this badge, it's easy to show both tags and number of saves, so it's easy to show visitors how interesting you are.

**Please note:** currently, the badge only works on websites which allow JavaScript includes as part of pages or templates. If this badge does not work for you, it is likely that your site has disallowed this use of JavaScript.

### Tall Badge

The tall badge is great for sidebars and shows in a narrow multiline presentation.

[bookmark this on del.icio.us](#)

**tags:** [del.icio.us](#) [bookmarks](#) [social](#)  
[bookmark](#) [web2.0](#) [delicious](#) [links](#)  
[web](#) [imported](#) [community](#) [tools](#)

saved by **12560** other people

Cut and paste this code into your webpage to get the tall badge.

```
script src="http://image.del.icio.us/static/js/delbadge-tall.js" type="text/javascript"
```

The del.icio.us tagometer badge.

del.icio.us/help/tagometer

http://del.icio.us/help/tagometer

del.icio.us/help/tago...

clue us in – take the [del.icio.us survey](#) [hide this](#)

**del.icio.us / help / tagometer** [popular](#) | [recent](#)

[your bookmarks](#) | [your network](#) | [subscriptions](#) | [links for you](#) | [post](#) logged in as [mn\\_francis](#) | [settings](#) | [logout](#) | [help](#)

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[bookmark](#) [web2.0](#) [delicious](#) [links](#)  
[web](#) [imported](#) [community](#) [tools](#)

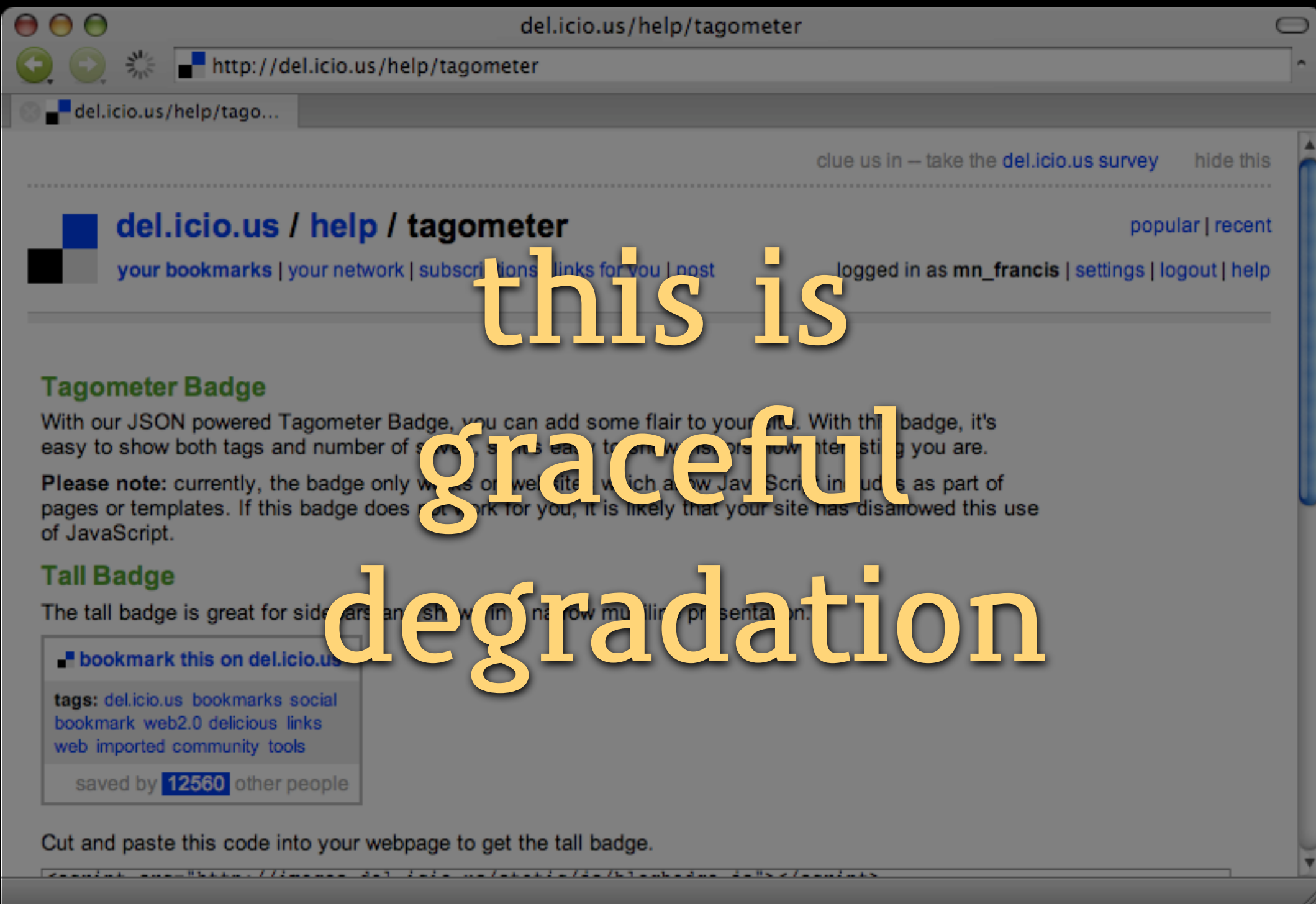
saved by **12560** other people

Cut and paste this code into your webpage to get the tall badge.

```
script src="http://image.del.icio.us/static/js/tagometer-tall.js" type="text/javascript"
```

The del.icio.us site recently added a “tagometer badge” which allows visitors to a web page to see up-to-the-minute information on how many times that page has been bookmarked, and the most popular tags they are using.

In the text on the page it states “**Please note:** currently, the badge only works on websites which allow JavaScript includes as part of pages or templates.” The badge is inserted by JavaScript, and JavaScript alone.



This is graceful degradation. Most people that run blogs that would use this service have no programming skills, so unless they are given something they can just drop-in to their site, they have no del.icio.us functionality at all. In this case graceful degradation is better than nothing. But it would be better if there were something in the page content to indicate that such functionality would be available, and to at least provide a link to the page on del.icio.us with the information displayed.


Creating a server side del.icio.us badge with PHP – Ed Eliot

http://www.ejeliot.com/blog/74

Creating a server side ...

# a weblog by Ed Eliot

Select Theme: Dark or Light //



Web Standards, PHP, HTML, CSS, JavaScript and other


## Selected Entry

Creating a server side del.icio.us badge with PHP 3 months, 5 days ago

### Introduction

del.icio.us recently released a **JavaScript tagometer badge**. For each page you add the badge to it displays the number of times the page has been bookmarked as well as associated tags and provides a direct link for bookmarking. This makes it a really useful for site authors to see at a glance how their pages are performing as well as giving visitors an indication of how popular pages are and perhaps the perceived quality of the information each contains.

## Connect/Save

 **bookmark on del.icio.us**

tags: tools javascript json  
delicious tags badges  
**php tutorial del.icio.us**  
tag code

saved by **18** people

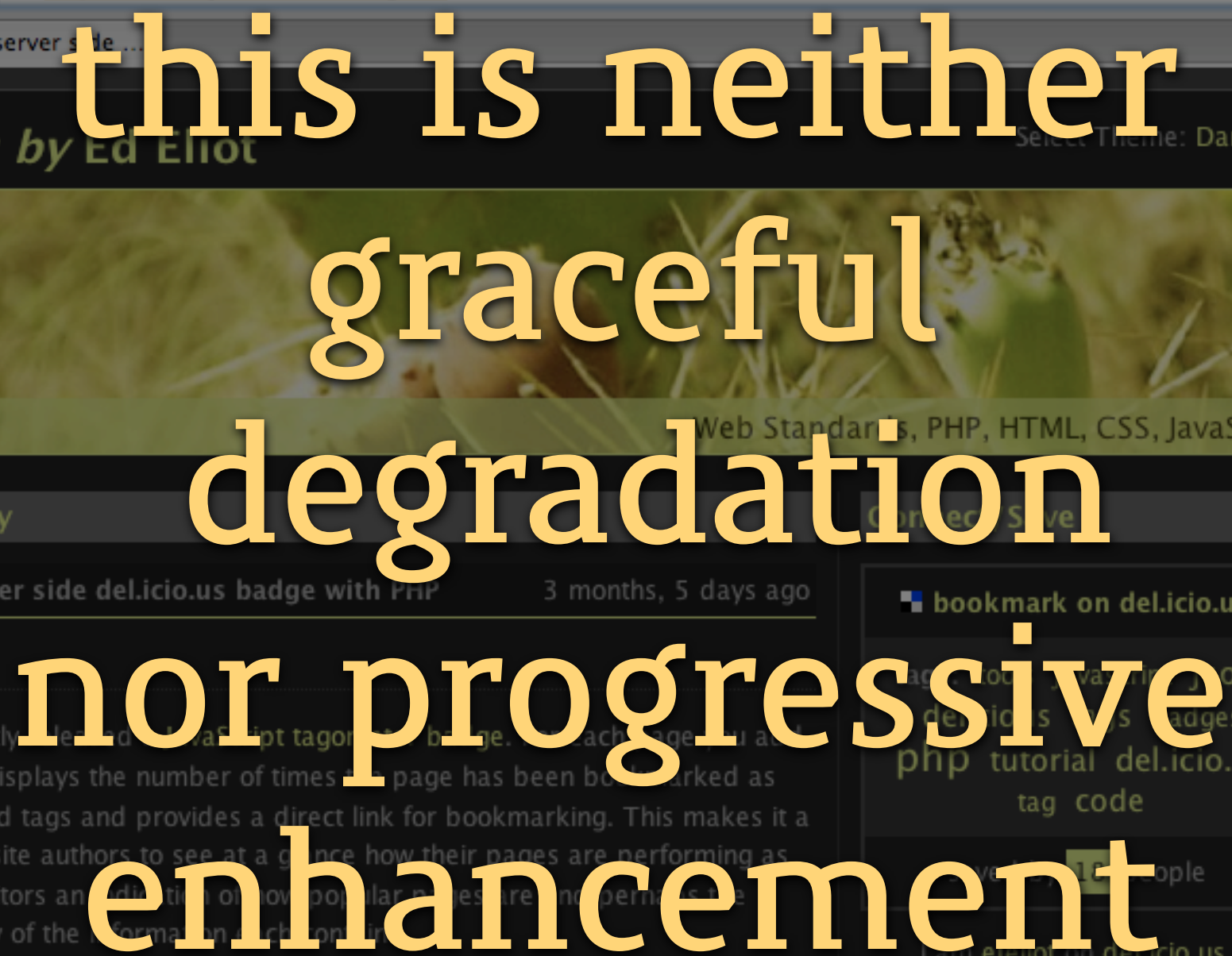
I am ejeliot on del.icio.us.  
Add me to your network

## Menu

- Blog Ho
- About
- Downloa
- Quick Li
- CV / Re
- Contact
- RSS Fe
- Post

A Yahoo! employee, Ed Eliot, reverse engineered the del.icio.us badge and ported it to PHP, improving upon it as he did so because he didn't like that it wasn't as configurable and that it was inserted by JS. Now the badge's content is available to all users of his personal site regardless of their browser capabilities.

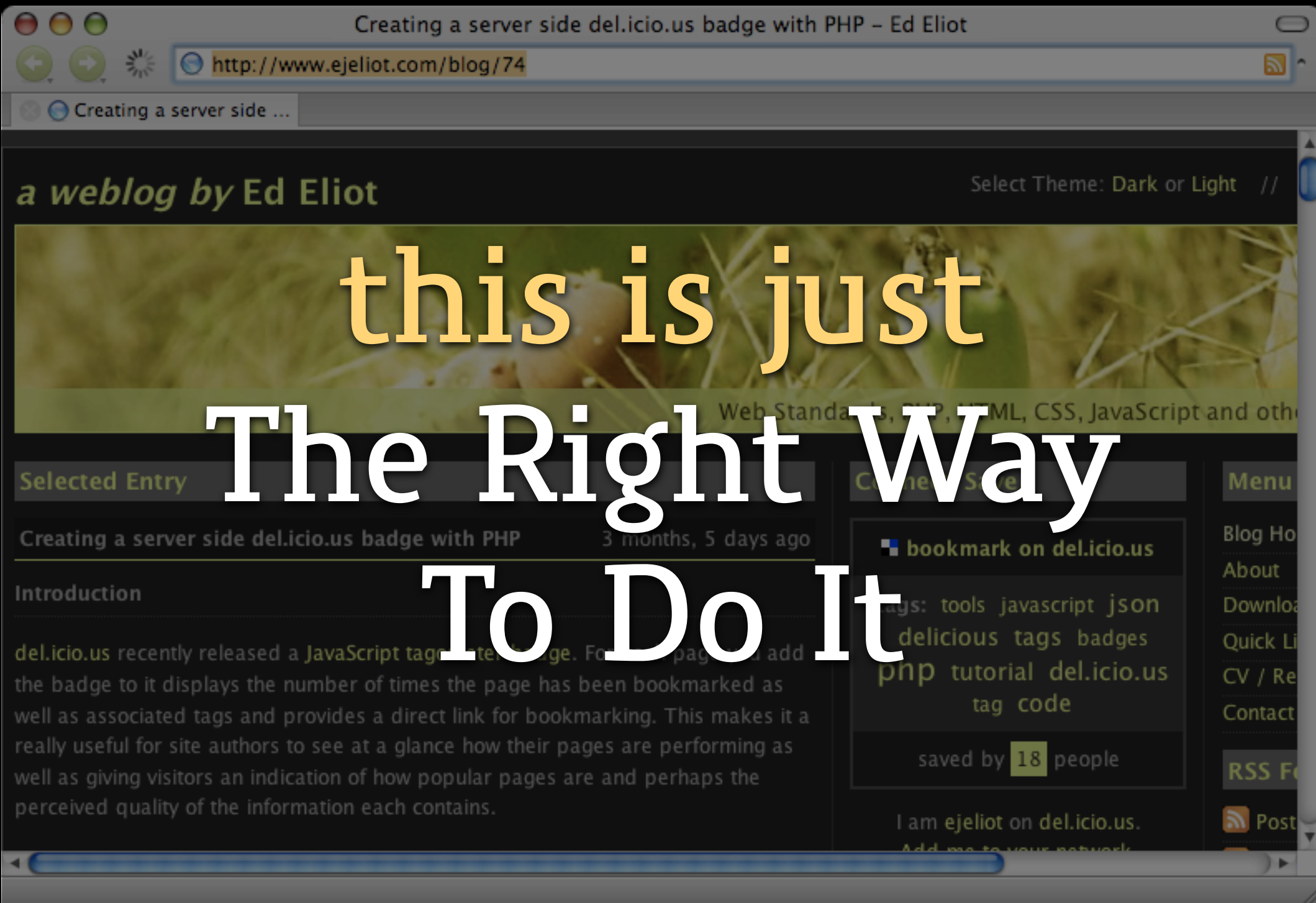




Creating a server side del.icio.us badge with PHP – Ed Eliot  
http://www.ejeliot.com/blog/74  
a weblog by Ed Eliot  
Selected Entry  
Creating a server side del.icio.us badge with PHP 3 months, 5 days ago  
Introduction  
del.icio.us recently released a javascript tag for a badge. Each page you add the badge to it displays the number of times the page has been bookmarked as well as associated tags and provides a direct link for bookmarking. This makes it a really useful for site authors to see at a glance how their pages are performing as well as giving visitors an indication of how popular pages are and perhaps the perceived quality of the information which on it.  
bookmark on del.icio.us  
php tutorial del.icio.us tag code  
RSS Feeds  
Post

this is neither  
graceful  
degradation  
nor progressive  
enhancement

But this is neither graceful degradation nor is it progressive enhancement.



This is just The Right Way To Do It.

By including the functionality in the server-side code, every user is able to access the links and information contained within the del.icio.us tag block.

However, the ability to integrate PHP into a blog is beyond many users. But as builders of systems, it should not be beyond you. You should always strive to put content into pages on the server, where feasible.

# YAHOO!

UK & IRELAND

[Web](#) | [Images](#) | [Video](#) | [Local](#) | [Shopping](#)


 the web  UK only




<a href="#">360°</a>	<a href="#">Dating</a>	<a href="#">Horoscopes</a>	<a href="#">Music</a>	<a href="#">Sport</a>
<a href="#">Answers</a>	<a href="#">Finance</a>	<a href="#">Jobs</a>	<a href="#">News</a>	<a href="#">Travel</a>
<a href="#">Cars</a>	<a href="#">Games</a>	<a href="#">Mobile</a>	<a href="#">Property</a>	
<a href="#">Chat</a>	<a href="#">Groups</a>	<a href="#">Movies</a>	<a href="#">Shopping</a>	

Hi Mark


**4 New**


[News](#)
[Sport](#)
[Entertainment](#)

- Protesters pelt UK embassy as Iran row worsens
- Nightmare over for Guantanamo detainee
- Suicide raid on Afghan army kills nine
- Father begs Japanese to help find killer
- British oil worker abducted off Nigeria
- Global warming could bring hunger and melt Himalayas
- Teachers given new discipline powers

» More: [UK News](#) | [Oddly Enough](#) | [Yahoo! Answers](#)

Markets: **Dow: 12354 (+0.05%)** **Nasdaq: 2421 (+0.16%)**

Limited offer

[just click](#)
[t-mobile.co.uk/offers](http://t-mobile.co.uk/offers)

**T-Mobile**  
simply closer

Next, let's take a look at the Yahoo! Frontpage.

Yahoo! UK & Ireland

http://uk.yahoo.com/index\_narrow.html

Yahoo! UK & Ireland

Get Yahoo! Toolbar

Try online dating with **Yahoo! Personals.**

# YAHOO! UK & IRELAND

My Yahoo! My Mail

Web | Images | Video | Local | Shopping

Web Search


the web  UK only


Page Options


360°	Dating	Horoscopes	Music	Sport
Answers	Finance	Jobs	News	Travel
Cars	Games	Mobile	Property	
Chat	Groups	Movies	Shopping	

All Yahoo! Services

Hi Mark Sign Out

 Mail 4 New

 Messenger

 Weather


News Sport Entertainment

- Protesters pelt UK embassy as Iran row worsens
- Nightmare over for Guantanamo detainee
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» More: [UK News](#) | [Oddly Enough](#) | [Yahoo! Answers](#)

Markets: Dow: 12354 (+0.05%) Nasdaq: 2421 (+0.16%)

Transferring data from eur.a1.yimg.com...

Limited offer  
just click   
[t-mobile.co.uk/offers](http://t-mobile.co.uk/offers)

T-Mobile  
simply closer

The enhanced search facility allows you select up-front which kind of search you want to do, without having to navigate to the Search site first.

# YAHOO!

UK & IRELAND

[My Yahoo!](#)[My Mail](#)[Web](#) | [Images](#) | [Video](#) | **Local** | [Shopping](#) in **Local Search**

Businesses &amp; Services


City, Town or Postcode

Page Options ▾

<a href="#">360°</a>	<a href="#">Dating</a>	<a href="#">Horoscopes</a>	<a href="#">Music</a>	<a href="#">Sport</a>
<a href="#">Answers</a>	<a href="#">Finance</a>	<a href="#">Jobs</a>	<a href="#">News</a>	<a href="#">Travel</a>
<a href="#">Cars</a>	<a href="#">Games</a>	<a href="#">Mobile</a>	<a href="#">Property</a>	
<a href="#">Chat</a>	<a href="#">Groups</a>	<a href="#">Movies</a>	<a href="#">Shopping</a>	

[All Yahoo! Services](#)

Hi Mark

[Sign Out](#) **Mail**  
4 New **Messenger** **Weather**[News](#)[Sport](#)[Entertainment](#)

- Protesters pelt UK embassy as Iran row worsens
- Nightmare over for Guantanamo detainee
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[» More: UK News](#) | [Oddly Enough](#) | [Yahoo! Answers](#)Markets: **Dow: 12354 (+0.05%)** **Nasdaq: 2421 (+0.16%)**

Limited offer

**just click** ▶[t-mobile.co.uk/offers](http://t-mobile.co.uk/offers)**T-Mobile**  
simply closer

The search form is rewritten by JavaScript as necessary as you click on the links for the different types of search. However, what happens without JavaScript?



Search for: e.g. restaurants, museums, pubs Location: City, Town or Postcode

United Kingdom

Search

### Local Results 1-10 of 1,865,808 total results for in United Kingdom

[United Kingdom](#)

[Printable Version](#)

Sort Results By: [Top Results](#) | [Nearest](#) | [Alphabet](#)

Make this the default location for Yahoo!

Show Results Within:

Select Distance

of the centre of United Kingdom

Classified results provided by

#### 1 [Townhead Garage](#)

(01969) 667216

Bruntacres Industrial Est, Hawes  
DL8 3LP

0.53 miles | [Map](#) | [Directions](#)

Category: [Garage Services](#)

Be the first to rate!

Awful

Poor

Average

Good

Excellent

[Write a review](#)

#### 2 [Fawcett](#)

(01969) 667302



[View larger map](#) | [Static map not available](#) | [Dynamic Map](#)

Map cannot be displayed. It seems you may have JavaScript disabled in your web browser. You will need to enable JavaScript to use Yahoo! maps. Please refer to our [help documentation](#).

When JavaScript is turned off, the Local link is still there and still does something. It navigates the user to the Local property. Unfortunately, any search term they had already typed in would be lost.

in United Kingdom - Yahoo! Local UK

http://uk.local.yahoo.com/search.html

in United Kingdom - Y...

Yahoo! My Yahoo! Mail Welcome, mn\_francis [Sign Out, My Account] Local Home Maps Home Help

YAHOO! LOCAL BETA UK & IRELAND

Search for: e.g. restaurants, museums, pubs Location: City, Town or Postcode United Kingdom Search

Local Results 1-10 of 1,865,008 total results for in United Kingdom

United Kingdom Printable Version

Sort Results By: Top Results Nearest Alphabet

Make this the default location for Yahoo! Show Results Within: Select distance from the centre of United Kingdom

1 **Townhead Garage**  
(01969) 667216  
Bruntacres Industrial Est, Hawes  
DL8 3LP  
0.53 miles | Map | Directions  
Category: [Garage Services](#)

Be the first to rate!  
 Awful  
 Poor  
 Average  
 Good  
 Excellent  
Rate  
[Write a review](#)

2 **Fawcett**  
(01969) 667302

★★★★★

View larger map Static map not available Dynamic Map

Map cannot be displayed. It seems you may have JavaScript disabled in your web browser. You will need to enable JavaScript to use Yahoo! maps. Please refer to our [help documentation](#).

http://uk.yahoo.com/r/sc/di/\*-http://uk.local.yahoo.com/search.html

# this is not progressive enhancement

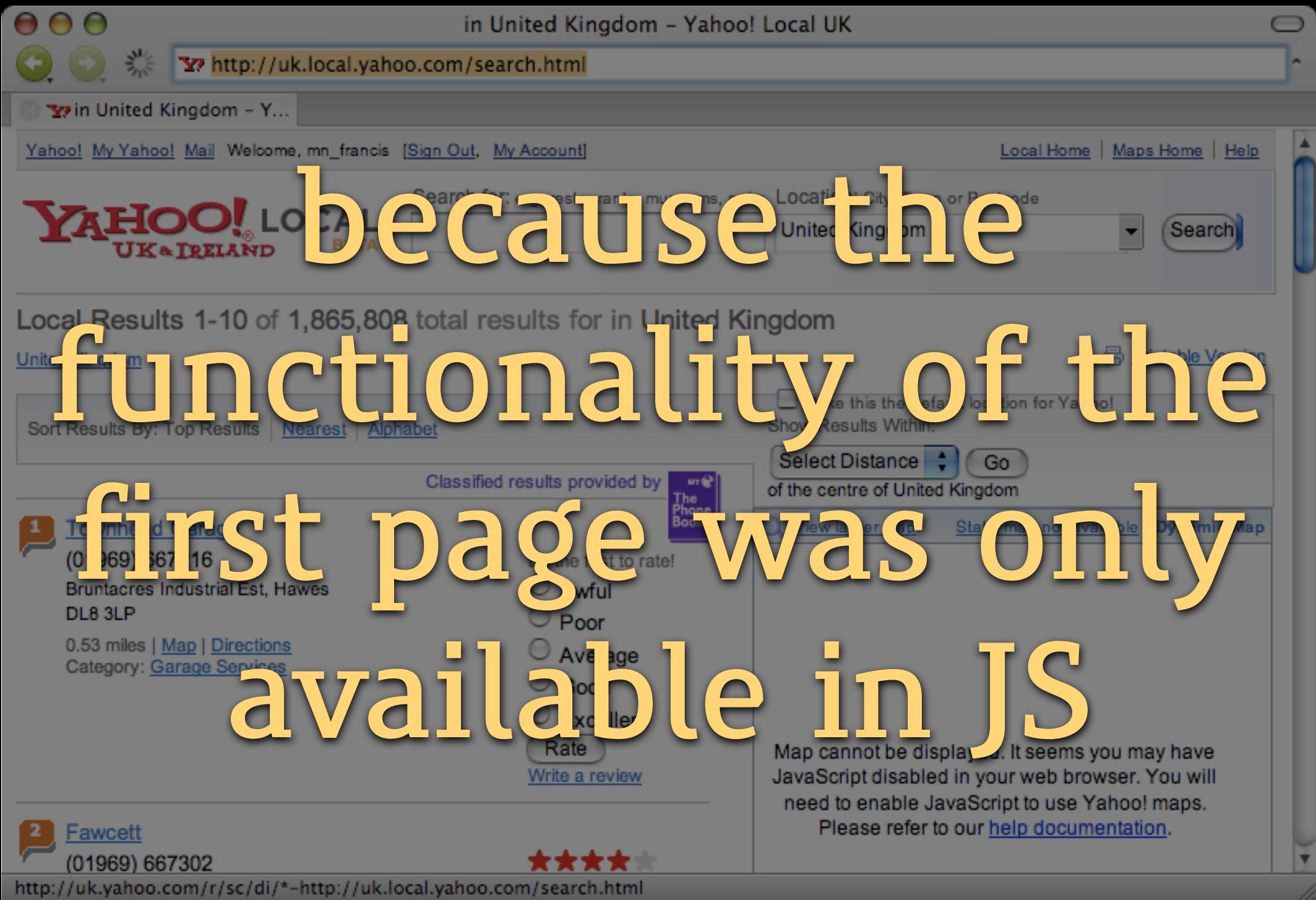
This is not progressive enhancement.



But at least it is graceful degradation.

Even though the functionality was replicated for the user, and they can still use the site, and if they have a browser capable of using the JavaScript, they get a better experience. Why don't I considered this progressive enhancement?





because the

functionality of the

first page was only

available in JS

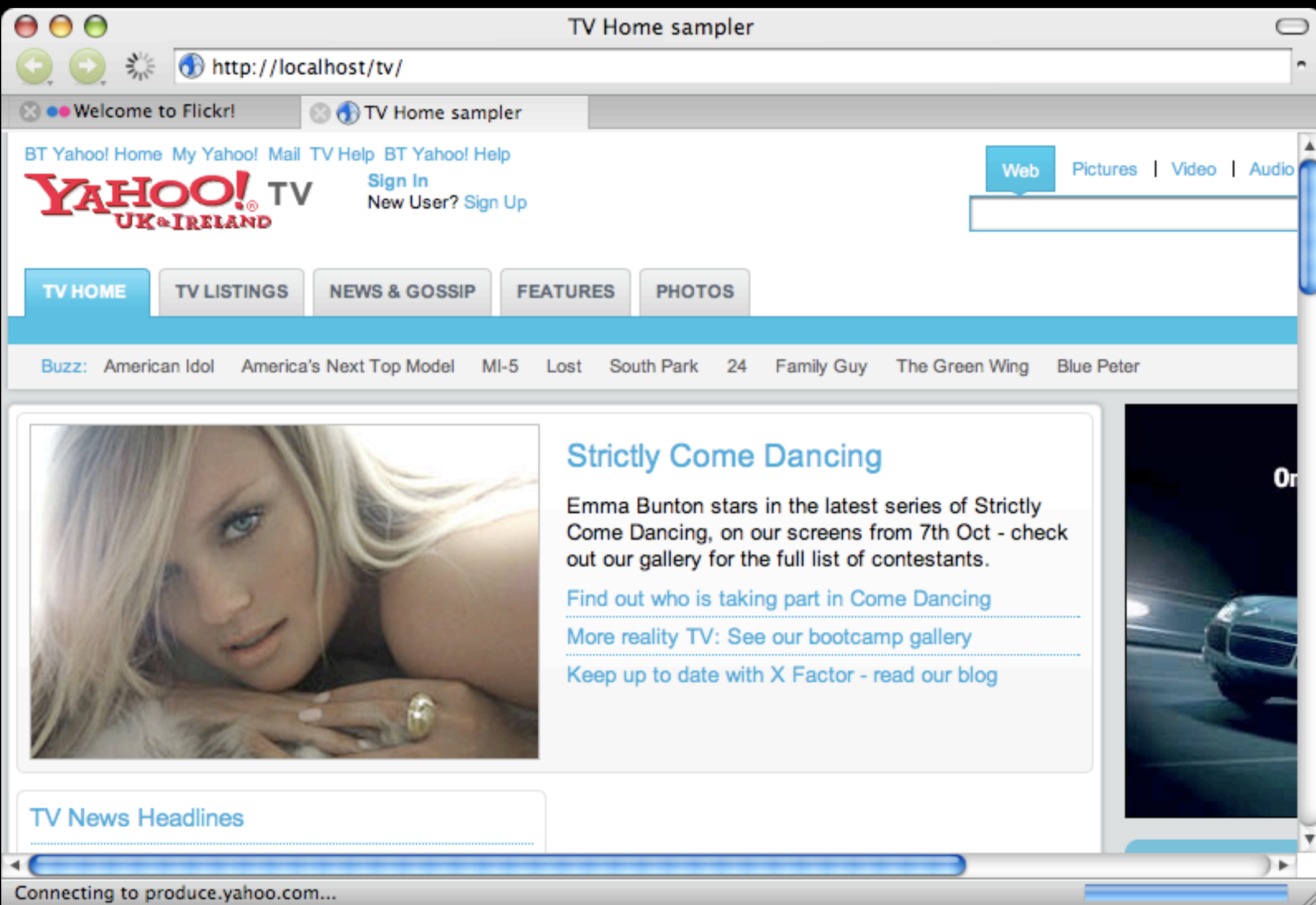
The ability to select the end-result of the search and still be able to use the form was only available to the end-user with JavaScript. Without, the search form works only for searching the web.

This is a subtle, and some might say overly picky point. But this is a part of my job, to point out this kind of functionality impairment. Also, this CAN be done in just HTML, so there's no way this can be called progressive enhancement. How?

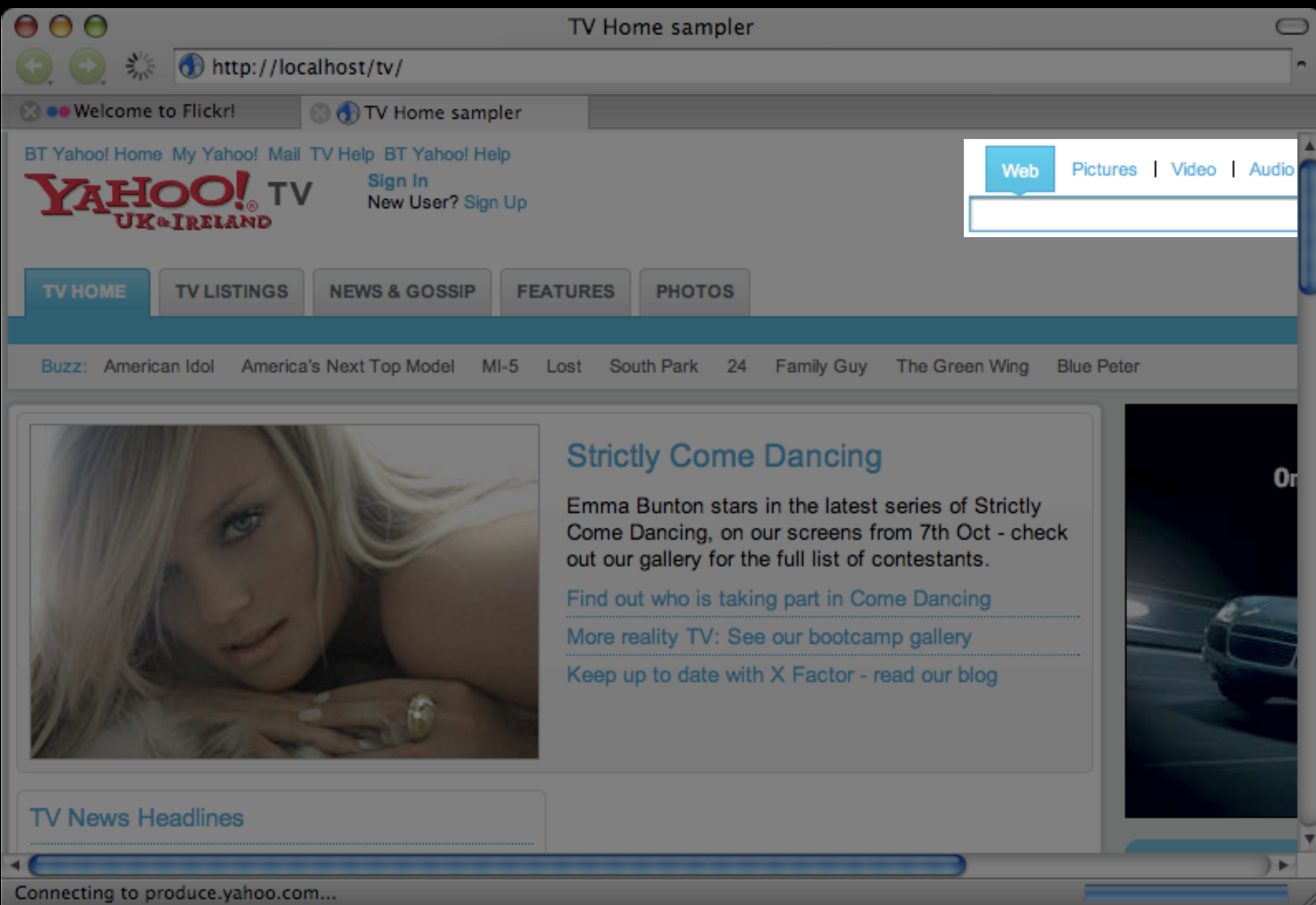
seem a little arbitrary?

In my work, I draw the line between graceful degradation and progressive enhancement at the point where the functionality of the site is available to all.

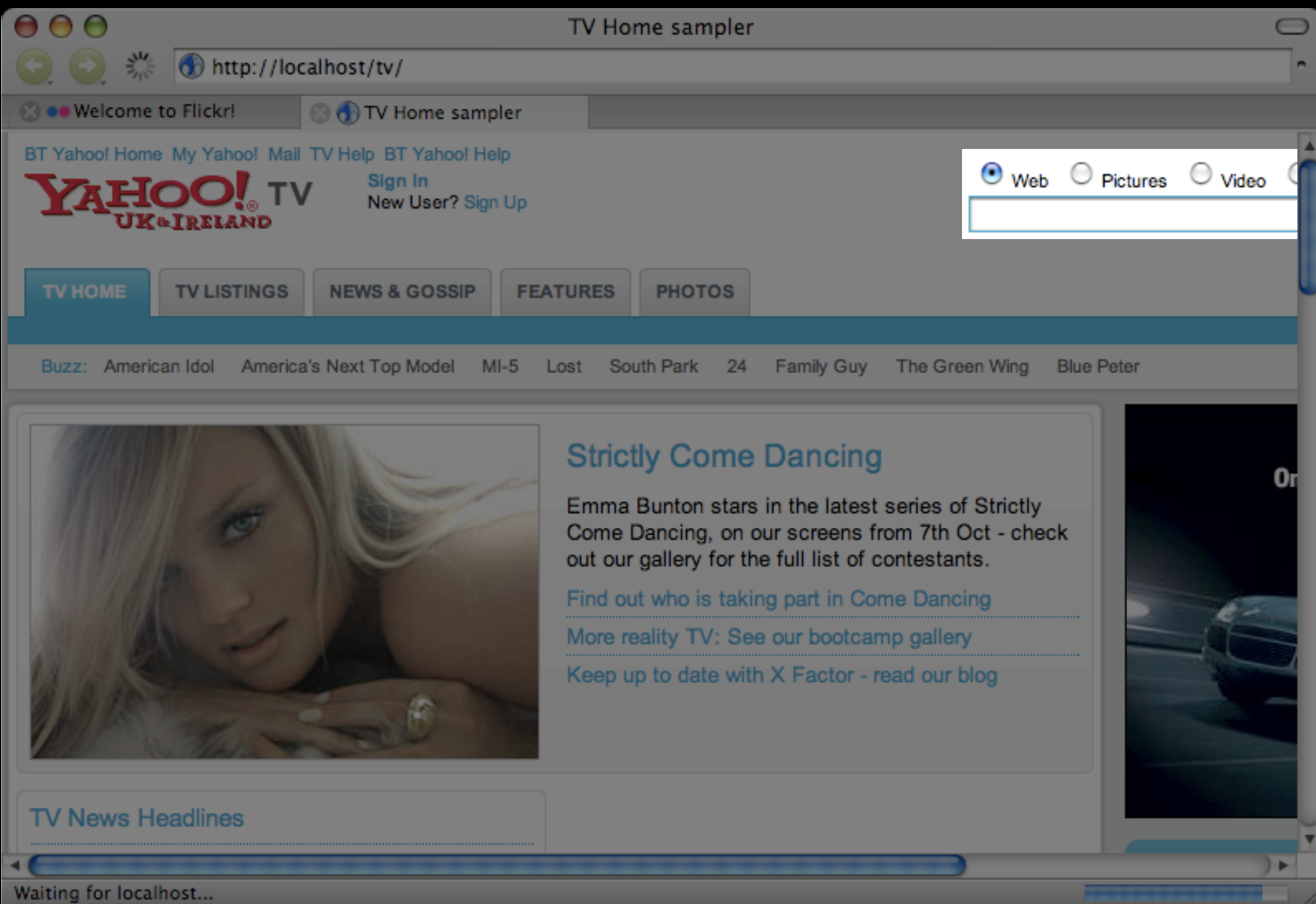
In this particular case, it isn't progressive enhancement because the same functionality could be made available without the use of JavaScript.



In the new TV site, the Search box has the same kind of functionality.

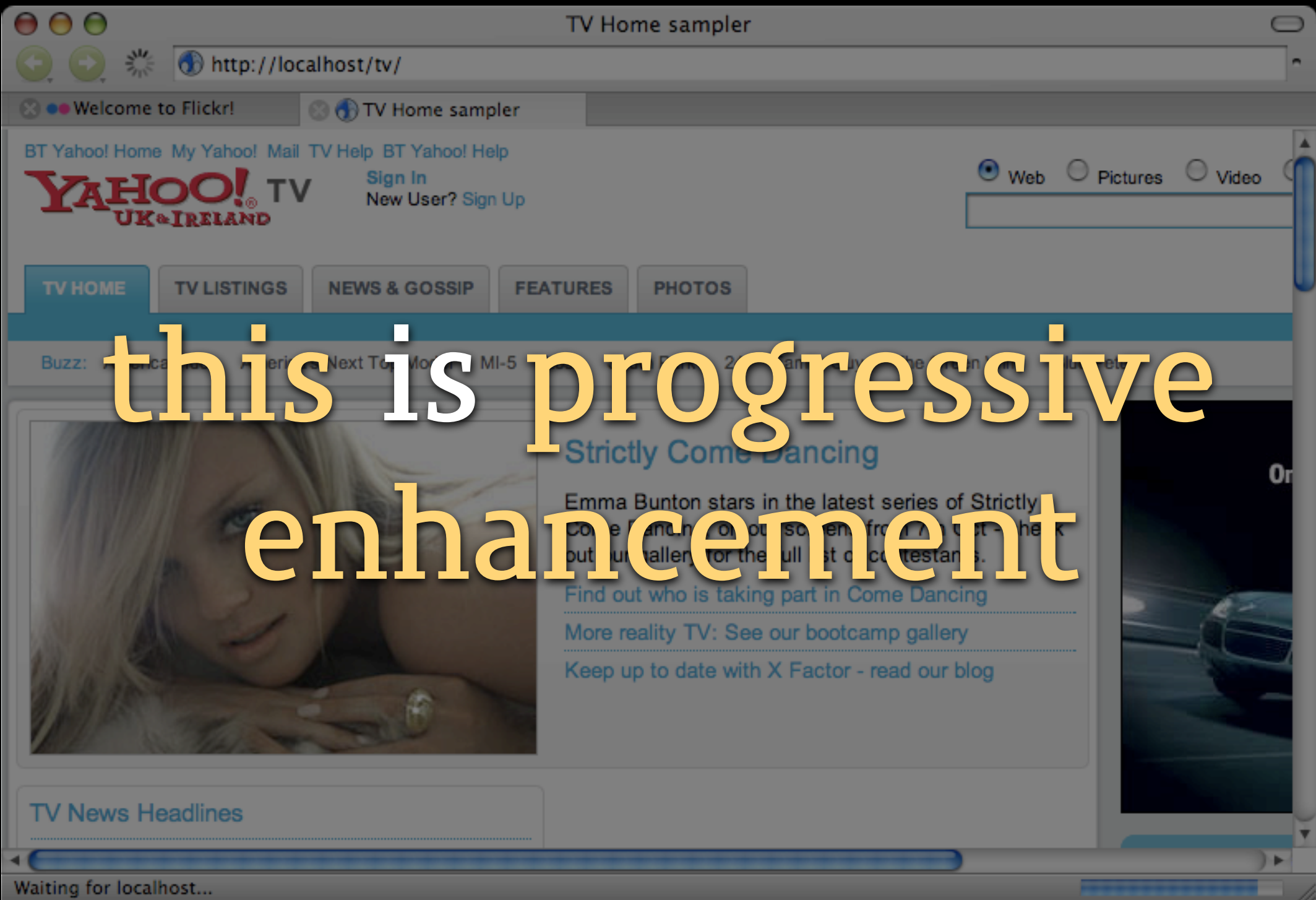


But it has one subtle difference. The 'links' to change the search destination are not links at all.



They are actually radio buttons in the form.

After the search form is submitted by the user, the Search server receives the request and based upon the destination parameter redirects the user to the correct end result.



This is finally an example of progressive enhancement at Yahoo!. And this is because the original functionality was available to the user without the use of JavaScript.

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## UK



### Grandmother charged after girl mauled to death

Reuters - 44 minutes ago

The grandmother of a 5-year-old girl who was mauled to death by the family dog has been charged with her manslaughter, the Crown Prosecution Service said on Tuesday. [More »](#)

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The 'carousel' widget on the Yahoo! UK News site provides a gallery of different new stories within the page.

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Users can scroll through more stories than are initially presented, making it a quick and lightweight method for browsing content within a page without overwhelming the user with endless similar boxes of news content.



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http://uk.news.yahoo.com/

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### UK



**Grandmother charged after girl mauled to death**  
Reuters - 43 minutes ago


The grandmother of a 5-year-old girl who was mauled to death by the family dog has been charged with her manslaughter, the Crown Prosecution Service said on Tuesday. **More >>**

- Girls killed in house fire ITN - 2 minutes ago
- Reid denies 'Big Brother' CCTV plan Press Assoc. - 13 minutes ago

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#### PHOTO HIGHLIGHT



**View Photo**

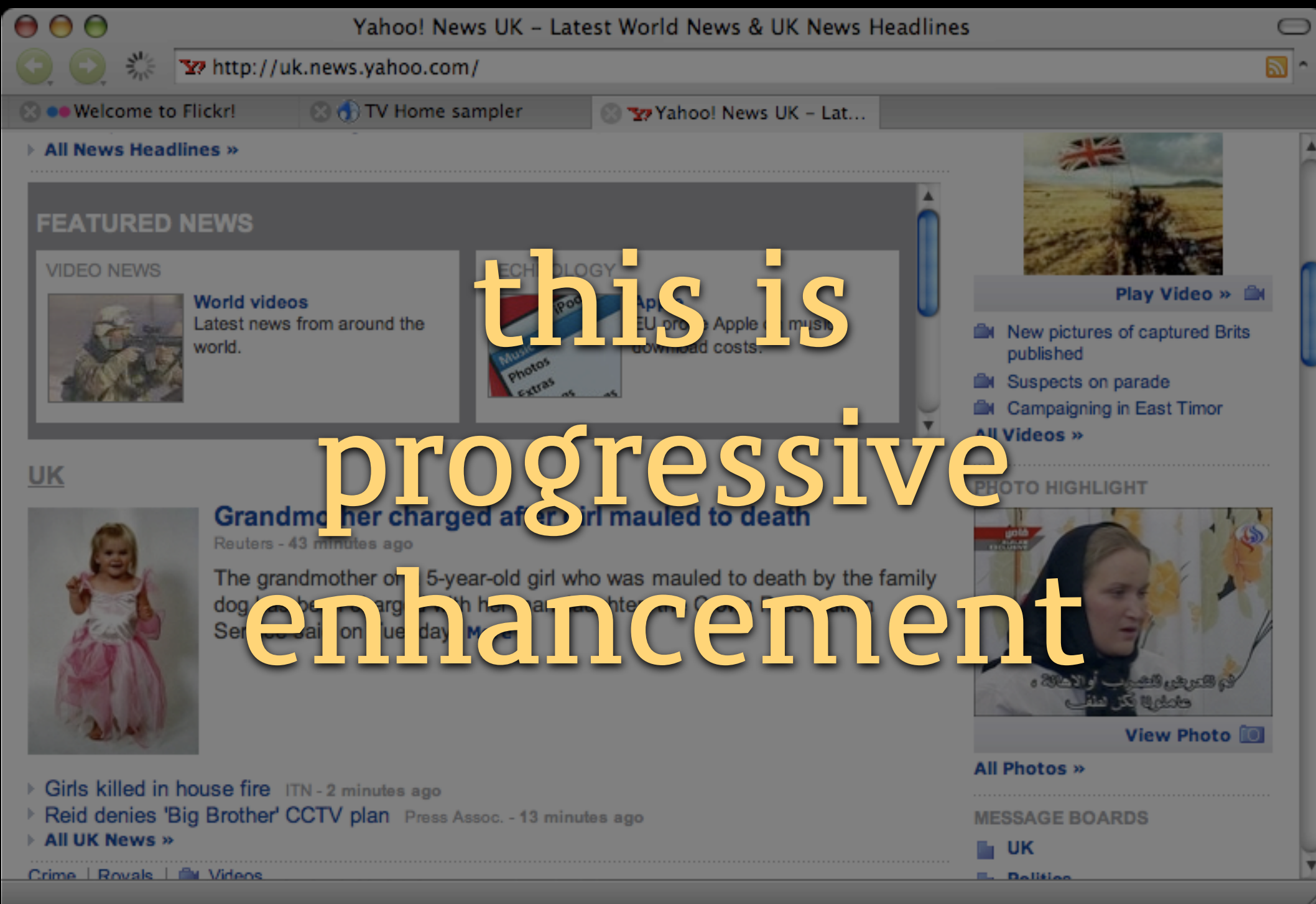
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When JavaScript is turned off, the content is still there in the page. Nothing has been denied to the user without JavaScript.

The scrollbar is there to lessen the page jumping around as JavaScript reformats a variable-height box into a single row of modules. I personally disagree with having a scrollbar on the content, as I feel this is a sub-optimal way to deal with this issue. In fact I don't believe it is an issue at all. The developer disagrees and kept the content to the same height without JS on.



This is progressive enhancement because the content in the gallery is still made available to the user.

This module has also been used to provide image galleries, pulling in the later “pages” of images using Ajax. As long as there is a link to a static page where the user can see these further images, this is still progressive enhancement, as all of the content is available as normal, but the initial page has been enhanced to allow direct access to further content.

“Methodologies including layered development via progressive enhancement, Unobtrusive Javascript, and Hajax ensure that higher layers don't disrupt lower layers.

“...be sure your site’s core content and functionality is accessible without images, CSS, and JS”

“However, representative testing of the core experience is critical. If you choose to adopt a Graded Browser support regime for your own web applications, be sure your site’s core content and functionality is accessible without images, CSS, and JS. Ensure that the keyboard is adequate for task completion and that when your site is accessed by a C-grade browser all advanced functionality prompts are hidden.”

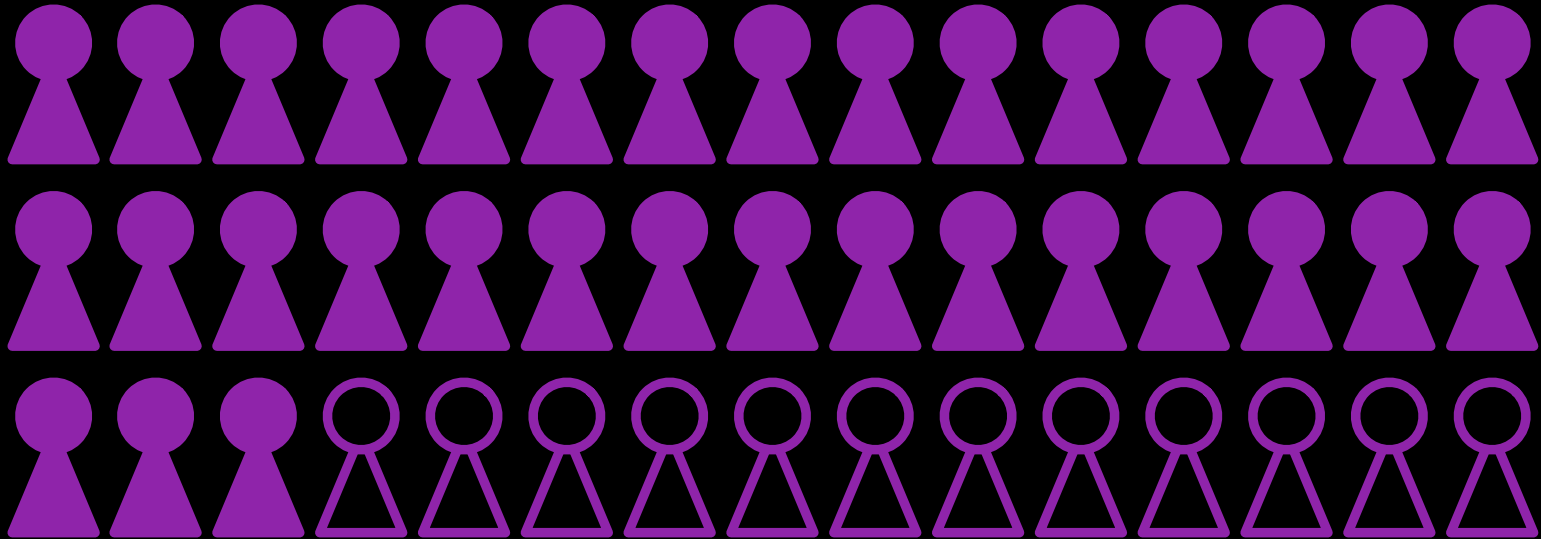
“...in modern web development we must support all browsers. Choosing to exclude a segment of users is inappropriate, and ... unnecessary.”

"In the first 10 years of professional web development, back in the early '90s, browser support was binary: Do you — or don't you — support a given browser? When the answer was 'No', user access to the site was often actively prevented. In the years following IE5's release in 1998, professional web designers and developers have become accustomed to asking at the outset of any new undertaking, 'Do I have to support Netscape 4.x browsers for this project?'"

By contrast, in modern web development we must support all browsers. Choosing to exclude a segment of users is inappropriate, and, with a 'Graded Browser Support' strategy, unnecessary."

Yahoo! EU Web Dev - We're Hiring!

[mfrancis@yahoo-inc.com](mailto:mfrancis@yahoo-inc.com)



any questions?

Actually, before I take any questions, I have one for you. Does anyone want to work for Yahoo!?! :)