

Ron Sparks

Interactive UX and Web Designer

sparkit26@hotmail.com

Summary

I have been doing web design as a freelancer for the past almost 6 years now, with a focus in html/css and flash websites.

As a whole I focus now on web design and how to make design and function work together to get a great working and looking user interfaces, that markets through image and action

For 2 years I lived in Florida and worked for a company as a marketing assistant and in-house designer. Learning a lot about the marketing and business side of design.

I moved to Seattle, WA in early 2008 because I love the northwest and I really enjoy the culture of art and design in the area. Since I have been in Seattle I have freelanced on projects for HP, Windows Mobile, Dreamworks, a number of smaller and larger agencies including VML, DraftFCB, Hadely Green and spend 5 and half months working at Zillow as part of there UX team.

I have started my own company Stratosphere Design, and have a number of clients. I am not sure what the future is weather I go on to work with one of the great companies here in the northwest or continue freelancing or maybe some of both.

I have:

Designed 30 plus websites, Design 8 full flash websites, Developed 4 Online Stores, Art Directed for Product Photo Shoot, Branding Work for INC 500 Company, Manage and maintain nation music artist websites, worked on national magazine ads, and I have designed multiple artist album art projects.

Specialties

web design, UX & interaction design, online stores, graphic design, flash animation, marketing, creative management

Experience

Freelancer at Creative Circle

April 2008 - Present (9 months)

Creative Circle is a media talent staffing agency. After signing on I have been able to work for some amazing agency and land some great jobs in the Seattle area.

I have worked projects designing, User Experience Solutions, Online Flash Ads, Html/CSS websites, e-mail marketing and creative advertng. Creative circle provides an easy way to connect with creative agencies, larger companies and .com's in the Seattle area.

Owner at Stratosphere Design

September 2004 - Present (4 years 4 months)

As a whole I focus now on web design and how to make design and function work together to get a great working and looking user interfaces, that markets through image and action.

1 recommendation available upon request

UX Designer at Zillow.com

June 2008 - October 2008 (5 months)

As a UX Designer, I was responsible for creating user experiences and interaction models for Web-based applications. As part of the UX team I was detail oriented, customer focused, a self starter, working hand's on the web site design.

I worked on developing new approaches to complex design problems in a fast-paced, collaborative environment. Creating and designing a consistent experience across multiple features.

Leading all aspects of the user-centered-design process from conception to completion on individual projects. Presenting polished deliverables to executive-level stakeholders and product teams

I got to work with a lot of smart people and I very much enjoyed my time at Zillow

4 recommendations available upon request

In-House Design and Marketing Assistant at Harmar Mobility

October 2006 - March 2008 (1 year 6 months)

I did all in-house design work, brochures, websites, national magazine ads, banners, trade show signs, press releases, photography, art direction, and really anything related to the media and marketing art of the company. I learned a lot well I was there.

Education

Linn Benton Community

Design, 2004 - 2005

Activities and Societies: Student Body Actives Director

Interests

running, music, recording, video, photography, road trips, swimming, basketball, new technology, creativity, art, outdoors, kayaking, and of course UX, design, animation, art, painting.

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5 people have recommended Ron

"I've had the pleasure of working with Ron for the past few months. Ron is a great teammate; self motivated and always eager to help. His positive energy and awesome design skills will make him a great asset in any company he works for."

— **Jessica Na**, *Web Design Intern, Zillow.com*, worked directly with Ron at Zillow.com

"Ron is a talented visual and interaction designer who thinks holistically about the user experience, keeping the target user and their goals in mind when designing a feature or product. He can contribute at the early stages with wireframes as well as high-fidelity mockups at the end. Additionally, Ron always delivers on time. He is a good team member and pleasant and fun to work with."

— **Hernan Savastano**, *User Experience Manager, Zillow.com*, managed Ron at Zillow.com

"Ron stepped up and took on new tasks and challenges that were outside of his documented job duties. He exhibited the ability to effectively guide stakeholders to contribute requirements in a 1:1 setting as well as within a focus group setting. With every project that was set on his plate, Ron saw them to completion and was sure to conduct design reviews as needed. Most importantly, Ron showed everyone at Zillow never to lose focus of our user's needs - even if it meant taking the difficult path."

— **Adam Smolinski**, *User Experience Design Manager, Zillow.com*, managed Ron at Zillow.com

"Ron is a very enthusiastic designer with great passion for his work. Ron is the cheerful sort that makes makes coming in to work a pleasure."

— **Henry Rose**, *Front-End Software Engineer, Zillow*, worked with Ron at Zillow.com

"I have worked with Ron for over 4 years. I can not say enough about the quality and professionalism that Stratosphere Design. I entrust to Ron my own clients to produce for them creative and solid work in web and graphic design."

— **Michkael Baker**, was Ron's client