Lisa Ridley

Product Manager / Tech Team Manager
Plan Left LLC

- ★ 16 yrs web development
- ★ 30 yrs project management
- ★ Acquia Certified Developer (D7)
- ★ Certified Scrum Master
- ★ Certified Scrum Product Owner
- ★ Certified in Human Centered Design

- ★ From Chattanooga, Tennessee
- ★ Smack-talking SEC Football Fanatic
- ★ Tennessee Vols fan
- ★ NASCAR Fanatic

Sassy Britches,
Supervisor

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What is FIGMA?

FIGMA is the leading online **collaborative** design tool for building meaningful products.

★ Publicly released in September 2016

★ Built by Dylan Field and Evan Wallace while attending Brown University

★ Original objective: to enable "anyone [to] be creative by creating free, simple, creative tools in a browser."

FIGMA Today

- ★ First product conference was held in 2020, with 800 attendees
  - ○ Estimated 200,000 subscribers
- ★ In June 2023, over 8,000 people attended Config 2023 in person, and
  - ○ over 200,000 people in 55 countries attending virtually
- ★ Current estimated number of subscribers: 4 million
- ★ In September 2022, Adobe entered into an agreement to acquire Figma for $20 billion

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What can you do with FIGMA?

01

Create Digital Designs

02

Build Digital Prototypes

03

Create/ share Design Systems

04

Build Digital Products Faster

~~~Collaboratively~~~

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FIGMA

Config 2023: New Features

Config 2023: Variables

★ Can be used to store colors, numbers, strings or booleans

★ Lots of uses for these in FIGMA work product (we'll cover some of these uses in a moment)

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Config 2023: Variables and Modes

Config 2023: AutoLayout Enhancements

- ★ Wrapping objects with AutoLayout
- ★ Support for minimum / maximum widths and heights on objects with AutoLayout
- ★ Min width / max width can also be **linked to variables**, as can other numeric driven layout settings

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Config 2023: Prototyping Enhancements

Figma

★ No more "Pasta Page" prototypes

★ Variables significantly simplifies interactive prototyping (which also speeds it up)

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Config 2023: Prototyping Enhancements

★ Advanced prototyping enhancements require a paid plan (minimum Professional)

    ○ Using Variables in prototyping

    ○ Conditional Logic

    ○ Multiple Actions

    ○ Expressions (Using operators to generate dynamic values)

Config 2023: Dev Mode

★ Ooh! La La! Developer focused features!

★ Dev Mode can have its own set of plugins!

Figma

Intro to
Dev Mode

Config 2023: Dev Mode

★   Dev Mode and FIGMA for VSCode are in beta and available for free for 2023

★   Will be available to editors on paid plans starting in 2024

★   For Organization and Enterprise level plans, in 2024 Dev Mode seats can be added on at:

  ○ $25 / pp / mo (Organization plans)

  ○ $35 / pp / mo (Enterprise plans).

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Useful FIGMA UI Kits / Design Systems

★ FIGMA has an active community, with alot of high quality contributed UI Kits and Design systems to help jump start your design process.

★ Apple contributed a UI Kit for iOS / iPadOS for the first time in June 2023
   ○ https://www.figma.com/community/file/1248375255495415511
   ○ Previously, iOS / iPadOS kits were maintained by a community member

★ Among resources you may find useful are Salesforce design kits and Amazon design kits, all available at no cost

★ Untitled UI has a great design kit for free that can potentially be used to jump-start your own (they have a paid version that has full components such as cards, accordions, etc already created)

Use prepackaged design kits with caution

★ Some have implementations that are better than others

★ Some design system components may have opinionated implementations

★ Some design systems have components that are "overengineered"
  ○ Too many variants bundled into one

★ Most design systems with components that have variants have not yet been updated to take advantage of new features rolled out for Config 2023
  ○ When in doubt, message the author and see if they plan to release a new one

You can "roll your own" design system

★ For purists who don't want to deal with someone else's opinionated implementation, but want to know how to get started:
  ○ UI Collective is releasing videos on a daily basis covering all of the fundamentals of creating reusable components, including variants
    ■ Implementing new features from Config 2023
  ○ All of their tutorial videos are available on their website, at no cost
    ■ You must create an account to access them
    ■ https://www.uicollective.co/
  ○ Excellent material so far, covers building blocks to complex components

Resources

★   FIGMA's Design Systems Publications site: https://www.designsystems.com/

★   Open Design Systems: https://www.designsystems.com/open-design-systems/

★   Untitled UI (UI kit and design system): https://www.untitledui.com/

★   Shipfaster UI, by Designership:

    https://www.thedesignership.com/products/figma-design-system

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Resources

- ★ YouTube Channel: https://www.youtube.com/@Figma

- ★ Config 2023 New Features tutorials:

  - ○ Variables: https://youtu.be/1ONxxlJnvdM

  - ○ Prototyping with Variables: https://youtu.be/VEuwKJAz7Jg

  - ○ Intro to Dev Mode: https://youtu.be/_ABPkb0aF8

- ★ Michael Wong (Mizko)'s YouTube Channel: https://www.youtube.com/mizko

- ★ UI Collective's Free Online Fundamentals Training: https://www.uicollective.co/

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Questions?