All EtechGlobal sites consist of a basic shell with dynamic include files inserted into various areas.

These include files consist of the following:

Top Header
This is the main area at the top of the page that usually contains the company name/logo/motto, etc. and gives the site it's graphic integrity. This area can be up to the maximum width of the site (see guidelines below) and is the most flexible area of the layout. It can contain Flash animation, animated GIF's, Java slideshows and changing images, the current date, a site search field, an image map for basic navigation (for home and footer pages such as the contact page – not recommended for dynamic pages that could be deleted by the client leaving a broken link), etc.

Side Navigation
This is a dynamic navigation menu that is 140 pixels wide and contains your main navigation buttons. For this area only an on and off image are needed, however if you choose to create sections (see www.dakotadigital.com) we will need the top and bottom images to complete the sections.

Cart Navigation
This is only necessary for sites that use the shopping cart. It can contain simple text links or buttons. If using buttons we will once again need a blank on/off version. A link to "home" is optional in this area and it can be as wide as the entire site or as narrow as about 300 pixels if we use small text links. A search field may also be included in this area if desired.

Site Search
A search field may be added to the site or we can just have a search button in the navigation menu.

Main Includes
This is the main content area of the site. It is a 605 (minimum) pixel wide area that must always have a white background.

Footer
There is a dynamic text link footer that is 600 pixels wide that needs to be included somewhere at the bottom of the page, either below the main content area or below the site layout. The links in the footer are different for sites with a shopping cart and contain a return policy and shipping policy. We can rename footer links (such as About Us to Company Info, etc.) however the footer must be present on all sites.

Powered by EtechGlobal Logo
This logo is on every EtechGlobal site. Usually we place it at the bottom of the navigation menu to the left side of the Footer area.

Blank Area (a margin between buttons and main content)
We always leave a blank area between the buttons and the main content. This is generally 16-20 pixels wide, but you can alter this as long as you still leave 605 pixels for the main includes and 140 pixels for the buttons. This area can contain a background image or an image at the top (i.e. a arch corner between the side navigation and top header. If using a background image, keep in mind that at least 5-pixels on the right side should be white to give the content in the Main area a small margin or text and images will crowd the left side of the main area.

Overall Dimensions
Each site is a minimum 765 pixels wide. Keep in mind that this dimension does not include any blank space/margin area on either side, so the banners and buttons will meet the very edge of the site and touch the background, should you use one. Centered sites work well at 775 pixels wide (a 5-pixel wide border will keep content from crowding the edges). Also if a background image will be used, we will need that. It can be tiled or static. Tiling can be normal, horizontal only or vertical only.

The reason we advise not exceeding 775 pixels wide is because approximately 20% of the public has 800x600 screen resolution, so to avoid making them scroll side-to-side to see the entire page, we keep it below 800 pixels wide. In the future we will be adding a 1024 pixel wide "wide screen" option in the future, however it is not available at this time.

Site Placement
Sites may be centered or left justified. Backgrounds on left justified sites may be horizontally tiled to create the illusion that the site continues to the right to eternity. Centered sites may have any background color or image; however make sure to allow for a side margin (see Overall Dimensions above).

Some shell examples may be seen at the bottom of the Opportunities page at www.etechglobal.com
There are also links to EtechGlobal sites in the Solutions area. These may provide more insight as to what can be done and to various layout options.

Please contact us if you have any questions.
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