

started 12/04/2014 20:56:??

So...

... I know that AR and SG have gone deep into the issues around the white-on-white input field. I know reasons, workarounds, more interesting stuff around how screenreaders don't do well with what we've got.

I know that AR made a late change, and didn't "see" it – it's a real and plausible bug. Amusingly, I've made the same mistake and blogged about it...

I'm going to avoid digging into MailChimp issues, because 1) I can't repro the interesting one and 2) it's not us

Going broad, rather than deep

- html validation
- cross browser
- layout and UI (apart from the white on white)
- simultaneous users and site degradation
- attacking tool to look for attackable bits?

it's 12/04/2014 21:01:17 - let's go cross-browser

tool choices - high on search results

BrowserStack Plans and Pricing - 30 days free

Check Browser Compatibility, Cross Platform Browser Test - Browsershots - dunno pricing, says open source, who knows

browserling - interactive cross-browser testing - one at a time, free for 3 mins each...

Is there a URL-style ie tool-free way to pre-fill form stuff?

I don't know! I can ask...

Without input, this can't be seen

Let's hit browsershots just to see what it does, then push odd-looking anything with browserling

It'll mess up our site stats!

### ***TO repro bug***

*Go to <http://www.blackopstesting.com>*

*hit "stealth mode"*

*focus on input field*

*type and observe (nothing) or type and hit ctrl-a to see what was typed*

*(or, not certain bug, but valid HTML/CSS that would lead to it – I imagine that this would always be the same as the tool renders static HTML. Which begs the*

question why bother look across browsers if it's the underlying code alone that is the source of the bug and therefore *not* to see it would indicate a rendering bug. But that's expectation-led. Let's try things out and see where they go...)

... BS takes a while, builds a set of screenshots. Keep stuff here  
... note that the browser windows are different lengths  
... most look similar, but some families emerge  
... open site in LittleSnapper to catch them all. Got 115 in 6 minutes. Will stay OK for next 8 ish.  
... thin browsrs centre stuff. Some old ones can't id jquery  
... tried to snap many - can downlaod zip of all  
... naturally, plenty of obscure combinations - however, nothing on win 8, one OS X, no chrome OS, no android, no iOS  
... download got  
... seems a bit useless in terms of covering used browsers. Can't go further. The expiry time is fair, but i don't know what I missed.  
... stopped active stuff on this  
... and LS didn't capture the @15 mutes page. Tried to reload it. Need to hit capure before!

! is there any way out of "stealth mode"? There's no button. We should call this "stupid mode".

Note that a spelling error (most before @ are) is underlined. See shot.

If I reload, we're out of "stealth" mode. So how is it keeping track, and how can I fake that out?

browserling opens site remotely in target, and sends ¿picture?  
DOes show bug  
session expires in 3 mins

This looks handy [Review Of Cross-Browser Testing Tools | Smashing Magazine](#)

lost concentration 12/04/2014 21:38:02

42 minutes on this.

Return 14/04/2014 15:21:34 to 14/04/2014 18:11:53, with 90+ minutes pissing around with screenflow and not-testing stuff

... what did I learn?

... what's the next worthwhile thing to do?

... notes for this evening...

I learnt very little from the tools about this particular issue, and I shouldn't have

expected much

1 this bug is neither intermittent, nor interestingly emergent between browser and code. Showing that every browser renders this correctly when asked to is not a particularly interesting result.

2 I needed to interact with each page to take it to the point of rendering. I don't have the skills to do this with the tools as presented. There's a neat technical avenue here to see if one can use

3 I find it hard to imagine any interesting paths that arise *from* this problem – how can this problem, in this situation, lead to more interesting *site* behaviour? I've pulled a bunch of pictures, but they haven't stimulated new avenues.

I'd like to

1 know how to set up the URL to fire a request for the page in "stealth" mode.

2 be familiar-enough with "inspect" in safari or ffx to drill straight to the css for this. Firebug, I know. I used CSSEdit earlier, and it was a pain in the arse.

Safari inspect: dunno

ffx inspect: dunno

firebug inspect – is a rather neat as it's live. So...

- inspect element with firebug and video it.

No obvious unseen "bugs"

This problem was initially missed. It would be good to get Alan's take on why. I missed it because I didn't look - the change was late, and I needed to take aciton to add letters, rather than simply glance over! Prior exposure

I note that

- there's no way out of "stealth" mode

- the button text goes white too

- the information typed in is retained after a refresh in ffx, so must be retained in some sense. Is that retention because my browser's happily cacheing, or because the site is storing it in some way (cookie? local storage?). Safari tells me it's not storing anything as a cookie, local storage or session storage, but then it doesn't show the behaviour. I expect this is ffx, helping, but remember that <<client>> had a situation where different browsers had entirely different cookie profiles.

- there's a bot avoidance function in div mce-reponses; a field that can only be seen in code and so should not be usable by human participants. Presumably if anything uses it, we reckon they're a robot (or, at least, a robot unsophisticated enough not to notice, or a human sophisticated enough to play, or something else - the screenreader issues? Indeed, it's there as a field in lynx)

- the "stealth" button simply changes the id of the field from mc\_embed\_signup to mc\_embed\_signup\_stealthmode . That id applies to everything in the div with the form in it.

## My artefacts

- these notes
- 100+ pictures from various little-used browsers, in a movie if we want
- a movie to show firebug in use to enquire on the field

## We advertised

share tips about proxies  
discuss in-browser development tools  
css tricks and tips  
mock each other for not trying techniques  
deliberately say or do something wrong - 'live'

and

We've each tested it, and worked around it, and investigated it.

I tested it briefly, found a workaround and assumed a couple of others, investigated using firebug, gave up on tools to do cross-browser stuff because thought it's relevant and interesting to this site, I think that there was more interesting and relevant stuff for this.

I'll ask the others if they can share a way to set up the URL in the webinar  
I'll ask about not spotting the bug  
I'll ask about how we each decided what was off-limits  
I'll ask about how we decided on interesting / dull routes to test

NB – I can't find that blog about my own whitetext issue. It was an unbounce page, and I certainly wrote about it, but I can't find *where*. I found it last week, but MJ's search isn't doing its thing, spotlight finds different sources, and it's just a waste of time.