

Assignment #3

Can You Improve These Search Boxes?

To help get you thinking about what kinds of search boxes work well, let's look at some homepages.

As you examine them, notice how long it takes you to locate the search boxes. For each website, write down answers to the four questions. When you're done, **scroll down** to read our suggestions.

1. Image from www.shopglobalmamas.com



1. If this were your site, would you change the size of the search box?

Yes / No If you answered yes, how would you change it?

2. If this were your site, would you change the color of the search box?

Yes / No If you answered yes, how would you change it?

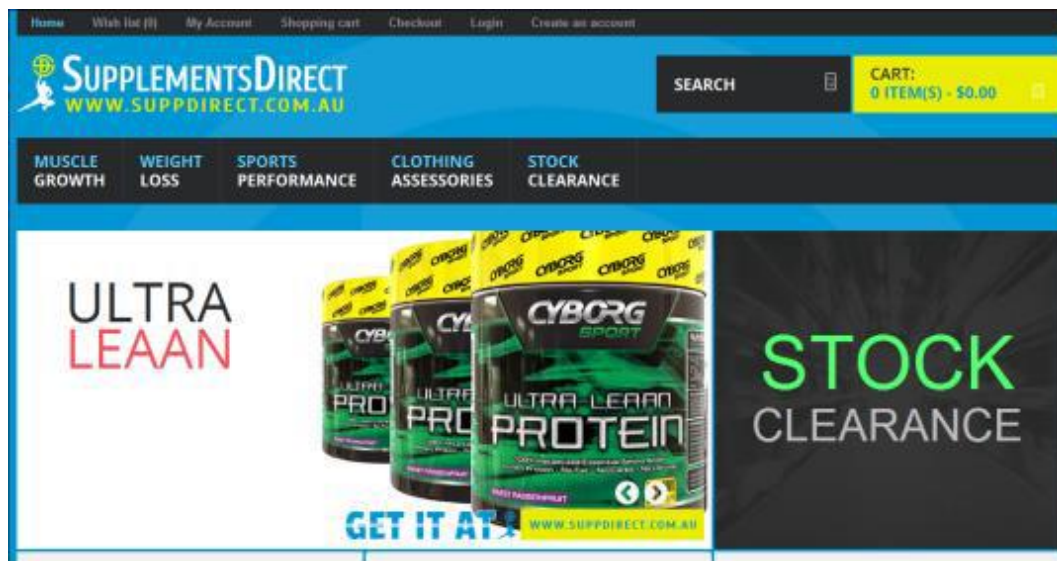
3. Do you think the search box is in the right place?

Yes / No If you answered no, where would you move it?

4. Is the text written in the search box helpful?

Yes / No If you answered no, what would you write instead?

2. Image from supplementsdirect.com.au



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Yes / No If you answered yes, how would you change it?

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1. Yes. It can hold about a word and a half, so the visitor won't be able to see the whole search term.
2. Yes. In its current place it is almost invisible.
3. No. I would move it to the navigation bar, on the right, as it is the convention and that is where the users will look for it. Note that on the search bar a white search box is actually quite visible.
4. Yes.

2. Image from supplementsdirect.com.au

1. Yes. In the current font size the user wouldn't be able to see the whole search term if it is longer than 2 words.
2. No.
3. Yes.
4. Yes. You could however add more search options such as "search by product, category or brand. Do make sure the search actually support these searches...