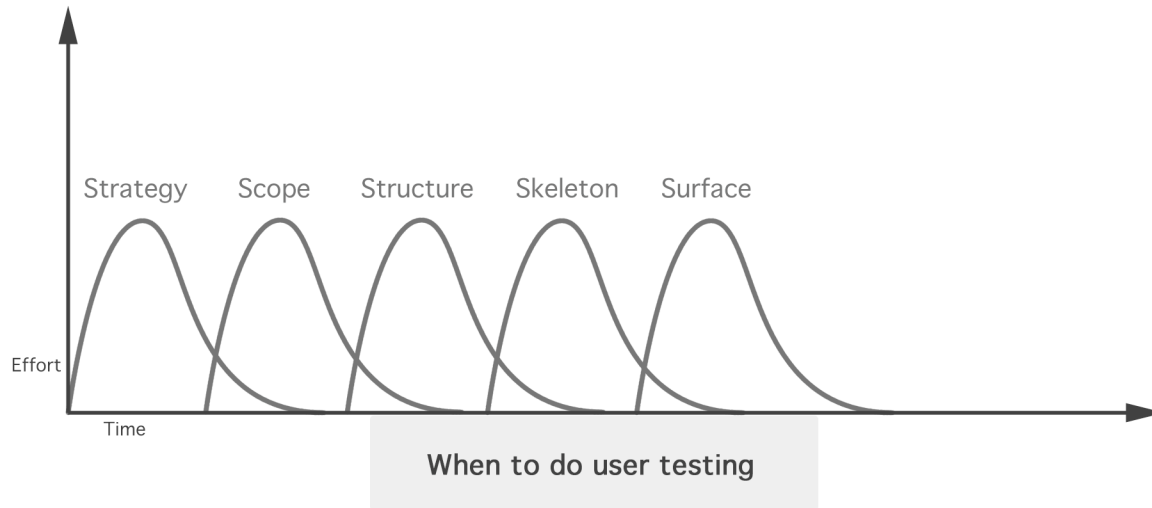# Where does user testing fit into the big picture of making a web site?

For a presentation to LCTTP staff by Davin Granroth. davin@envisionic.com. 517.331.0872.   May 12, 2005. 1 PM. 313 Computer Center, MSU.

Strategy: Site Objectives, User Needs

Scope: Functional Specifications, Content Requirements

Structure: Interaction Design, Information Architecture

Skeleton: Interface Design, Nav. Design, Info. Design

Surface: Visual Design

Credit to Jesse James Garrett's book, The Elements of User Experience, for the basis for this chart. http://jjg.net

What is a user test?

A user test is an exercise in which you observe a small number of people as they interact with a product. Usually the people have been given a task or objective that represents some primary goals for the product. User testing generally happens during product development in order to use the findings to improve the quality of the final product.

What are the different types of user tests?

- Diagnostic tests are used to identify usability problems during product development.
- Comparative tests are used to help decide between similar product interfaces.
- Verification tests are used to make sure a nearly final product meets usability goals.

What do you need to have before you run a user test?

- Some test users
- A test plan
- Some observers/note takers
- A test moderator
- A location to run the test and appropriate equipment

Take
some
notes