

Web Coding Camp — Day 5

Polish, Publish & Gallery Walk

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Today

The finish line. By the end of the day your site is *live on the real internet*.

- Finish your content and layout
- Add one more JavaScript feature to make it pop
- Publish it — get a link you can text to a friend
- Gallery walk — browse everyone's sites

Goal: a public URL for your site, and a chance to show it off.

Polish

Final polish checklist

Before you publish, walk through your site once:

- Every image loads (check the file names and alt text)
- Every link works — click them all
- It reads well on a narrow window (drag it skinny)
- Your one interactive feature actually works
- No leftover "lorem ipsum" or placeholder text

Open the Console (F12) one last time — any red errors? Fix those first.

Add One More Feature

One more feature before the gallery walk

You have JavaScript now — add one finishing touch. Pick by time on the clock:

Starter — quick wins

- Auto-updating footer year
- Back-to-top button

Boss — live data

- Fetch from a free API

Standard — pick one

- Countdown timer
- Image slideshow
- Live filter / search

Full copy-paste code for every one is on the camp website.

Starter: the footer year, automatically

Every real site does this — the year updates itself, forever.

```
1 <footer>© <span id="year"></span> My Site</footer>
2
3 <script>
4     document.querySelector("#year").textContent
5     = new Date().getFullYear();
6 </script>
```

Starter: back-to-top button

Show a button once the visitor scrolls down; click it to jump up.

```
1 const btn = document.querySelector("#topBtn");  
2  
3 window.addEventListener("scroll", () => {  
4   btn.style.display = window.scrollY > 300 ? "block" : "none";  
5 });  
6  
7 btn.addEventListener("click", () => window.scrollTo(0, 0));
```

With `<button id="topBtn">↑ Top</button>` in your HTML.

Standard: countdown timer

Count down to an event — it ticks every second.

```
1  const target = new Date("2026-12-31");    // your date
2  const out = document.querySelector("#countdown");
3
4  setInterval(() => {
5      const days = Math.floor((target - new Date()) / 86400000);
6      out.textContent = days + " days to go!";
7  }, 1000);
```

Standard: image slideshow

A next button cycles through a list of photos — and wraps around.

```
1  const pics = ["photo1.jpg", "photo2.jpg", "photo3.jpg"];
2  let i = 0;
3  const img = document.querySelector("#slide");
4
5  document.querySelector("#next").addEventListener("click", () => {
6    i = (i + 1) % pics.length;    // back to 0 after the last
7    img.src = pics[i];
8  });
```

Standard: live filter / search

Type in a box to filter a list as you go.

```
1  const box = document.querySelector("#search");
2
3  box.addEventListener("input", () => {
4      const term = box.value.toLowerCase();
5      document.querySelectorAll("#list li").forEach(li => {
6          const hit = li.textContent.toLowerCase().includes(term);
7          li.style.display = hit ? "" : "none";
8      });
9  });
```

Boss: live data with fetch()

Ask a free API for something and show it — here, a random dog photo.

```
1  const btn = document.querySelector("#dogBtn");
2
3  btn.addEventListener("click", () => {
4    fetch("https://dog.ceo/api/breeds/image/random")
5      .then(res => res.json())
6      .then(data => {
7        document.querySelector("#dog").src = data.message;
8      });
9  });
```

Publish

Netlify Drop — do this in class

The fastest way to get live, no account needed to start.

1. Go to `app.netlify.com/drop`.
2. Drag your *whole site folder* onto the page.
3. You instantly get a public link. Done.

The free link expires unless you make a free account and **claim** the site. Do that if you want to keep it.

Two other ways to publish

Neocities — permanent

- Free account at `neocities.org`
- Drag files into the manager
- Built for hand-written HTML/CSS
- Fun community of handmade sites

GitHub Pages — advanced

- Free account (must be 13+)
- Repo named `you.github.io`
- Upload your files
- A real portfolio link

Netlify to get live fast; Neocities or GitHub Pages for a permanent home.

Gallery Walk

Gallery walk

No presentations, no pressure.

- Open your finished site on your screen.
- For 30 minutes, walk around and browse everyone else's.
- Find the coolest design, the funniest content, the neatest feature.
- Trade links.

You went from your first HTML tag to a published website in five days. That's real. Be proud of it.

Keep Going

Where to go from here

- **MDN Web Docs** — the reference for HTML, CSS, JavaScript
- **freeCodeCamp** — a full, free web-design course
- **Frontend Mentor** — real designs to rebuild
- Add a favicon, a contact form, a CSS animation to your site
- Learn how custom domains work — what would you name your site?

Everything you built this week runs on the same tools professionals use. Keep building.

The rest of the web-dev world

You built the **front end** — what runs in the browser. Plenty more to explore next:

- **Back-end** — server code: Python, Node.js, PHP, Go
- **Databases** — store data: SQL, PostgreSQL, SQLite
- **JS frameworks** — React, Vue, Svelte
- **CSS tools** — Tailwind, Sass, Bootstrap
- **Git & GitHub** — track & share code
- **APIs / full-stack** — connect to real data

You don't need all of it. Pick whatever sounds fun — and keep building.