

The Look and Feel of Your Course

You may be pleased with the aesthetics of your migrated course. If you would like to make changes, however, keep these guidelines in mind.

Backgrounds

The colors should be consistently reflected throughout the course and harmonize with your graphics and icons. Avoid colors that cause eye fatigue or are difficult to read.

A white background with black text is the most readable on-screen color combination. If you choose to use a colored background, be sure there is plenty of contrast between the text color and background for readability. Keep in mind accessibility issues like color-blindness (green and reds are hard to see) and near sightedness (the closer the contrast, the harder things are to see).

Background images are often distracting to the reader. If you choose to use a background image, make sure the image is very subtle.

If you use a background image or color, use transparent icon sets to avoid the unattractive white boxes around the icons.

Icons

Icons are very important course navigation devices and therefore should be easy to understand. They are visual cues to help students understand what they need to do.

- Decide which built-in RamCT icon set you would like to use or develop a custom set.
- Do not exceed four icons per row.
- All of the icons should be visible without scrolling, if possible.
- The icon should always be logically associated with its function.
- The icon's label should be short and concise.
- Use Link Annotations for clear navigation

Course Menu

The course menu is available for students from anywhere within a RamCT course, providing fast access to tools and content. It is the "home" of all tools; however links to content items can be placed in other locations.

Headers and Footers

Headers and footers should be updated frequently to keep students informed of changing course information. They should be concise so that the entire home page is viewable without

scrolling. The text size should be large enough to read easily without dwarfing the banner. If an image is used within the header, such as a course banner image, be sure that it does not take up too much "screen real estate." The maximum recommended size is 460 by 60 pixels, the same size as a standard Internet ad banner.