Performance Testing For Releases

Background

Performance testing can be a part of the testing process at any stage. At a minimum, however, it should be included during staging review to ensure that you aren't dramatically changing the requirements of the site due to a new release.

Performance Guidelines

- Aim for page size below 2MB (closer to 1MB is better).
- Aim for page load under 2 seconds.

Resources

- Google Performance docs
    - Documentation on improving performance
    - This page has some statistics on median content sizes. You should at least aim for the 75th percentile or better.
- Google PageSpeed overview
    - Google PageSpeed Insights
        - Run PageSpeed insights, which provides a breakdown of suggestions for improvement.
        - Separates mobile and desktop performance
        - Does not provide load times
- Pingdom
    - Breaks data down nicely
    - Can test from multiple locations
    - Uses Google PageSpeed to rate your site performance
    - Shows load times
- GTmetrix
    - Shows metrics from PageSpeed and YSlow
    - Shows load times
- YSlow
    - Another set of metrics, similar to PageSpeed
    - Runs as a Chrome or Firefox add-on
        - Note: Firefox add-on appears to be broken
        - Chrome add-on works well
        - Major benefit: can run on local pages
        - Also much easier to test pages behind authentication
- Webpagetest
    - Throttling through Chrome Dev tools – good way to emulate network conditions