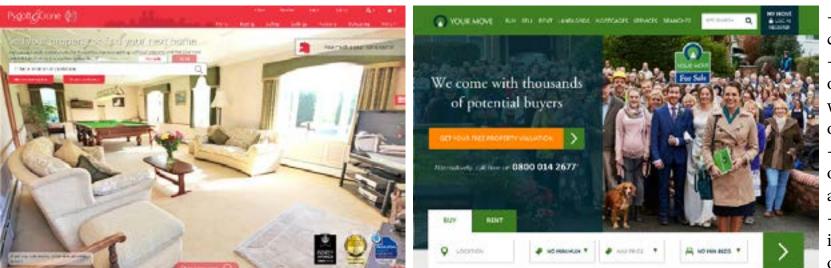
Research: Web design

I have been researching into existing websites for estate agents to see what I need to include, the similarities between them to get an idea of what works and what conventions I should stick to.



There is a strong sense of colour scheme throughout this website which I aim to keep within the design for Loris & Finch, sticking to the colour palette I have created. Everything is large and easy to see, with the most important aspects right there as soon as you open up the site. I like the use of rectangles to divide each section and by colour too. This is an idea I could carry into my own but I would also like to do something out of the norm for these types of sites.



Strong sense of colour scheme
Large images take over the front page with information overlapping
Give a reflection of the type of estate agents they are
All important information available on first page



This is another local estate agents but of a higher standard. However, I don't feel as if their website reflects this. There is a lack of colour and although they have a colour scheme it is not obvious and doesn't give them much of an identity. I also feel there is too much crammed on this page, which is similar to the others but it worked in the previous designs. This is an example of what I don't want my design to be like.

On the right is a Lincolnshire based estate agents that have a more upper class appearance that the rest. From the images on the front page (which change) I can see a lot of 'character properties' so I felt this is the sort of style that would be expected of Loris & Finch.



Research into 'Estate agents specialising in country/period/character properties'

To get an idea of how an estate agents of a similar style to Loris & Finch present themselves online, I Googled 'estate agents specialising in character properties' and clicked on the first few.







These websites all have a lot of imagery to portray what it is they specialise in. I feel that the second two are too loaded with information and the first one works better because it is the opposite in this sense. However, there isn't a great feel to the first design as the majority has been taken up by an image that is quite boring. Even though these companies seem to be on a similar level as Loris & Finch in what type of properties they sell, I don't want their website design to have the same sort of appearance and effect as these. What needs to be included in my design:

 Contact Information where it is presented clearly
 Navigation bar including links to: lettings, sales, commercial, about us, contact, etc.
 Quick access to a search/booking system