

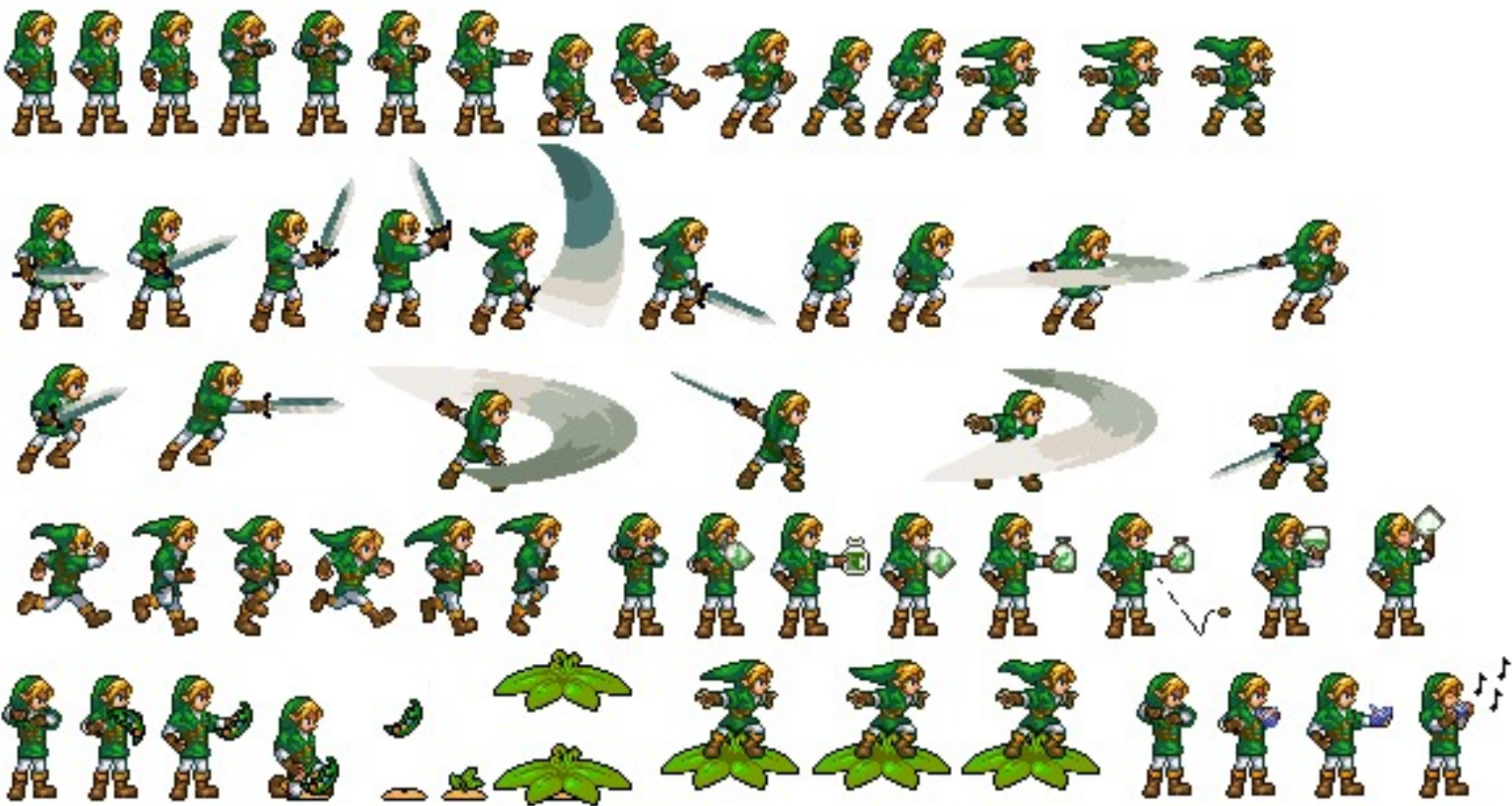
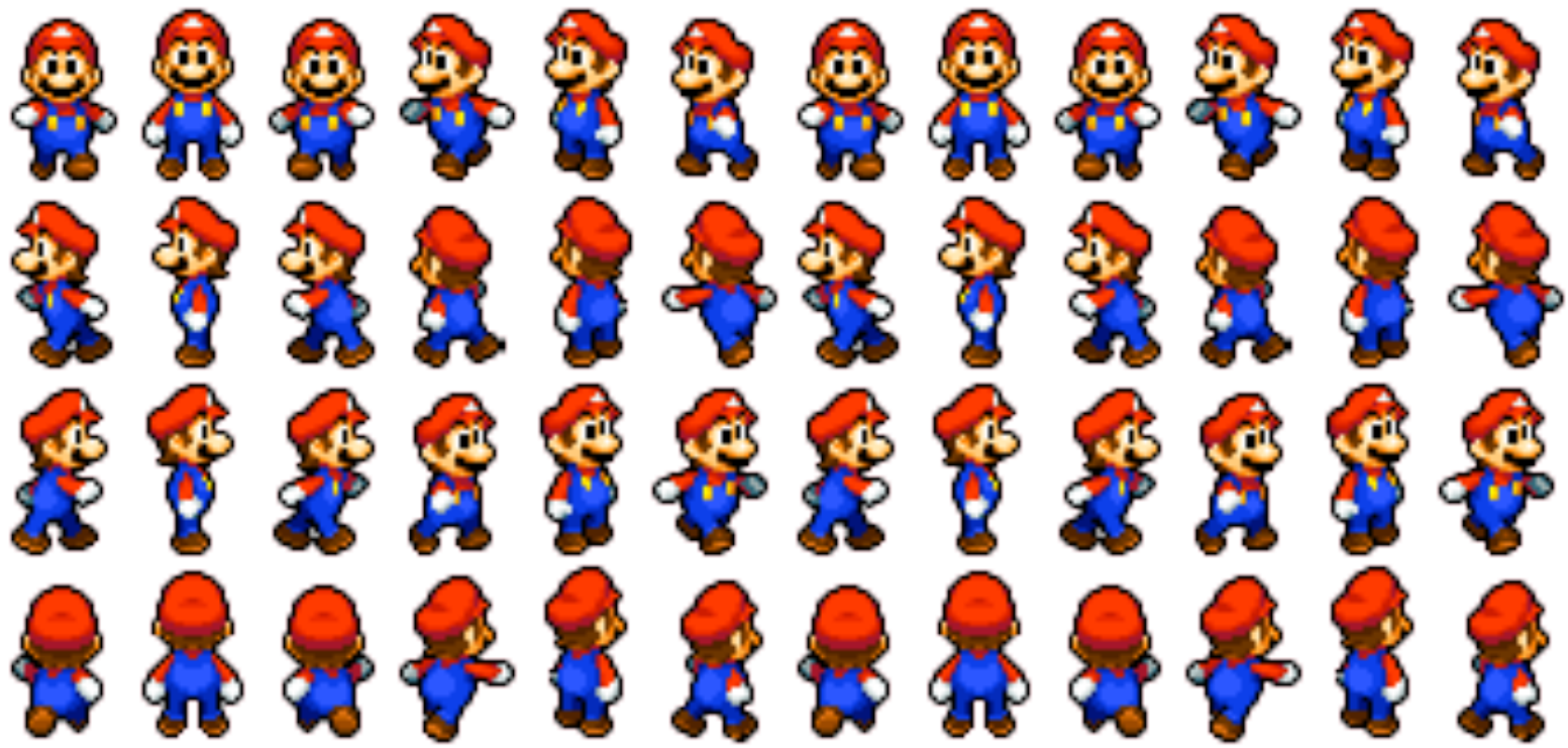
# ICON FONTS FTW

**Mike Aparicio**  
**User Interface Engineer, Groupon**  
**a.k.a. “The Toolstrap Guy”**  
**maparicio@groupon.com**  
**@peruvianidol**

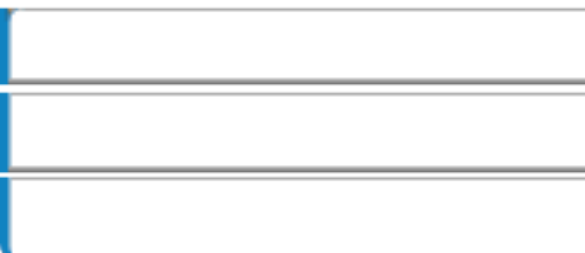
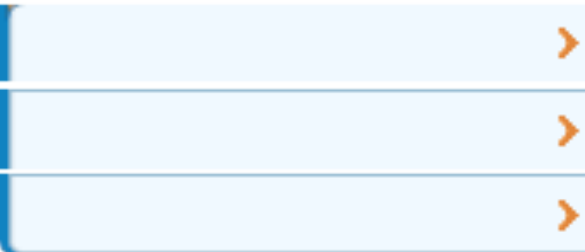


# MANAGING ICONS & IMAGES

- aaoms-logo-print.gif
- alliedstaff.jpg
- alliedstaff.png
- Board2\_retuch.jpg
- commit\_arrow.jpg
- content\_bg.png
- find\_a\_surgeon\_surgeon.gif
- find\_a\_surgeon\_surgeon.png
- footer\_bg.gif
- iphone.png
- logo.gif
- main\_bg.png
- marketplace.png
- masthead-trans.png
- masthead-trans2.png
- member\_directory\_search.gif
- member\_directory\_search.png
- nav\_gold\_bg\_selected.gif
- nav\_gold\_bg\_selected.png
- nav\_gold\_divider.gif
- nav\_gold\_divider.png
- nav\_red\_bg\_selected.gif
- nav\_red\_divider.png
- navigation\_gold\_bg.gif
- navigation\_gold\_bg.jpg
- navigation\_gold\_bg.png
- navigation\_gold\_divider.gif



amazon.com



Prime Prime

/images  
(eww!)

Sprites!  
(yay!)



# WHY SPRITES SUCK

- **Difficult to maintain**
- **One giant file; may contain unnecessary icons**
- **Icons look like ass on high pixel density displays (Retina)**
- **Temptation to include content images**
- **Browsers don't print background images by default**

WHOOOPS.

Print

Total: 24 pages

Cancel

Save

Destination

Save as PDF

Change...

Pages

All

e.g. 1-5, 8, 11-13

Layout

Portrait

Landscape

Margins

Default

Options

Headers and footers

Background colors and images

hide

Get the Daily Deal for:

Chicago

Subscribe

We can give you better deals if we know a bit about you. Finish personalizing

Close

Groupon: Collective Buying Power

Featured Deal

Local

Now! Deals

Getaways

Goods

Gifts

Mike A.

My Stuff

My Groupons

My Gifts

My Account

My Profile

My Email Subscriptions

Sign Out

All Deals

New Deals

Food & Drink

African

American

Asian

Bars

Breakfast

Caribbean

Coffee & Treats

European

French

Greek

Grocery

Indian

Italian

Mexican

Middle Eastern

Sandwich/Deli

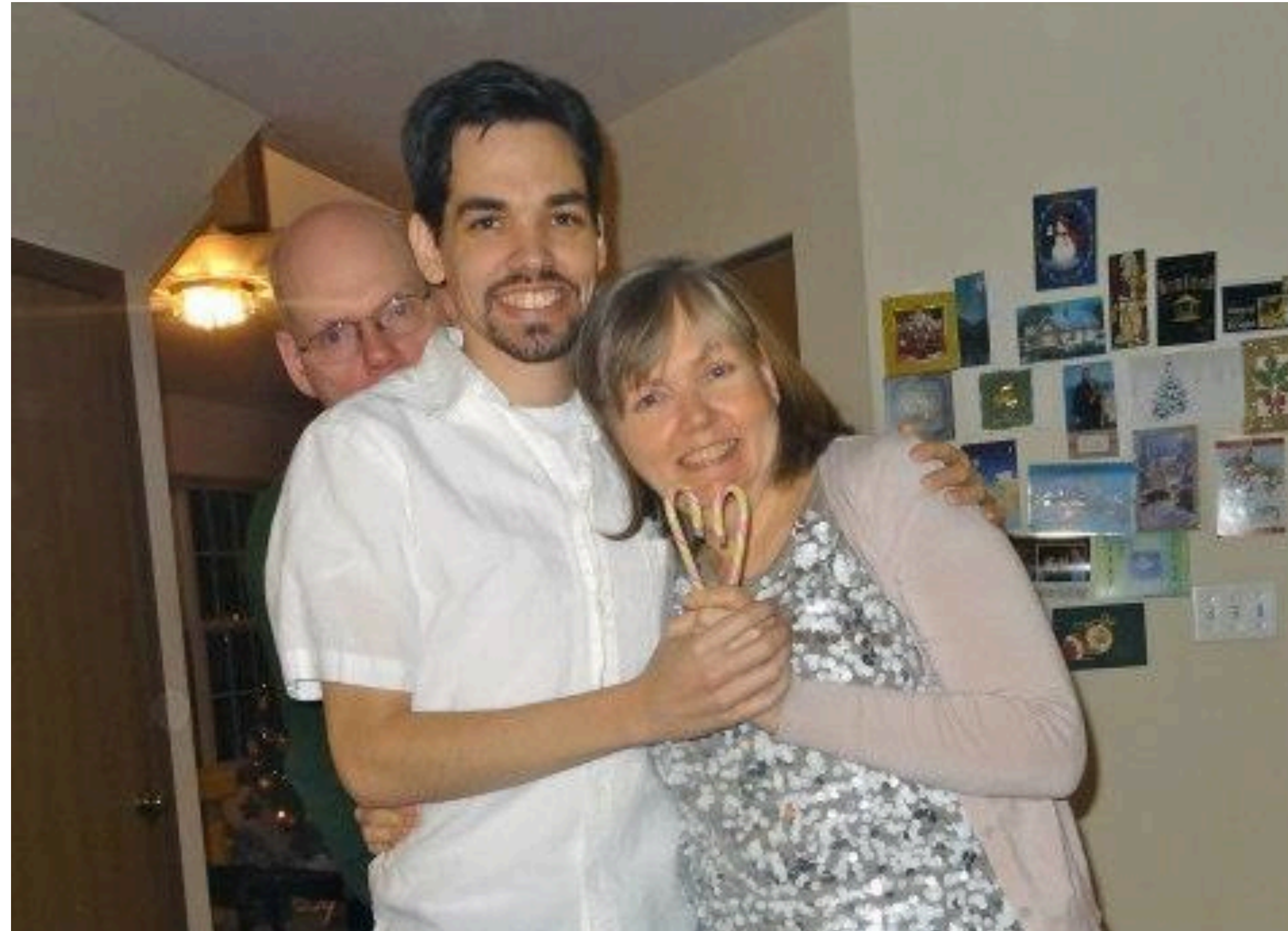
Seafood

Tuesday, April 2, 13

# BUT MIKE, WHO PRINTS OUT WEBSITES?

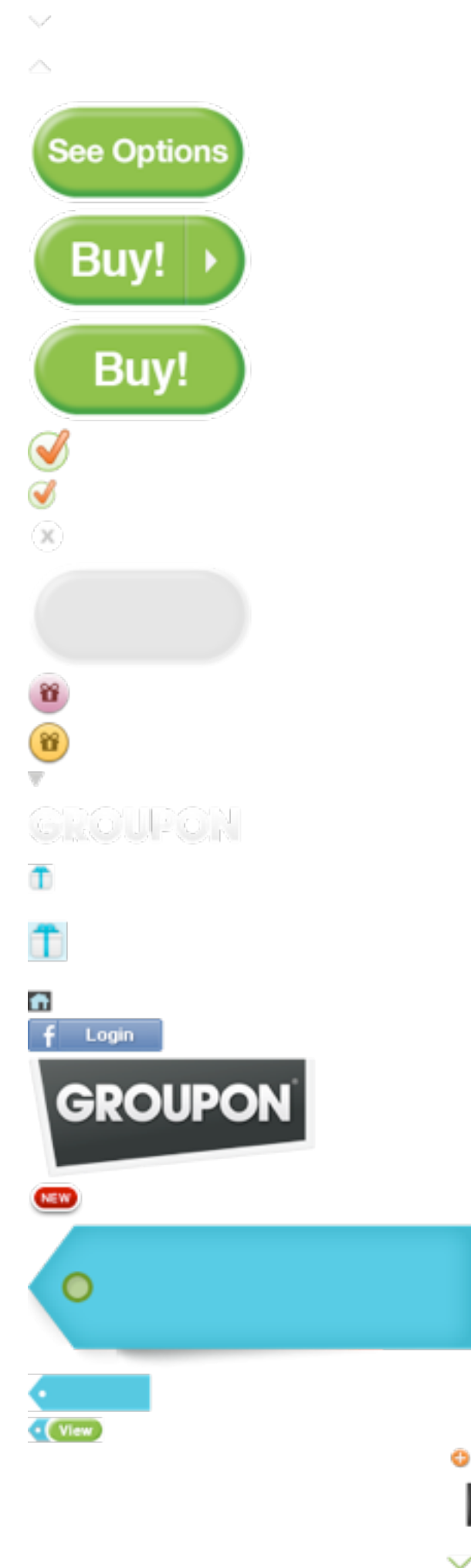


# BUT MIKE, WHO PRINTS OUT WEBSITES?

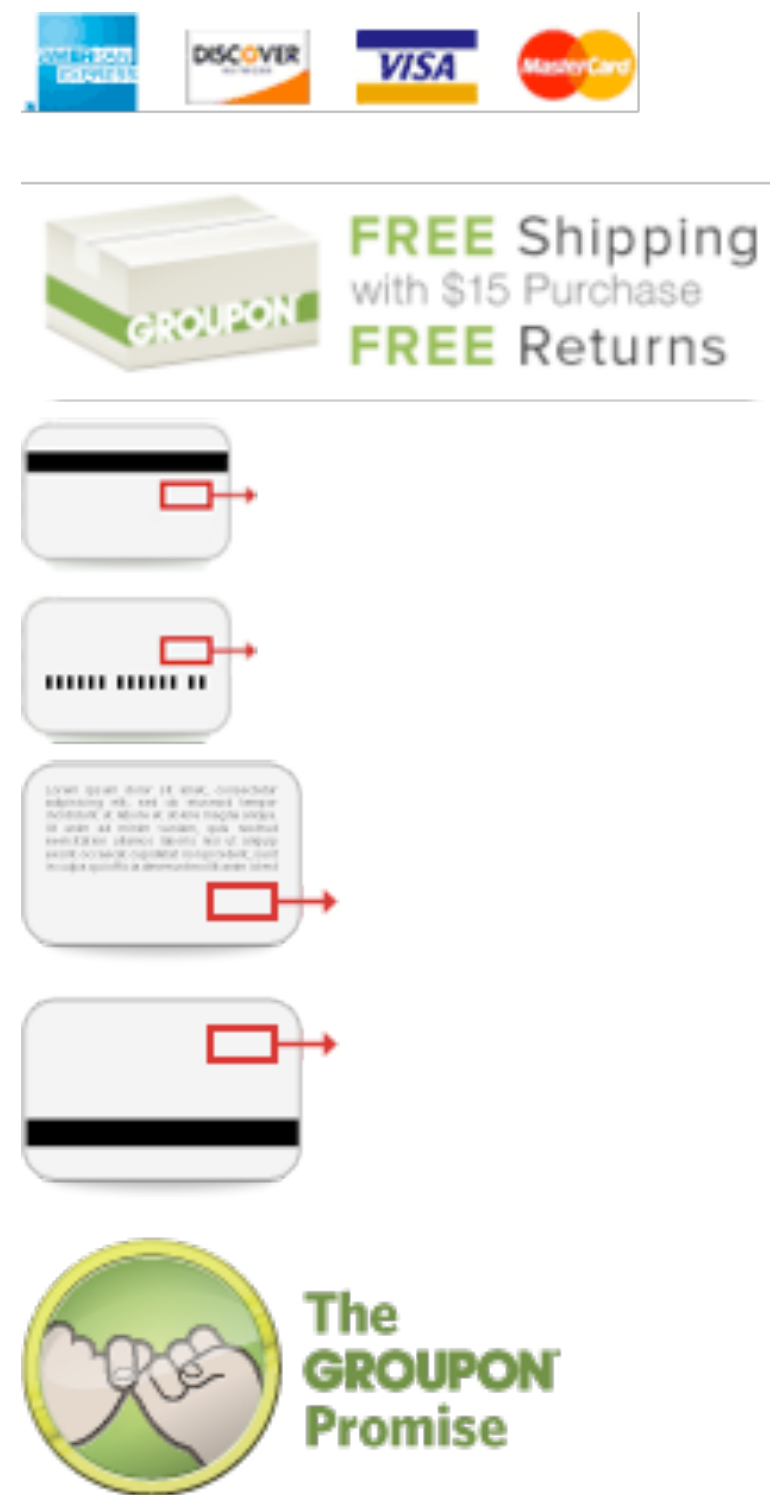


**My mom.**

# GROUPON SPRITE INVENTORY



**common.png**  
**61k**



**checkout.png**  
**39k**



**heartx.png**  
**5k**



**places-profile-icons.png**  
**2k**



**personalization.png**  
**8k**



**map-pointers.png**  
**2k**



**share-sprite.png**  
**2k**



**star-rating.gif**  
**2k**



**bg-refer\_cta\_sprite.png**  
**1k**



**gift-wizard-calendar-icon.png**  
1k



# GROUPON SPRITE INVENTORY

- **Different sizes, colors, opacity**
- **Mix of flat, gradients, shadows**
- **Different icons representing similar concepts**
- **Janky, outdated social icons**
- **No visual cohesion**
- **Pixelated when zoomed in**



# ICON FONTS ARE AWESOME

CSS-TRICKS

[Back Home](#)  
[More Demos](#)

## Icon Fonts are Awesome

1. Because you can easily change the size




2. Because you can easily change the color

3. Because you can easily shadow their shape

4. Because they can have transparent knockouts, which work in IE6 unlike alpha transparent pngs.

5. Because you can do all the other stuff image based icons can do, like change opacity or rotate or whatever.

6. You'll be able to do things like add strokes to them with `text-stroke` or add gradients/textures with `background-clip: text;` once browser support is a bit deeper.

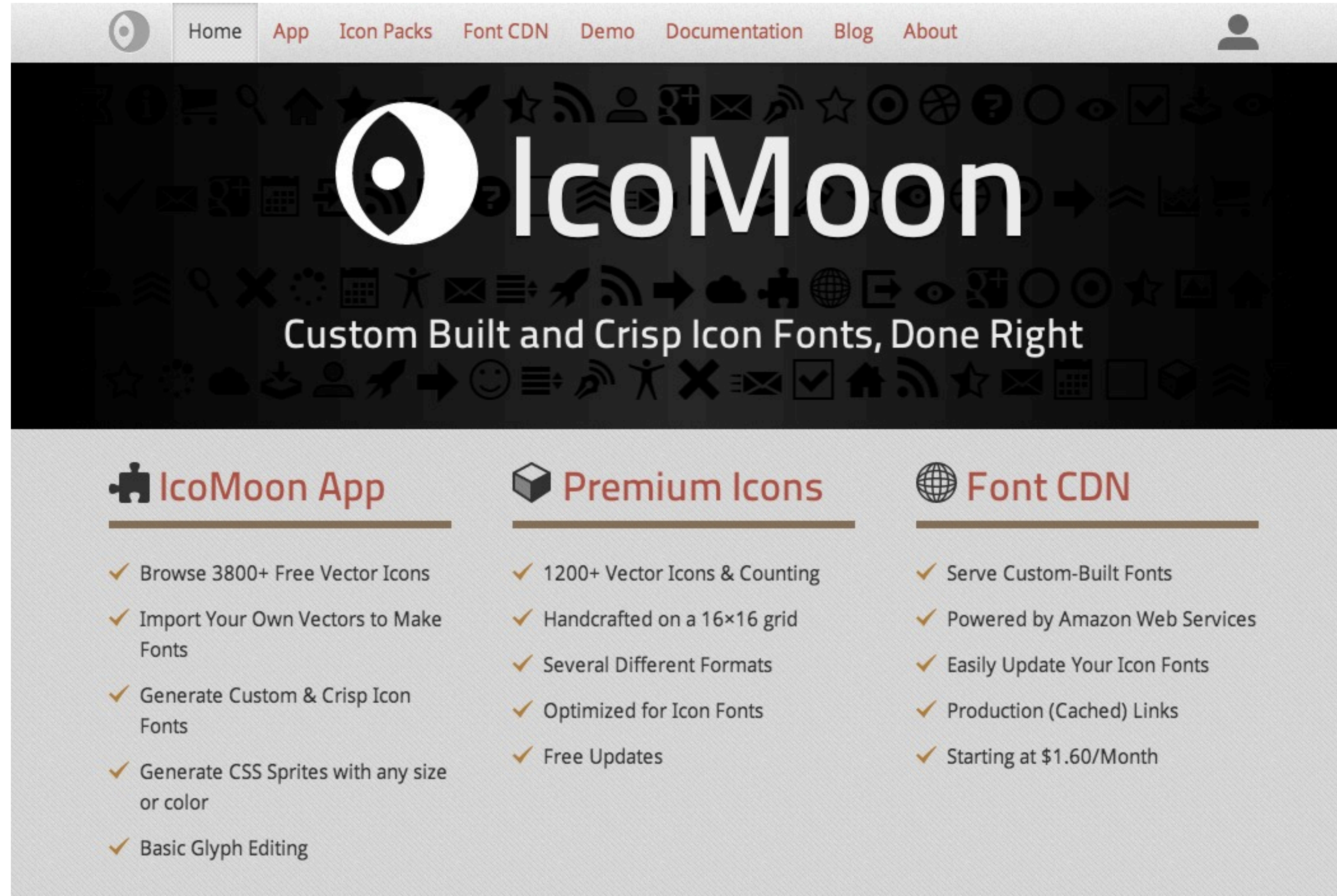
					
					
<code>data-icon="&amp;#x21dd;"</code>	<code>data-icon="&amp;#x25cc;"</code>	<code>data-icon="&amp;#x25a8;"</code>	<code>data-icon="&amp;#x25ce;"</code>	<code>data-icon="&amp;#x002b;"</code>	<code>data-icon="&amp;#x2600;"</code>

Chris Coyier says so.

<http://css-tricks.com/examples/IconFont/>



# MAKING AN ICON FONT



The screenshot shows the IcoMoon website interface. At the top is a navigation bar with links: Home, App, Icon Packs, Font CDN, Demo, Documentation, Blog, and About. The main header features the IcoMoon logo and the tagline "Custom Built and Crisp Icon Fonts, Done Right". Below this, there are three columns of features:

- IcoMoon App**
  - ✓ Browse 3800+ Free Vector Icons
  - ✓ Import Your Own Vectors to Make Fonts
  - ✓ Generate Custom & Crisp Icon Fonts
  - ✓ Generate CSS Sprites with any size or color
  - ✓ Basic Glyph Editing
- Premium Icons**
  - ✓ 1200+ Vector Icons & Counting
  - ✓ Handcrafted on a 16×16 grid
  - ✓ Several Different Formats
  - ✓ Optimized for Icon Fonts
  - ✓ Free Updates
- Font CDN**
  - ✓ Serve Custom-Built Fonts
  - ✓ Powered by Amazon Web Services
  - ✓ Easily Update Your Icon Fonts
  - ✓ Production (Cached) Links
  - ✓ Starting at \$1.60/Month

<http://icomoon.io/app>



# MAKING AN ICON FONT

- **Select icons from libraries and/or import your own SVGs**
- **Edit tags to name your icon**
- **Select Private Use Area encoding for best results, accessibility**
- **Base64 encode icons in CSS if you're really hard core**
- **Name your font**
- **Save your font to JSON**
- **Download your font**

# MAKING AN ICON FONT

56 icons

- **style.css (5k)**
- **lte-ie7.js (2k)**
- **fonts/icon-font-demo.eot (11k)**
- **fonts/icon-font-demo.svg (43k)**
- **fonts/icon-font-demo.ttf (11k)**
- **fonts/icon-font-demo.woff (6k)**
- **index.html**

```
1▼ @font-face {
2  font-family: 'Icon-Font-Demo';
3  src:url('fonts/Icon-Font-Demo.eot');
4▼ src:url('fonts/Icon-Font-Demo.eot?#iefix') format('embedded-
   opentype'),
5  url('fonts/Icon-Font-Demo.woff') format('woff'),
6  url('fonts/Icon-Font-Demo.ttf') format('truetype'),
7  url('fonts/Icon-Font-Demo.svg#Icon-Font-Demo') format('svg');
8  font-weight: normal;
9  font-style: normal;
10 }
11▼ .icon-ok {
12  font-family: 'Icon-Font-Demo';
13  speak: none;
14  font-style: normal;
15  font-weight: normal;
16  font-variant: normal;
17  text-transform: none;
18  line-height: 1;
19  -webkit-font-smoothing: antialiased;
20 }
21 .icon-ok:before {
22  content: "\e000";
23 }
```



# USING YOUR ICON FONT

```
<span class="icon-ok"></span>
```





# SOCIAL ICONS

```
1 <ul class="social">
2   <li><a href="#" class="icon-facebook"></a></li>
3   <li><a href="#" class="icon-twitter"></a></li>
4   <li><a href="#" class="icon-pinterest"></a></li>
5   <li><a href="#" class="icon-google-plus"></a></li>
6   <li><a href="#" class="icon-linkedin"></a></li>
7   <li><a href="#" class="icon-rss"></a></li>
8   <li><a href="#" class="icon-email"></a></li>
9 </ul>
10
11 <ul class="social-dark">
12   <li><a href="#" class="icon-facebook"></a></li>
13   <li><a href="#" class="icon-twitter"></a></li>
14   <li><a href="#" class="icon-pinterest"></a></li>
15   <li><a href="#" class="icon-google-plus"></a></li>
16   <li><a href="#" class="icon-linkedin"></a></li>
17   <li><a href="#" class="icon-rss"></a></li>
18   <li><a href="#" class="icon-email"></a></li>
19 </ul>
```



```
1 <style>
2   .social li,
3   .social-dark li {
4     float: left;
5   }
6   .social li + li,
7   .social-dark li + li {
8     margin-left: 5px;
9   }
10  .social a,
11  .social-dark a {
12    width: 48px;
13    height: 48px;
14    line-height: 48px;
15    display: block;
16    text-align: center;
17    font-size: 32px;
18  }
19  .social a:before,
20  .social-dark a:before {
21    position: relative;
22    top: 3px;
23  }
24  .social a {
25    color: #fff;
26    border-radius: 24px;
27    text-shadow: 0 1px 1px #666;
28  }
29  .social .icon-facebook { background-color: #3b5998; }
30  .social .icon-twitter { background-color: #00a0d1; }
31  .social .icon-pinterest { background-color: #c8232c; }
32  .social .icon-google-plus { background-color: #db4a39; }
33  .social .icon-linkedin { background-color: #0e76a8; }
34  .social .icon-rss { background-color: #ee802f; }
35  .social .icon-email { background-color: #82b548; }
36  .social-dark {
37    background-color: #333;
38    display: inline-block;
39  }
40  .social-dark a { color: #999; }
41  .social-dark a:hover { color: #fff; }
42 </style>
```

<http://brandcolors.net/>



# USER MENU

```
1 <div class="user-menu">
2   <a href="#">Mike A.</a>
3   <ul>
4     <li><a href="#" class="icon-user">Profile</a></li>
5     <li><a href="#" class="icon-cog">Settings</a></li>
6     <li><a href="#" class="icon-gift">Gifts</a></li>
7     <li><a href="#" class="icon-email">Subscriptions</a></li>
8   </ul>
9 </div>
```



```
1 <style>
2   .user-menu > a {
3     background-color: #333;
4     color: #f5f5f5;
5     display: block;
6     font-size: 14px;
7     line-height: 48px;
8     padding: 0 10px;
9   }
10  .user-menu > a:after {
11    font-family: 'Icon-Font-Demo';
12    content: "\e02e";
13    font-size: 18px;
14    margin-left: 10px;
15  }
16  .user-menu ul {
17    background: #333;
18    display: inline-block;
19  }
20  .user-menu ul a {
21    color: #999;
22    display: block;
23    font-size: 14px;
24    line-height: 24px;
25    padding: 5px 10px;
26  }
27  .user-menu ul a:hover {
28    color: #fff;
29    background-color: #666;
30  }
31  .user-menu ul a:before {
32    font-size: 18px;
33    margin-right: 10px;
34  }
35  .user-menu ul li + li {
36    border-top: 1px solid #666;
37  }
38 </style>
```



# RATINGS

```
1 <ul class="ratings">
2   <li><span class="icon-star"></span></li>
3   <li><span class="icon-star"></span></li>
4   <li><span class="icon-star"></span></li>
5   <li><span class="icon-star-half"></span></li>
6   <li></li>
7 </ul>
```



```
1 <style>
2   .ratings li {
3     float: left;
4     position: relative;
5     font-size: 32px;
6     line-height: 32px;
7   }
8   .ratings li:before {
9     font-family: 'Icon-Font-Demo';
10    color: #bbb;
11    content: '\e004';
12  }
13  .ratings li + li {
14    margin-left: 3px;
15  }
16  .icon-star,
17  .icon-star-half {
18    color: #ffbe00;
19    position: absolute;
20    left: 0;
21  }
22
23  /* If your set doesn't have a half star icon */
24  .icon-star-half {
25    width: 50%;
26    overflow: hidden;
27  }
28  .icon-star-half:before {
29    font-family: 'Icon-Font-Demo';
30    content: '\e004';
31  }
32 </style>
```



# QUOTES

```
1 ▾ <blockquote>
2   · <p>Let me explain something to you. Um, I am not "Mr.
   · Lebowski". You're Mr. Lebowski. I'm the Dude. So that's
   · what you call me. You know, that or, uh, His Dudeness,
   · or uh, Duder, or El Duderino if you're not into the
   · whole brevity thing.</p>
3   · <small>The Dude, <cite>The Big Lebowski</cite></small>
4   </blockquote>
5
6 ▾ <style>
7 ▾ · blockquote {
8   · · padding: 0;
9   · · margin: 0 0 20px 60px;
10  · · position: relative;
11  · · font-size: 24px;
12  · · line-height: 1.3;
13  · · color: #888;
14  · }
15 ▾ · blockquote:before {
16  · · font-family: 'Icon-Font-Demo';
17  · · content: '\e034';
18  · · color: #82b548;
19  · · position: absolute;
20  · · top: 0;
21  · · left: -60px;
22  · · font-size: 44px;
23  · }
24 </style>
```



Let me explain something to you. Um, I am not "Mr. Lebowski". You're Mr. Lebowski. I'm the Dude. So that's what you call me. You know, that or, uh, His Dudeness, or uh, Duder, or El Duderino if you're not into the whole brevity thing.

The Dude, *The Big Lebowski*



# ALERTS

```
1 <div class="announcement success">
2   · Hooray! It worked!
3 </div>
4
5 <div class="announcement error">
6   · Whoops! You screwed up.
7 </div>
8
9 <div class="announcement info">
10  · Just an FYI...
11 </div>
12
13 <div class="announcement alert">
14  · Head's up! Here's something you should know about.
15 </div>
```

✓ Hooray! It worked!

! Whoops! You screwed up.

i Just an FYI...

⚠ Head's up! Here's something you should know about.

```
1 <style>
2   · .announcement {
3     · border: 1px solid;
4     · margin-bottom: 10px;
5     · border-radius: 4px;
6     · padding: 10px 15px 10px 15px;
7   }
8   · .announcement:before {
9     · font-family: 'Icon-Font-Demo';
10    · margin-right: 5px;
11    · font-size: 20px;
12  }
13  · .success {
14    · background-color: #eff5e7;
15    · border-color: #8eb316;
16  }
17  · .success:before {
18    · content: '\e01c';
19    · color: #8eb316;
20  }
21  · .error {
22    · background-color: #F9DADB;
23    · border-color: #cc2127;
24  }
25  · .error:before {
26    · content: '\e00f';
27    · color: #cc2127;
28  }
29  · .info {
30    · background-color: #f5f5f5;
31    · border-color: #999;
32  }
33  · .info:before {
34    · content: '\e010';
35    · color: #999;
36  }
37  · .alert {
38    · background-color: #fcf6d7;
39    · border-color: #d3d279;
40  }
41  · .alert:before {
42    · content: '\e00e';
43    · color: #d3d279;
44  }
45 </style>
```



# BUTTONS

```
1▼ <ul class="tags">
2  <li><a href="#">Healthy Living</a></li>
3  <li><a href="#">Farm-to-Table</a></li>
4  <li><a href="#">Foodie</a></li>
5 </ul>
6
7▼ <ul class="actions">
8  <li><a href="#" class="icon-pencil"></a></li>
9  <li><a href="#" class="icon-trash"></a></li>
10 <li><a href="#" class="icon-comment"></a></li>
11 </ul>
```

♥ Healthy Living

+ Farm-to-Table

♥ Foodie



```
1▼ <style>
2  .tags li, .actions li { float: left; }
3  .tags li + li { margin-left: 5px; }
4▼  .tags a {
5    padding: 8px 10px;
6    border: 1px solid #999;
7    border-radius: 6px;
8    background-color: #fff;
9    display: block;
10  }
11▼  .tags a:before {
12    font-family: 'Icon-Font-Demo';
13    content: '\e003';
14    color: #999;
15    margin-right: 5px;
16    width: 16px;
17    text-align: center;
18    display: inline-block;
19  }
20▼  .tags a:hover:before {
21    content: '\e01b';
22    color: #999;
23  }
24  a.matching:before,
25▼  a.matching:hover:before {
26    content: '\e003';
27    color: #b3174f;
28  }
29▼  .actions {
30    display: inline-block;
31    border: 1px solid #bbb;
32    border-radius: 4px;
33    overflow: hidden;
34  }
35  .actions li + li {
36    border-left: 1px solid #bbb;
37  }
38▼  .actions a {
39    display: block;
40    color: #666;
41    background-image:
42      -webkit-linear-gradient(top, #FAFAFA, #EBEBEB);
43    font-size: 24px;
44    padding: 8px 16px;
45    text-shadow: 1px 1px 0 white;
46  }
47▼  .actions a:hover {
48    background-image:
49      -webkit-linear-gradient(top, #EBEBEB, #DBDBDB);
50  }
51 </style>
```



# SPINNERS

```
1 <span class="spinner"></span>
2
3 <style>
4   @-keyframes rotate {
5     0% { transform: rotate(0deg); }
6     100% { transform: rotate(360deg); }
7   }
8   .spinner {
9     animation: rotate 1s linear infinite;
10    font-family: "Icon-Font-Demo";
11    display: inline-block;
12  }
13  .spinner:before {
14    content: "\e035";
15    color: #333;
16    font-size: 44px;
17    line-height: 1;
18  }
19 </style>
```





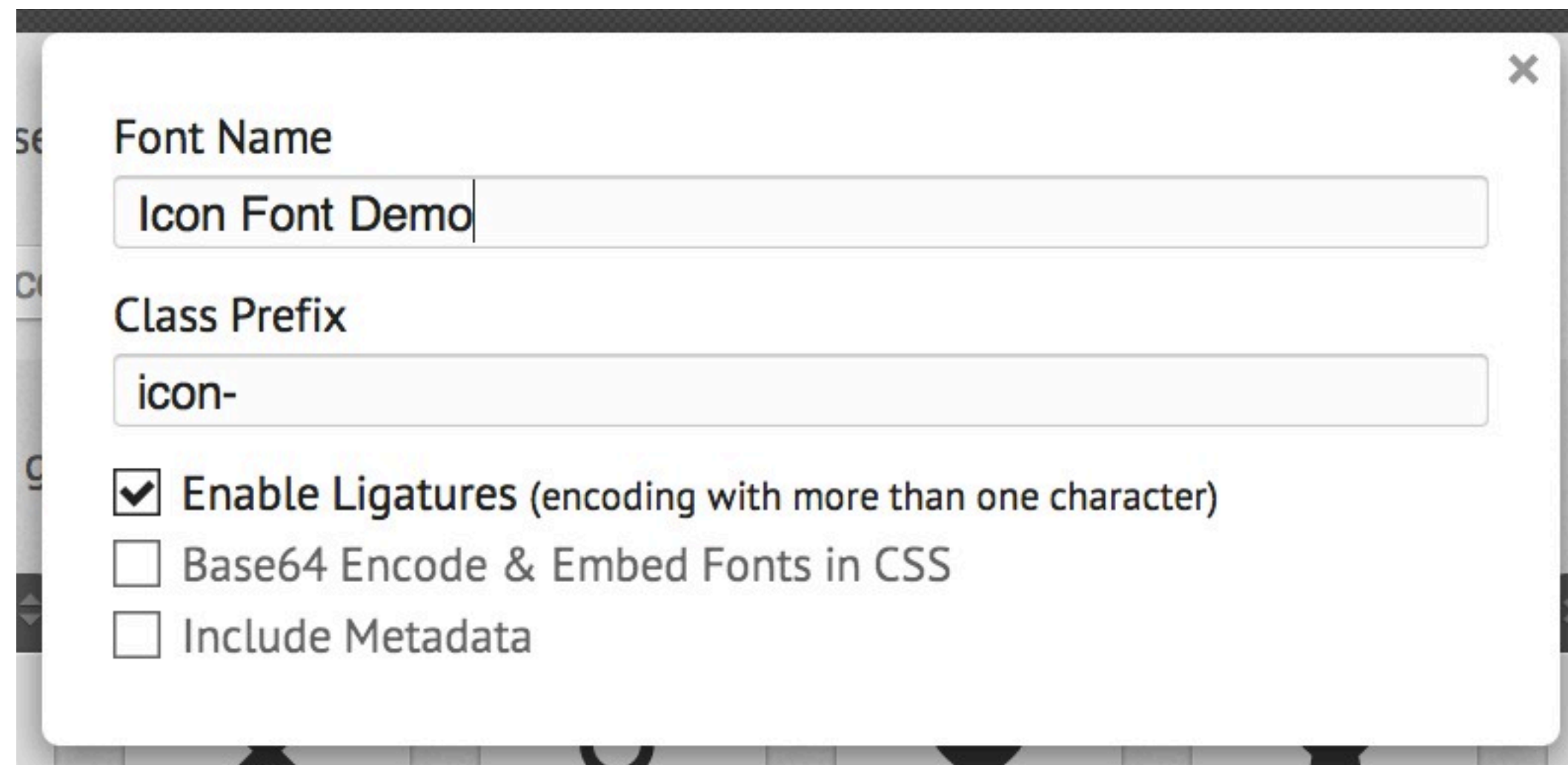
# LOGOS

```
1 <h1><a href="#" class="icon-groupon"></a></h1>
2
3 ▼ <style>
4 ▼   h1 {
5     background-color: #82b548;
6     padding: 10px;
7   }
8 ▼   h1 a {
9     text-decoration: none;
10    color: white;
11  }
12 </style>
```

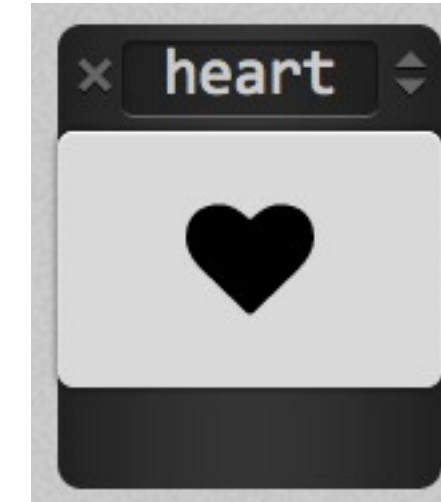
The Groupon logo is displayed in white, bold, uppercase letters on a solid green rectangular background.

<http://idol.pe/icon-font-demo>

# LIGATURES



A screenshot of a web-based font configuration interface. It features a white modal window with a close button (X) in the top right corner. Inside the window, there are two text input fields: the first is labeled 'Font Name' and contains the text 'Icon Font Demo'; the second is labeled 'Class Prefix' and contains the text 'icon-'. Below these fields are three checkboxes with their respective labels: the first checkbox is checked and labeled 'Enable Ligatures (encoding with more than one character)'; the second checkbox is unchecked and labeled 'Base64 Encode & Embed Fonts in CSS'; the third checkbox is unchecked and labeled 'Include Metadata'.



**icon-font-demo.ttf**

Turn **T** into  with magic

<http://symbolset.com/>



# ICON FONTS ON GROUPON.COM



Before  
(Sprites)



After  
(Icon Font + CSS)



# FURTHER READING

## **The Era of Symbol Fonts**

<http://alistapart.com/article/the-era-of-symbol-fonts>

## **HTML for Icon Font Usage**

<http://css-tricks.com/html-for-icon-font-usage/>

## **The Big List of Flat Icons & Icon Fonts**

<http://css-tricks.com/flat-icons-icon-fonts/>

## **5 Use Cases for Icon Fonts**

<http://css-tricks.com/five-use-cases-for-icon-fonts/>

## **Four Custom Icon Font Generators Compared**

<http://designshack.net/articles/css/four-custom-icon-font-generators-compared/>

## **Making Accessible Icon Buttons**

<http://www.nczonline.net/blog/2013/04/01/making-accessible-icon-buttons/>

## **Icon Stacks**

<http://conor.cc/posts/icon-stacks>



# THANK YOU!

## Questions?

<http://idol.pelicon-font-repo>

**Mike Aparicio**  
**maparicio@groupon.com**  
**@peruvianidol**