

More feedback using the `dropEffect` property: change the cursor shape

It is possible to change the cursor shape during the drag process. The cursor will turn into a "copy", "move" or "link" icon, depending on the semantic of your drag and drop, when you enter a drop zone during a drag. For example, if you "copy" a fruit into the drop zone, like in the previous example, a "copy" cursor like the one below would be appropriate:



If you are "moving" objects, this style of cursor would be appropriate:



And if you are making a "link" or a "shortcut", a cursor would be looking like this:



You can also use any custom image/icon you like:

What fruits do you like? Try to drag an element!

1. Apples
2. Oranges
3. Pears

Drop your favorite
fruits below:



To give this visual feedback, we use the `effectAllowed` and `dropEffect` properties of the `dataTransfer` object. To set one of the possible predefined cursors, we allow an effect in the `dragstart` handler, and we set the effect (to "move", "copy", etc.) in the `dragEnter` or `dragOver` handler.

Here is an extract of the code we can add to the example we saw earlier:

```
function dragStartHandler(event) {  
    // Allow a "copy" cursor effect  
    event.dataTransfer.effectAllowed = 'copy';  
    ...  
}
```

And here is where we can set the cursor to a permitted value:

```
function dragEnterHandler(event) {
```

```
// change the cursor shape to a "+"
event.dataTransfer.dropEffect = 'copy';
...
}
```

To set a custom image, we also do the following in the `dragstarthandler`:

```
function dragStartHandler(event) {
  // allowed cursor effects
  event.dataTransfer.effectAllowed = 'copy';
  // Load and create an image
  var dragIcon =document.createElement('img');
  dragIcon.src = 'anImage.png';
  dragIcon.width = 100;
10. // set the cursor to this image, with an offset in X, Y
   event.dataTransfer.setDragImage(dragIcon,-10, -10);
  ...
}
```

COMPLETE ONLINE EXAMPLE

Here is the previous example (with apples, oranges, etc) that sets a "copy" cursor and a custom image. Try it in your browser below (start to drag and wait a few seconds for the image to be loaded. You might have to try twice before it works) or [play with it at CodePen](#):

What fruits do you like? Try to drag an element!

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Drop your favorite
fruits below:

Here are the various possible values for the cursor effects (your browser will not necessarily support all of these; we noticed that `copyMove`, etc. had no effect with Chrome, for example). The values of "move", "copy", and "link" are widely supported.

All possible values for `dropEffect` and `effectAllowed`:

- `dataTransfer.effectAllowed` can be set to the following values: `none`, `copy`, `copyLink`, `copyMove`, `link`, `linkMove`, `move`, `all`, and `uninitialized`.
- `dataTransfer.dropEffect` can take on one of the following values: `none`, `copy`, `link`, `move`.