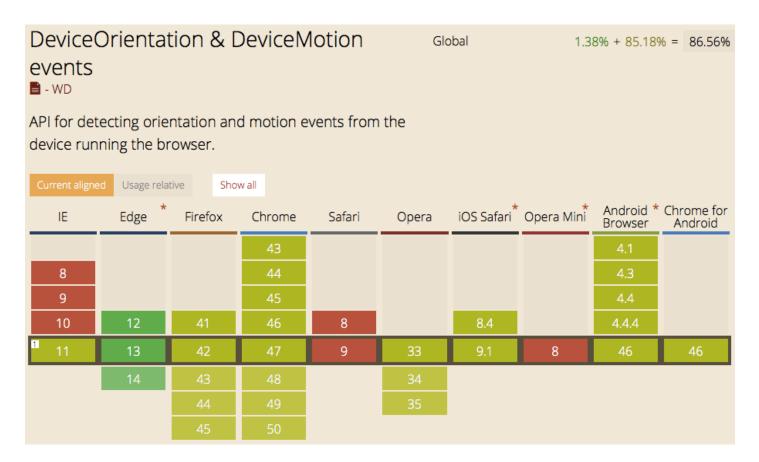# The Orientation API

## INTRODUCTION

This section covers the HTML5 orientation API: a way to use angle measures provided by accelerometers from mobile devices or laptops such as MacBooks.

**Beware**: all examples must be run on a device with an orientation sensor and/or with an accelerometer. Furthermore, Chrome/Safari and Mozilla support these API, but Opera mobile doesn't yet at the time of writing.

You can "fake the orientation values" using the devtools of a desktop browser, if it provides a "mobile device emulation mode" (see the support table below, the columns for desktop versions of browsers are about the support for this emulation mode).

Here is a table that shows support for this API as of December 2015:

## DeviceOrientation & DeviceMotion events
📄 - WD

Global      1.38% + 85.18% = 86.56%

API for detecting orientation and motion events from the device running the browser.

| Current aligned | Usage relative | | Show all | | | | | | | |

| IE | Edge * | Firefox | Chrome | Safari | Opera | iOS Safari * | Opera Mini * | Android * Browser | Chrome for Android |
|----|------|---------|--------|--------|-------|-----------|-----------|-----------------|-----------------|
|  |  |  | 43 |  |  |  |  | 4.1 |  |
| 8 |  |  | 44 |  |  |  |  | 4.3 |  |
| 9 |  |  | 45 |  |  |  |  | 4.4 |  |
| 10 | 12 | 41 | 46 | 8 |  | 8.4 |  | 4.4.4 |  |
| 11 | 13 | 42 | 47 | 9 | 33 | 9.1 | 8 | 46 | 46 |
|  | 14 | 43 | 48 |  | 34 |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 44 | 49 |  | 35 |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 45 | 50 |  |  |  |  |  |  |

For an up to date version of this table:http://caniuse.com/#feat=deviceorientation

Notice that all major browsers support the API in their mobile version.

## EXTERNAL RESOURCES:

- W3C specification

- Article on html5Rocks.com about device orientation