CSS Sprites

Any kind of information can be stored and displayed on webpages, including but not limited to images, photos, icons, and logos. This may range from a few photos or images to thousands and thousands of images that the web servers must process and load for the user to view and enjoy all this information. This is where CSS Sprites come in handy. Sprites are a collection of multiple images into a single image file that the webpage can use. The advantage of having a sprite compared to having multiple single images on your webpage comes down to performance and storage. With only having to load one single sprite in comparison to loading multiple images significantly increase the speed of your page and lessen the stress to the servers. It can also decrease the storage space use as having one big file compared to multiple small or medium size file.

CSS sprites shares the same characteristics as “sprites”, where a computer would only fetch an image, display only certain parts of the image at a time. This is much more convenient and faster than having the computer to fetch and load multiple images every time.

There are several online tools and resources which can help you generate sprites to use for your webpage. Once you have a sprite generated from your collection of images, you can now put it to your webpage and using CSS, you can style them according your liking.