JEN KRAMER • O'REILLY • HARVARD UNIV EXTENSION SCHOOL

FLEXBOX: COMING TO A BROWSER NEAR YOU

WHAT IS FLEXBOX?

"Provides a more efficient way to lay out, align and distribute space among items in a container, even when their size is unknown and/or dynamic (thus the word "flex")."

Chris Coyer

css-tricks.com/snippets/css/a-guide-to-flexbox/

WHY IS IT AWESOME?

- Excels at vertical centering and equal heights

- Flex property changes the container's width/height to fill available space

  - Expand to fill empty space

  - Shrink to prevent overflow

```
 2
 3
 4    Machine,
 5
 6    Pls make website,
 7
 8    all responsive like,
 9    w/ BIG pictures ooo,
10    use my fav fonts,
11    also fancy menus with whooosh on,
12    load fast pls
13
14    Thanks,
15    Human
16
17    PS no bugs :)
18
19
```

ANY DRAWBACKS?

Layouts are driven by content and how it loads.
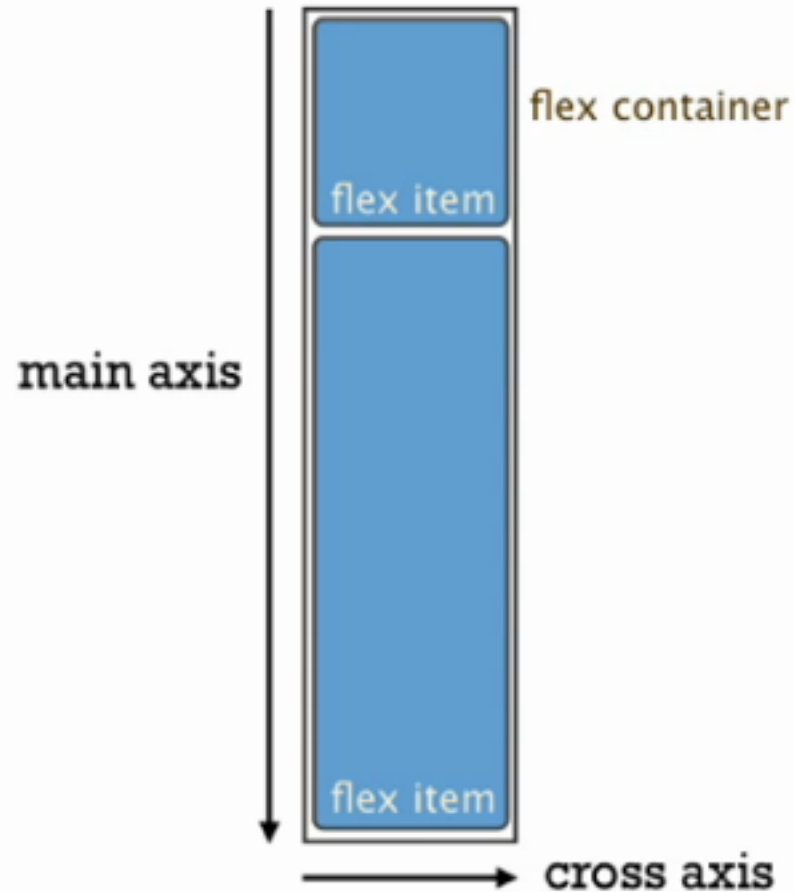
Humanity's victories:

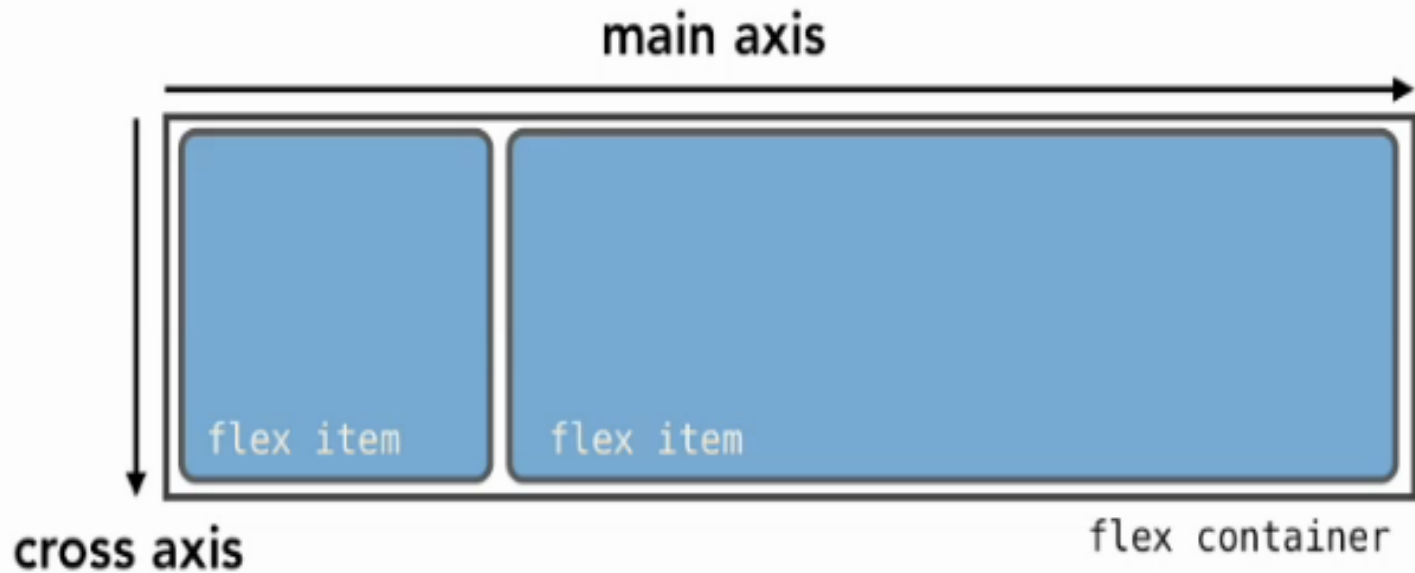☑ land probe perfectly on a comet 310 million miles away, using science

☒ get stuff on a web page to align properly using CSS

TERMINOLOGY

http://www.lynda.com/CSS-tutorials/CSS-Flexbox-First-Look/116352-2.html

PREFIXING

(FOR FUN AND FOR PROFIT)

THREE VERSIONS OF FLEXBOX

- 2009: display: box;

- 2011: display: flexbox; ("tweener" syntax)

- 2016: display: flex;
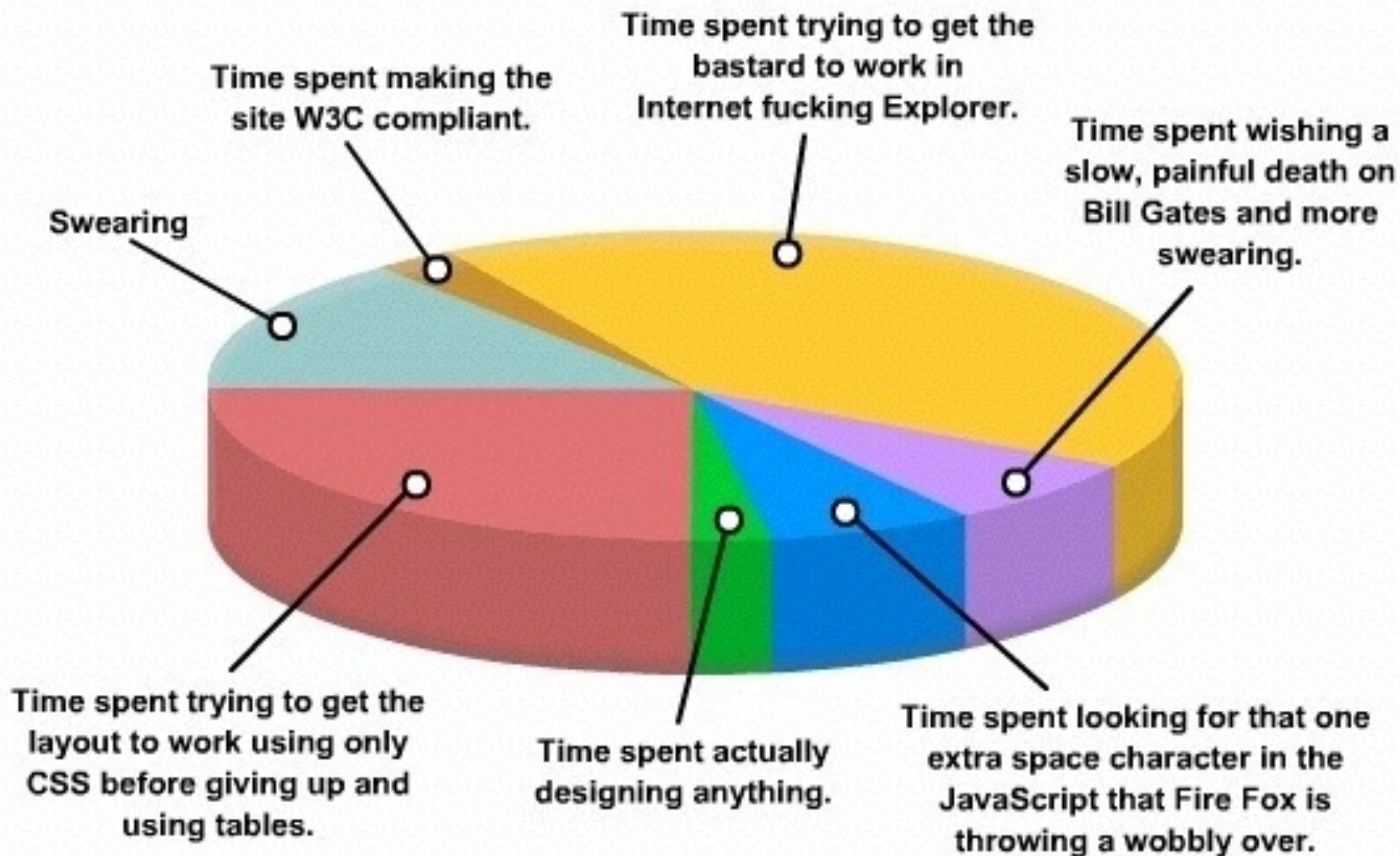
EXAMPLE

```
ul {

    list-style-type: none;

    padding: 0;

    margin: 0;

    border: 1px dotted red;

    display: -webkit-flex; /* targets Chrome, Safari */

    display: -ms-flexbox; /* targets IE10 */

    display: flex;

}
```
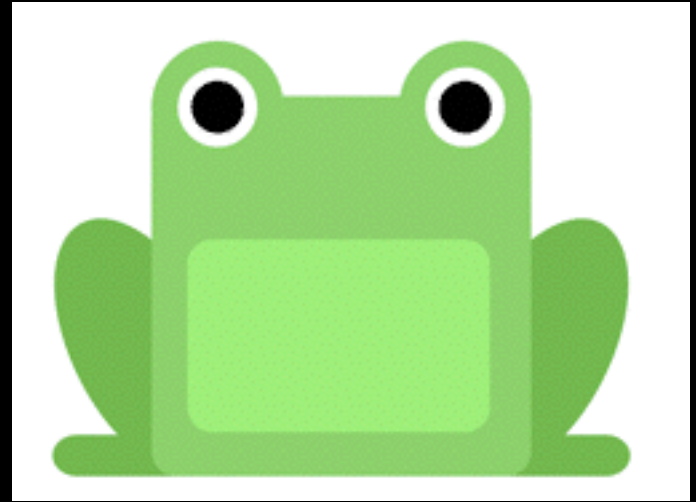
CURRENT SUPPORT

- Internet Explorer

  - <= IE 9: not supported

  - IE 10 supports "tweener" syntax (ms prefix)

  - IE 11, Edge: Full support

- Safari 7.1/8, iOS Safari 7/8 require webkit prefix

- Others support current syntax

- http://caniuse.com/#feat=flexbox

TIME BREAKDOWN OF MODERN WEB DESIGN

Time spent making the site W3C compliant.

Time spent trying to get the bastard to work in Internet fucking Explorer.

Time spent wishing a slow, painful death on Bill Gates and more swearing.

Swearing

Time spent trying to get the layout to work using only CSS before giving up and using tables.

Time spent actually designing anything.

Time spent looking for that one extra space character in the JavaScript that Fire Fox is throwing a wobbly over.

LEARN MORE

- [Flexbox in 5](#)

- [Chris Coyer's Complete Guide to Flexbox](#)

- [Smashing Magazine: Harnessing Flexbox for Today's Web Apps](#)

- [Solved by Flexbox](#)

- [Flexy Boxes playground and code generator](#)

- [Getting started with Flexbox grid systems](#)

[Flexbox Froggy](#)

CODE DEMO

RELEVANT PROPERTIES

Parent (Flex Container)

display: flex | inline-flex;

flex-direction: row | row-reverse | column | column-reverse;

flex-wrap: wrap | nowrap | wrap-reverse;

flex-flow (shorthand for flex-direction and flex-wrap)

justify-content: flex-start | flex-end | center | space-between | space-around;

align-items: flex-start | flex-end | center | baseline | stretch;

Children (Flex Items)

order: <integer>;

flex-grow: <number>;

flex-shrink: <number>;

flex-basis: <length> | auto;

flex: shorthand for grow, shrink, and basis (default 0, 1, auto)

align-self: overrides alignment set on parent

QUESTIONS?

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Slides available at
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Free 10-day pass to Safari:
www.safaribooksonline.com/register/