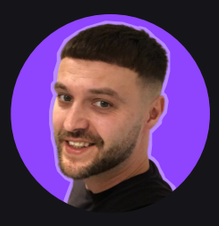
Learn CSS By Use Cases

ebook by Joe Harrison

Syntax

Properties



Joe Harrison
@frontendjoe

Properties

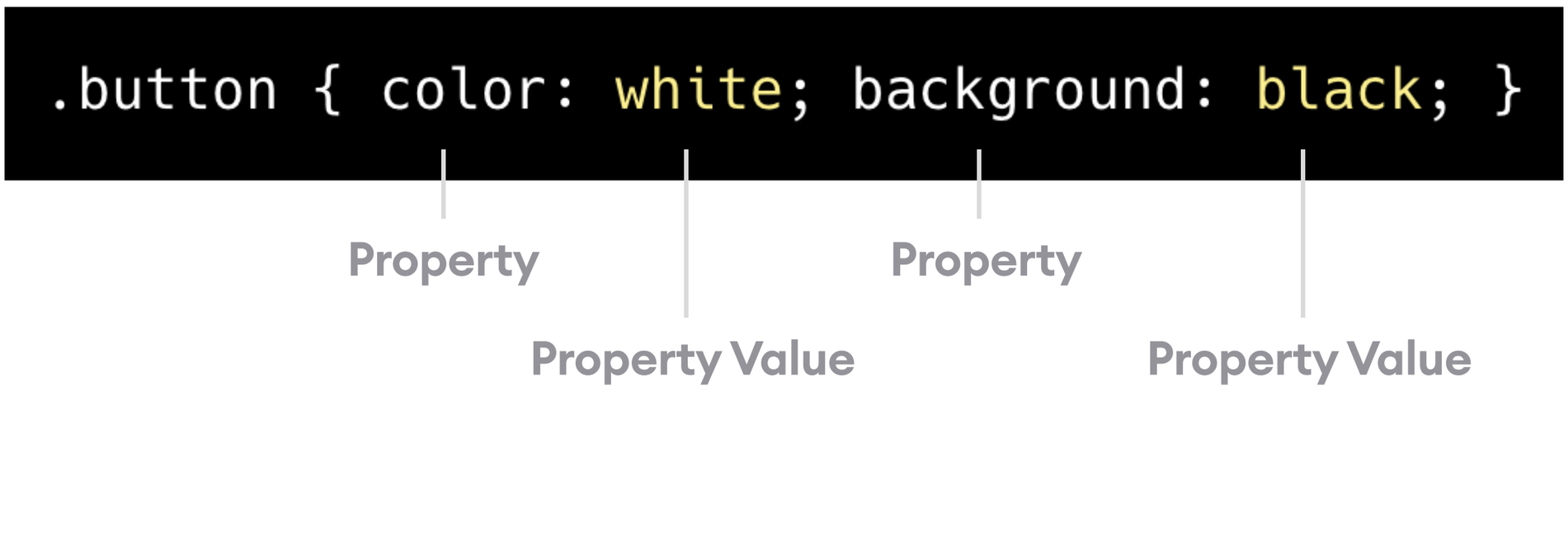
Syntax

Intro

The largest part of CSS to learn is definitely the extensive list of properties available. The whole reason I made this ebook, is to focus your mind on the core set of properties mentioned here - for this reason I focus mainly on teaching properties.

Syntax Overview

As I mentioned earlier, CSS is a collection of rules consisting of a selector and block. Inside the block we have property pairings which have their own simple to learn syntax.



Properties

Syntax

Core Properties

Now let’s do a quick run through of the properties I focus on in this ebook (these are what I call my Core Properties).

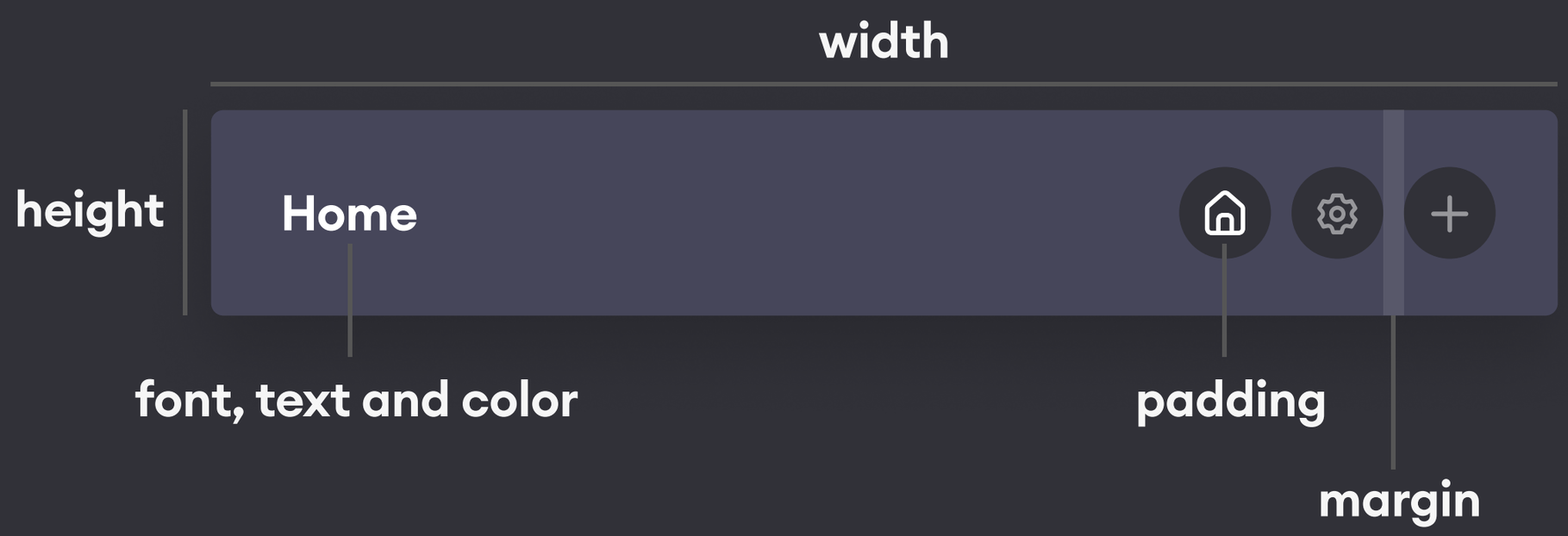
height and width - Apply size to our elements. They both also come with mix and max properties.

margin - Apply spacing outside and around the element.

padding - Apply spacing between the border and content of an element.

font, text and color - Apply styling to elements that contain textual content.

Core Properties



Properties

Syntax

opacity - Apply transparency to elements.

cursor - Assist user experience by showing a visual hint when the mouse is over that element.

background - Apply background effects to elements such as solid colors, gradients and images.

border - Add lines around elements.

border-radius - Apply rounded corners to elements, can also be used to make abstract shapes.

box-shadow - Apply shadows to elements, useful when portraying elevation.

Properties

Syntax

position - Add advanced positional behaviour to elements - mainly float elements outside the normal flow of a website.

top - Works alongside the position property to apply an offset from the top of it’s parent.

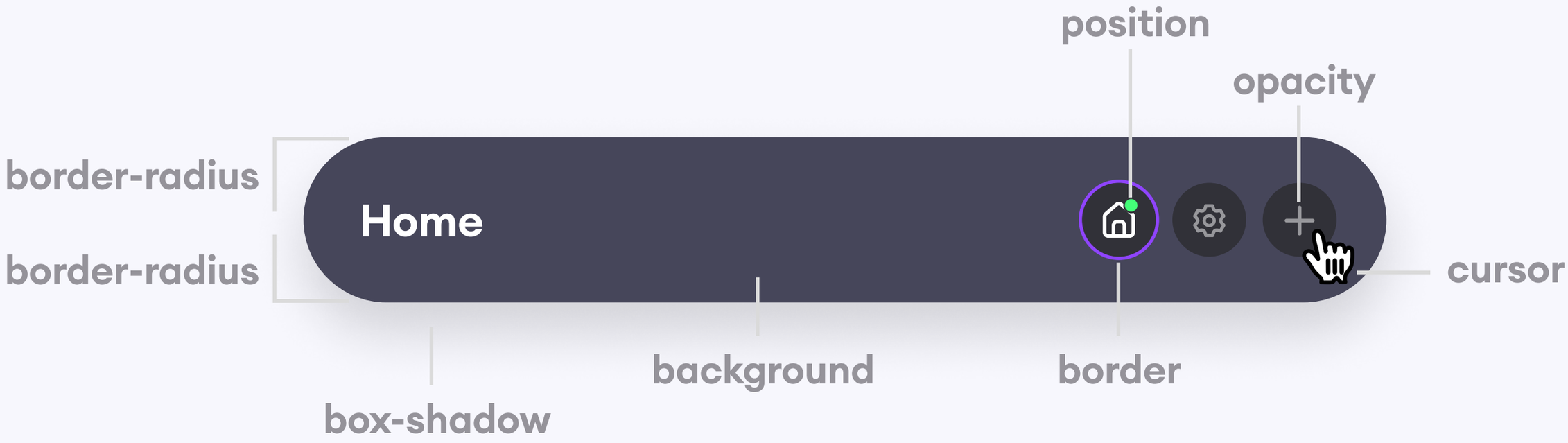
right - Works alongside the position property to apply an offset from the right of it’s parent.

bottom - Works alongside the position property to apply an offset from the bottom of it’s parent.

left - Works alongside the position property to apply an offset from the left of it’s parent.

z-index - Defines how the element will appear when it overlaps other elements.

Core Properties



Properties

Syntax

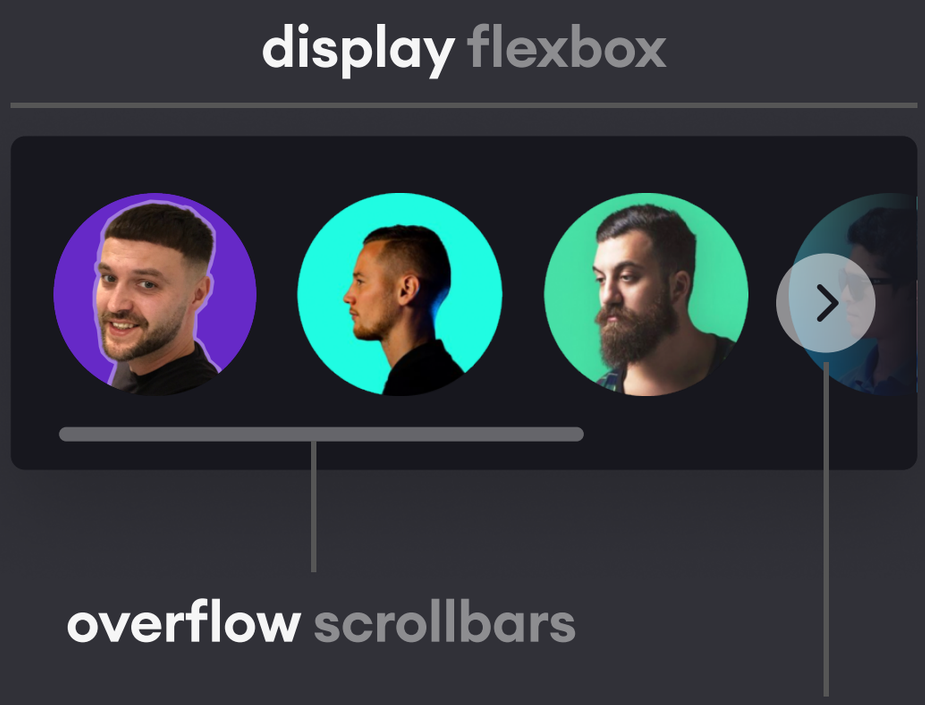
overflow - Define what will happen when content overflows an element's dimensions.

transform - Apply effects to elements. Effects include scale, rotate and move (translate). This property is most relevant when creating CSS animations. Multiple functions can be applied.

display - Define how the element appears in the website document (mainly block or inline). We also use the display property to trigger flexbox and grid behaviour on a parent element.

Single Use Properties - Properties I consider to have a single or minimal amount of use cases. I explain the primary usage of each one in my Single Use Properties chapter.

Core Properties



Properties

Syntax

Flexbox Properties

align-items - Align flex items on the Y axis. When flex-direction column comes into play - align-items and justify-content switch roles.

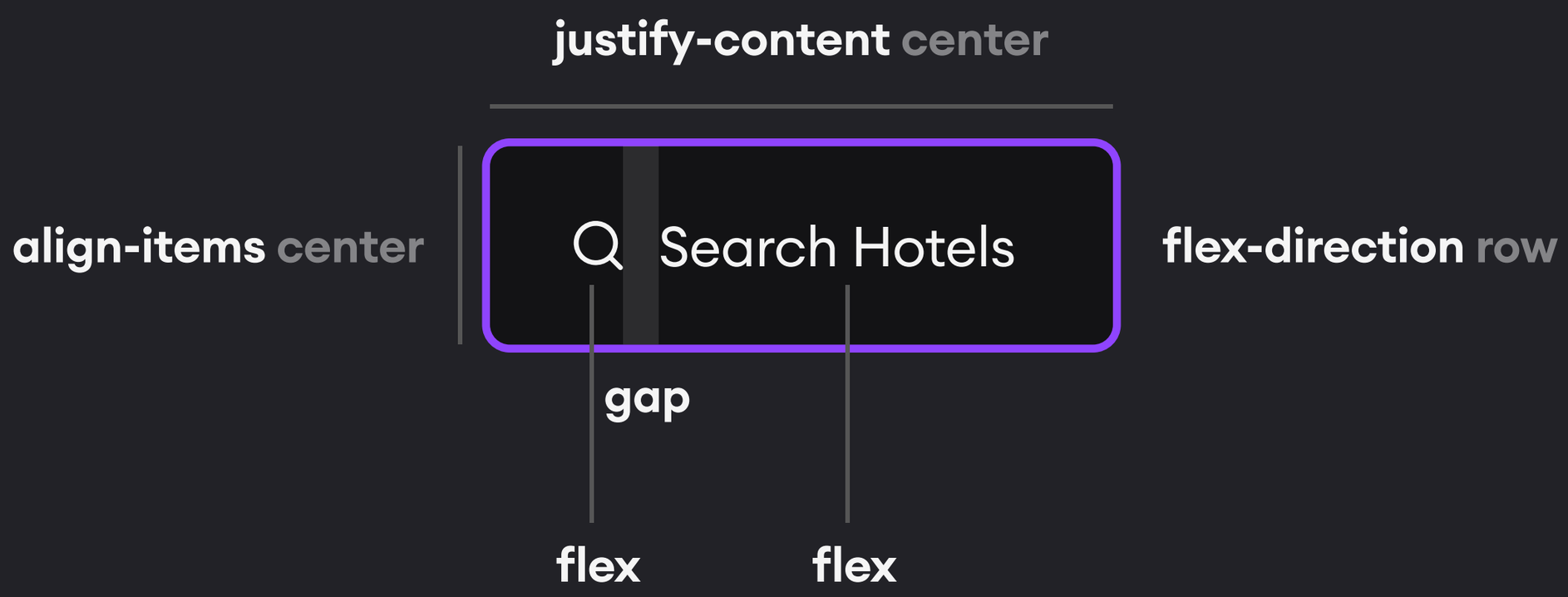
justify-content - Align flex items on the X axis. When flex-direction column comes into play - justify-content and align-items switch roles.

flex - Apply proportional sizing to flex items.

gap - Define spacing between flex items.

flex-direction - Change the default direction from row (horizontal) to column (vertical)

Core Properties



Properties

Syntax

Grid Properties

place-items - Apply spacing between the border and content of an element.

grid-template-rows - Apply styling to elements that contain textual content

grid-template-columns - Apply styling to elements that contain textual content

grid-template-areas - Apply styling to elements that contain textual content

gap - Apply styling to elements that contain textual content

Core Properties

Alternatively **grid-template-areas** could be used to declare these four grid areas

Pseudo Class

Syntax

Knowledge Gained

🏆 CSS has a lot of properties to learn, which make up the largest part of the language

🏆 CSS is easier to learn if you focus on a core set of properties

🏆 CSS property pairings allow us to apply styling to elements

🏆 CSS property syntax is easy to learn

🏆 Flexbox and grid have their own set of specific properties

Joe Harrison
@frontendjoe