Adding Animations

This lesson will help you learn how to make your tooltip operate smoothly so it provides a seemless user experience!

Animations

Animations are, in my opinion, the "dragons" of CSS to beware of. Once you go beyond basic animations (e.g., object moving from point A to point B, object fading in and out, etc.), you'll almost certainly write some code you feel is suboptimal – either in the performance it delivers or in the implementation itself.

That being said, animations are treated as first-class functionalities in CSS. We have `@keyframes` to define how we want things to be at certain stages of the animation. If by chance, you're coming from a Flash background, this will feel very familiar.

Let's take a look at how we can use it to add the following animations

- When the tooltip shows up, it doesn't seem to appear out of thin air. There's a very subtle "bubble out" effect.
- When the tooltip moves from one highlighted area to another, without having gone away in between, it creates a sliding effect.

Popup Animation

Popup Animation

Output
HTML
CSS (SCSS)

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I've defined an animation called "display" which does a very simple translation to make it look like the tooltip is "popping up." `from` and `to` are just the initial and terminal stages of the animation (just names for 0% and 100%). I reference the animation in `tooltip` and `tooltipTail` with duration, and it just works – the browser infers everything in between nicely.

I also added a slight over-translation to add a tiny bounce effect.

Slide Animation

Output
JavaScript
HTML
CSS (SCSS)

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The `transition` property applies to any property changes, so unlike `animation` where you specify the keyframes, `transition` specifies how you want property changes to occur. I'm specifying `linear` one of 0.08s, which means the change in property is linear to each frame of the duration.

There is a bug, however, if you highlight some text, click somewhere to dismiss the tooltip, and then highlight somewhere else.

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Q Why do you think this is happening?

💡 Show Hint

Output

JavaScript

HTML

CSS (SCSS)

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That's it!

We now have a tooltip that resembles the one on Medium.