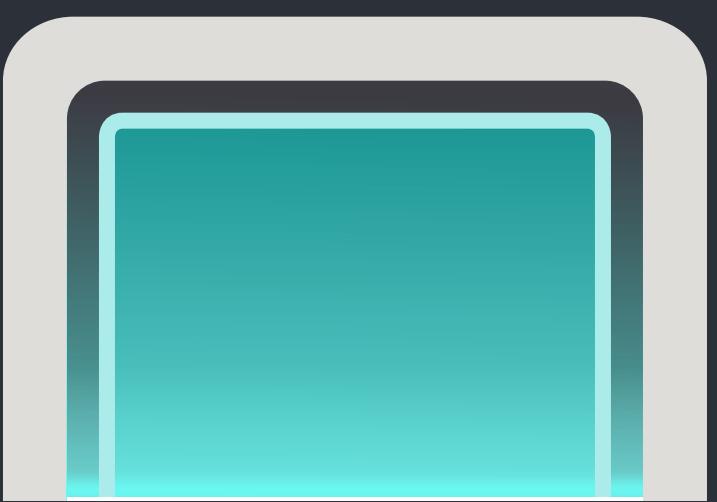
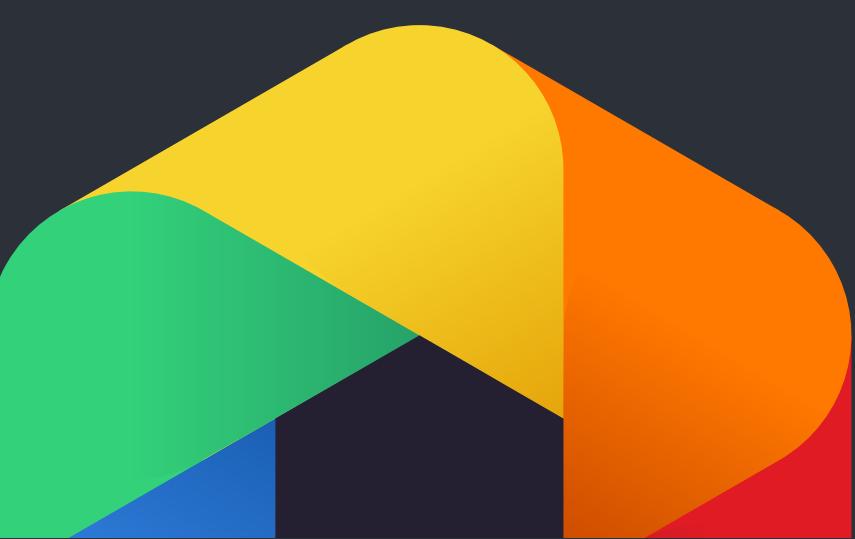


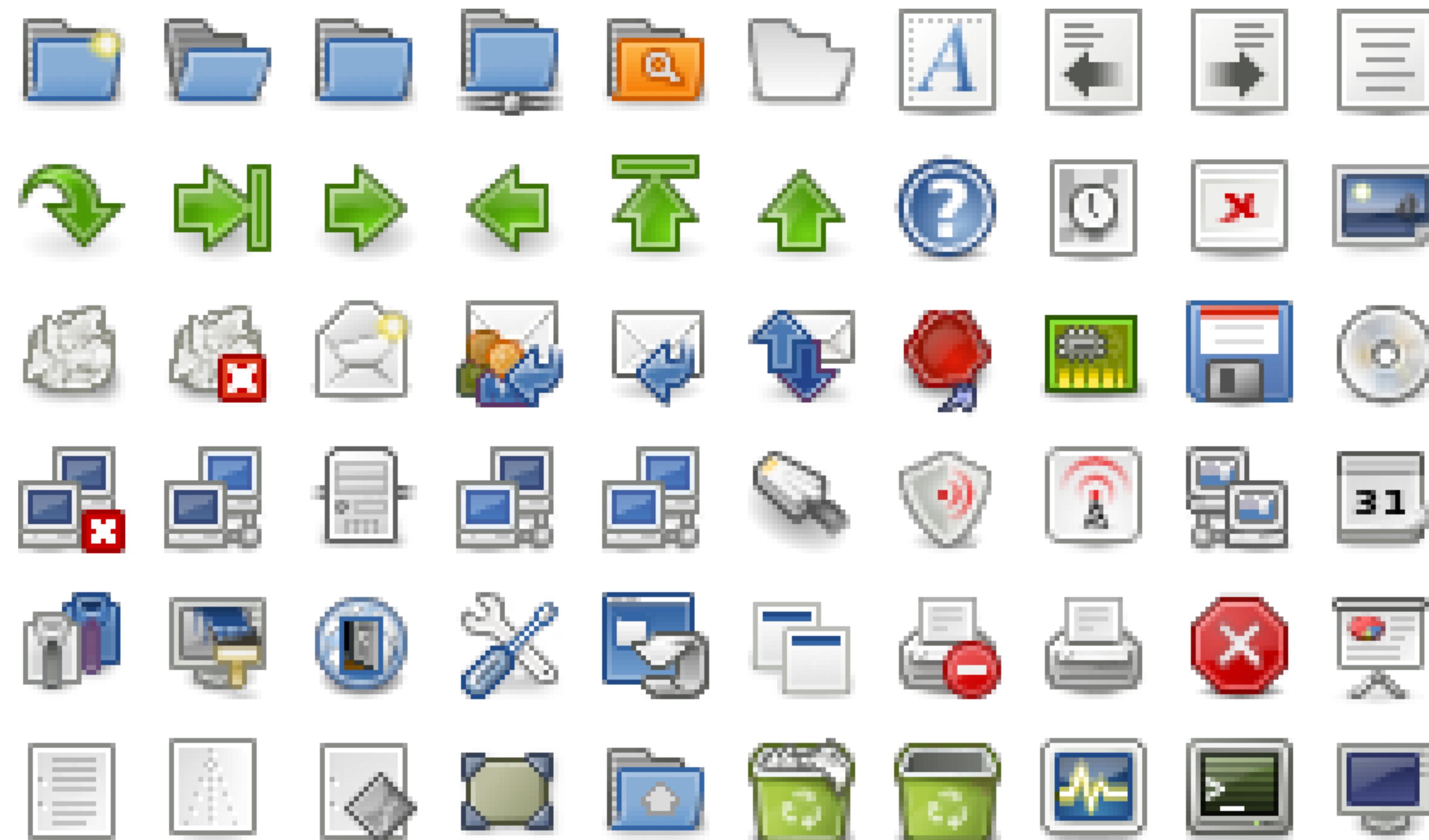


Icons at GNOME: **A Brave New World**

Tobias Bernard



tango!



Tango

semantic icon names

many icon sizes

pixel hinting + 1px strokes

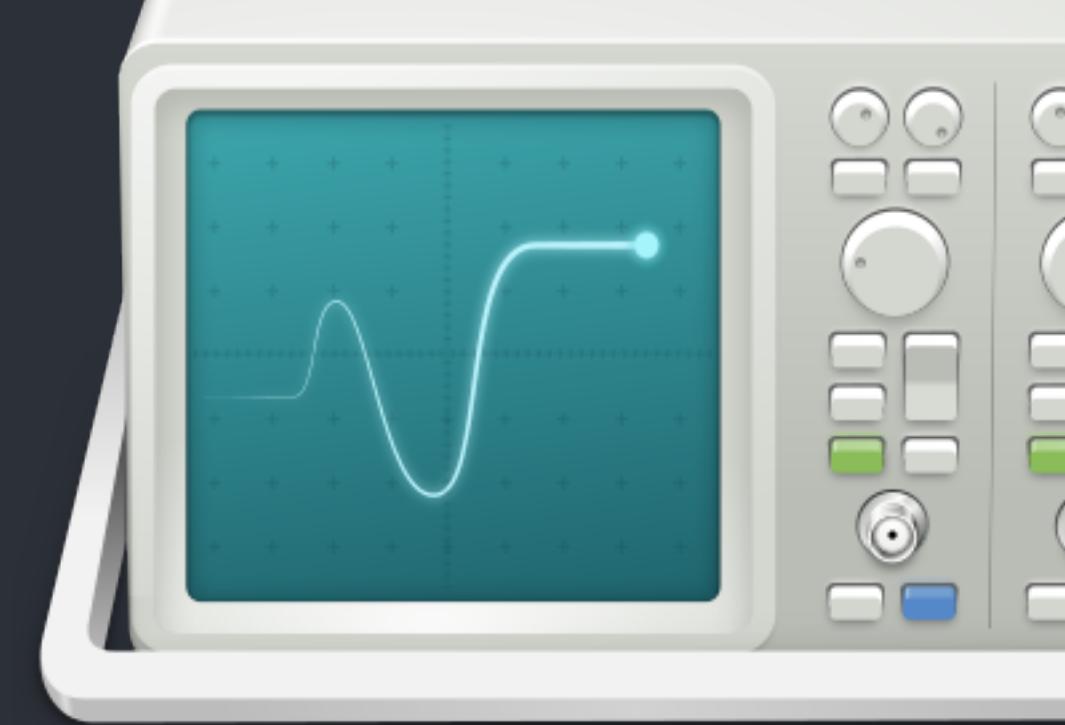
detailed 3D objects



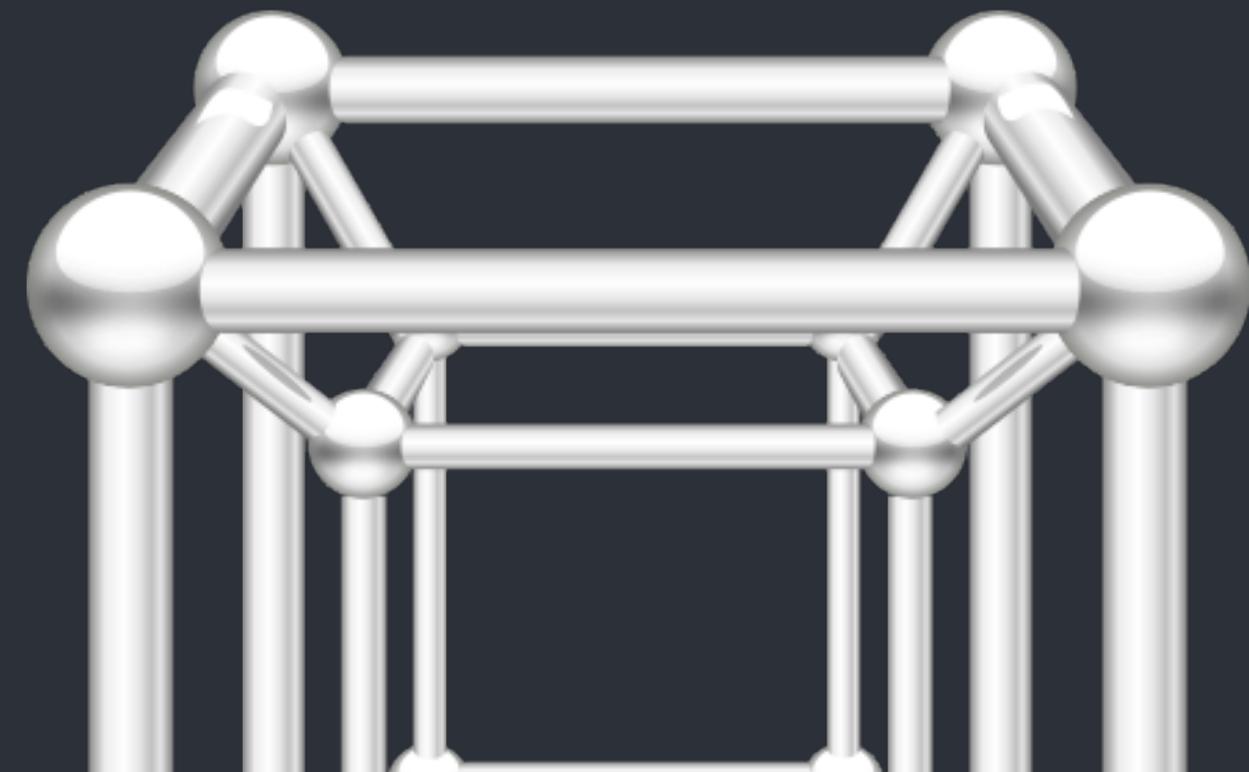
App Icons



UI Icons



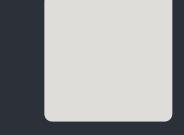
App icons



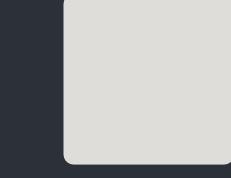




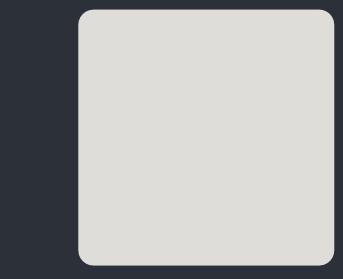
16



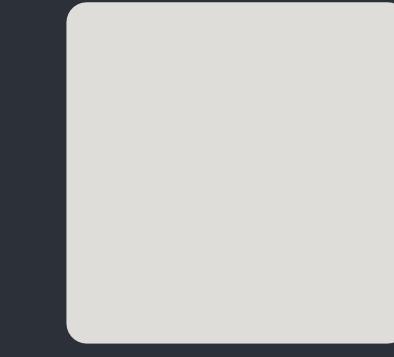
24



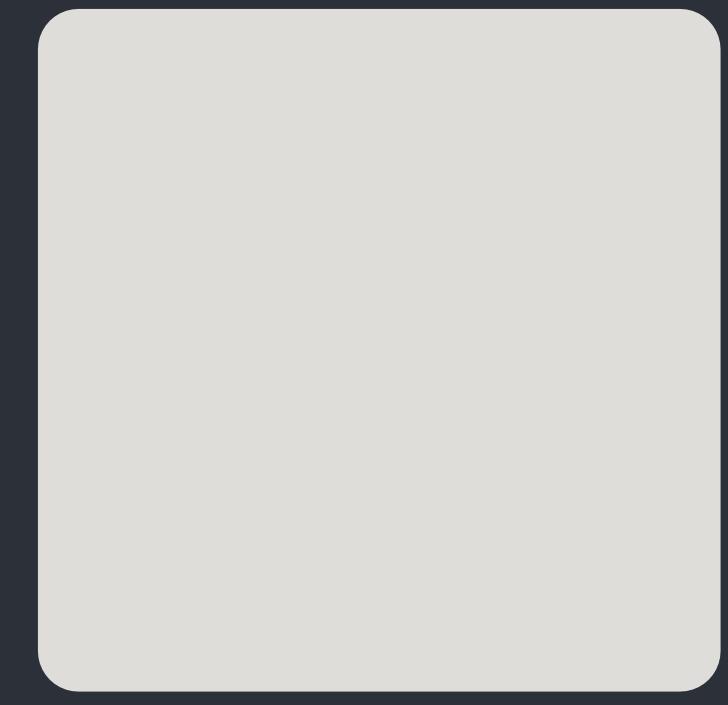
32



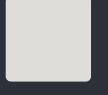
48



64



128



symbolic

Problems

sizes aren't being used
very few people can draw them
time consuming
hard to update the style

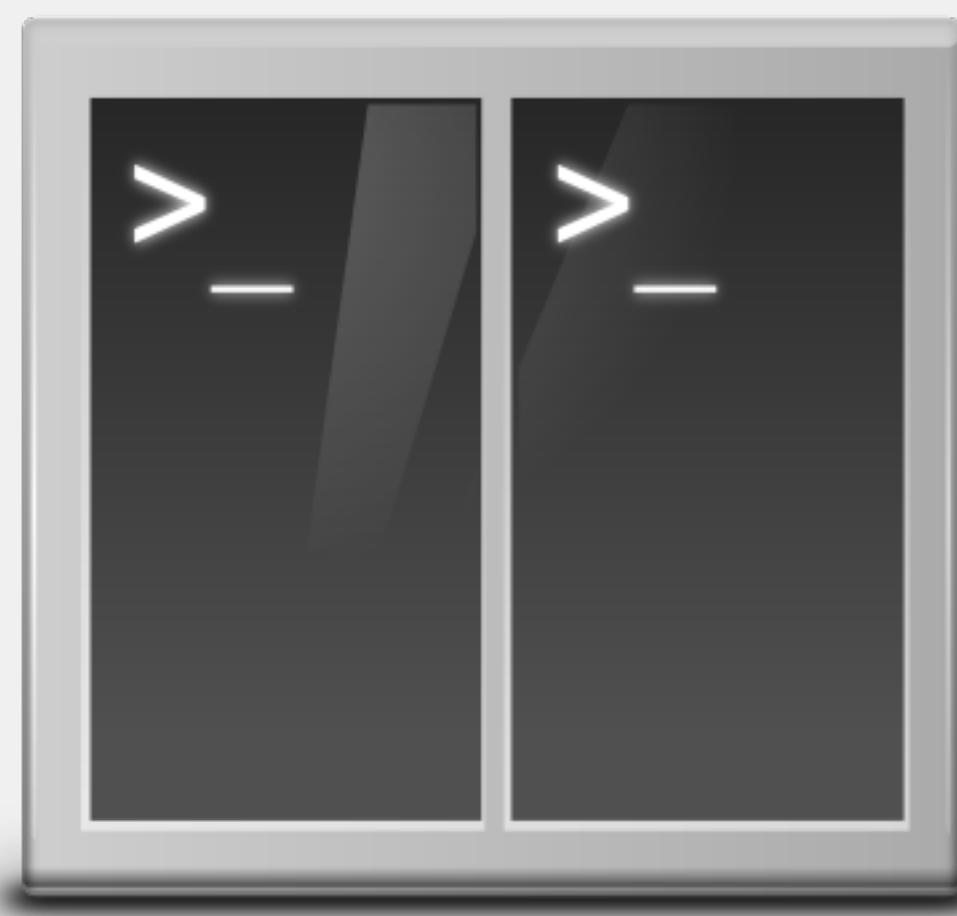
Problems

bad third party app icons

too different from other platforms

cross-platform apps stick out

HiDPI is happening



Liberec

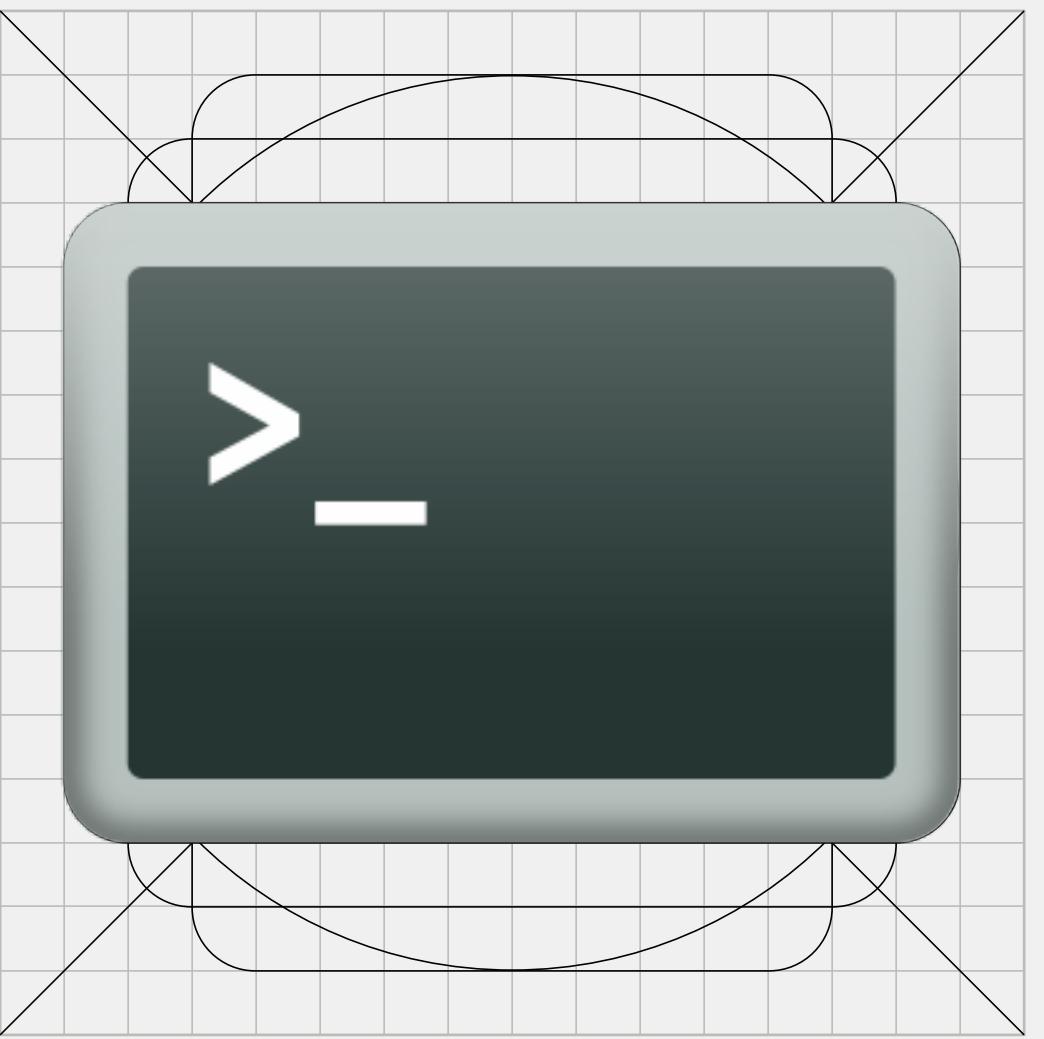
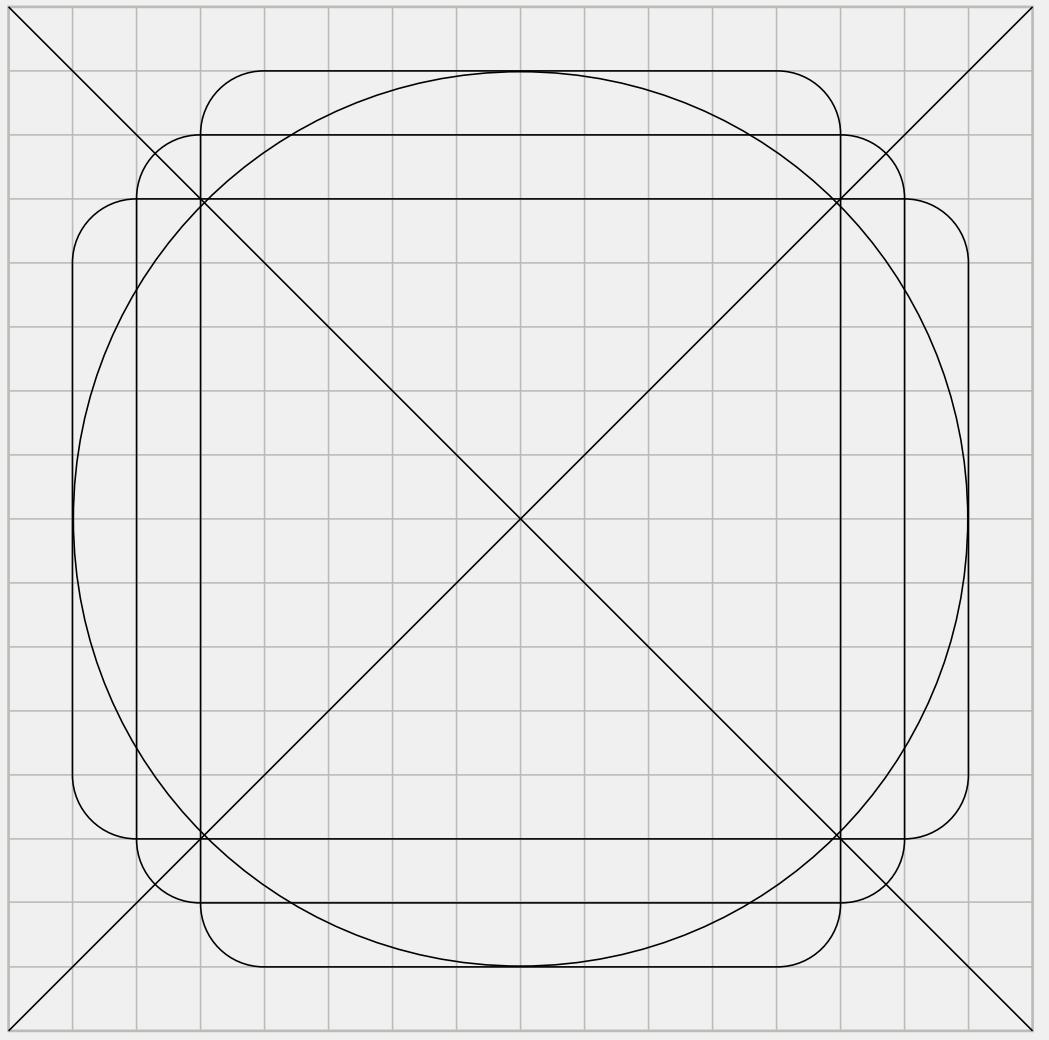
April 2018



What If?

- only one size
- generated nightly
- no baked-in shadow
- SVG only

- more colors
- simpler, but not “flat”
- no 1px strokes
- icon grid



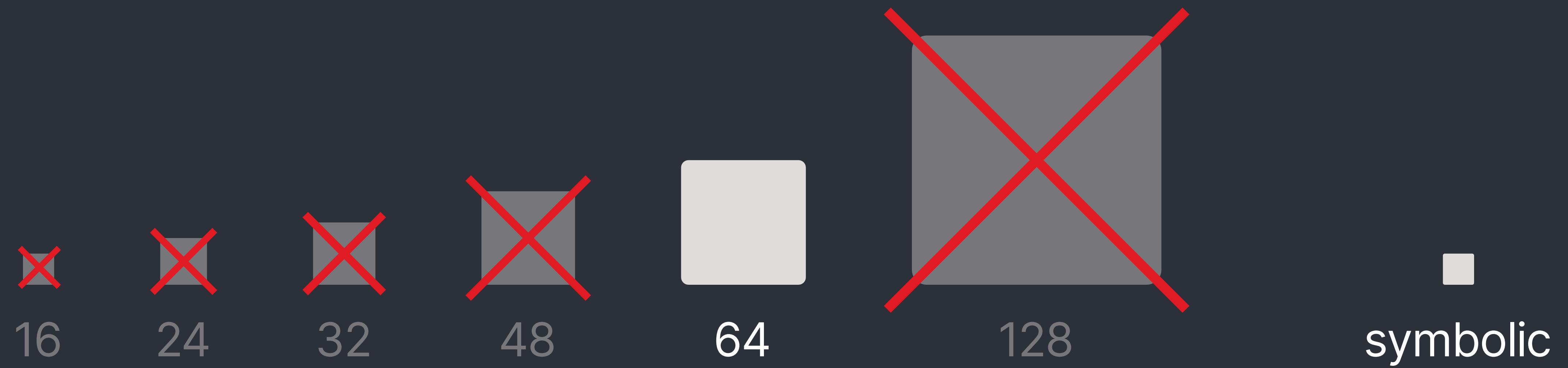
App Icon System

icon grid

base shapes

color palette

new tooling



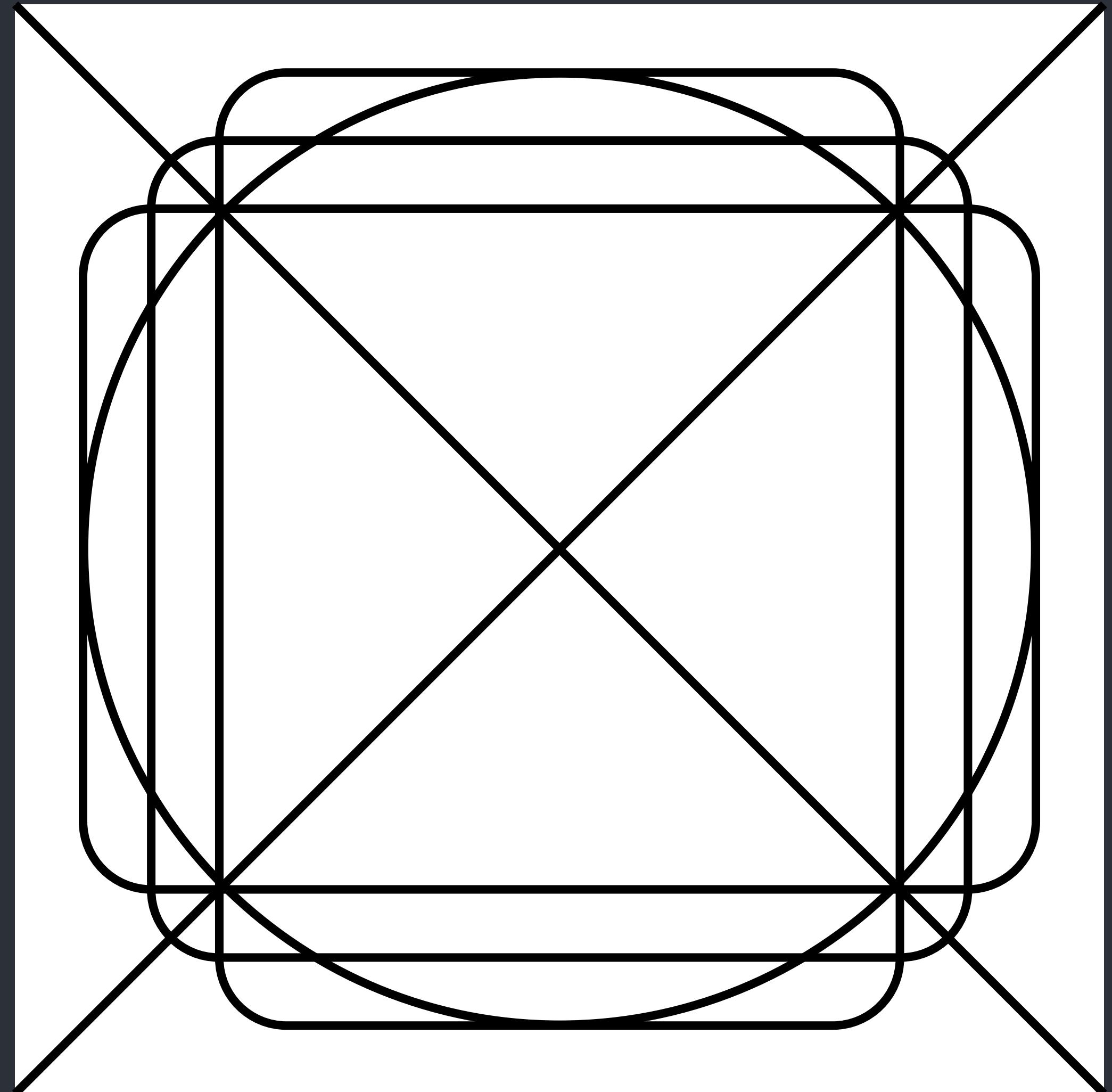
Hinting

optimize for 64px

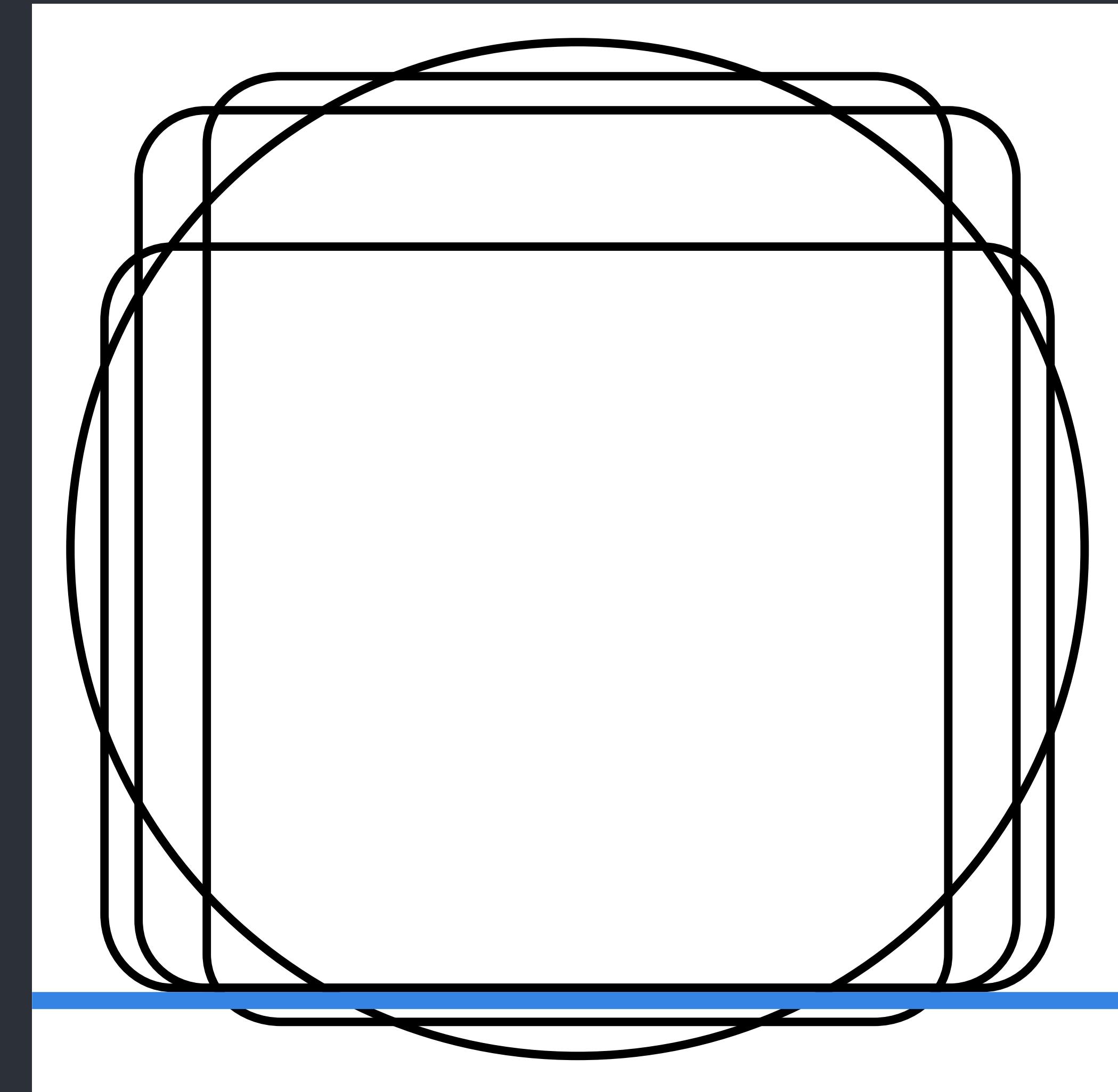
hint for 32px where possible

no 1px strokes

use symbolic at <32px

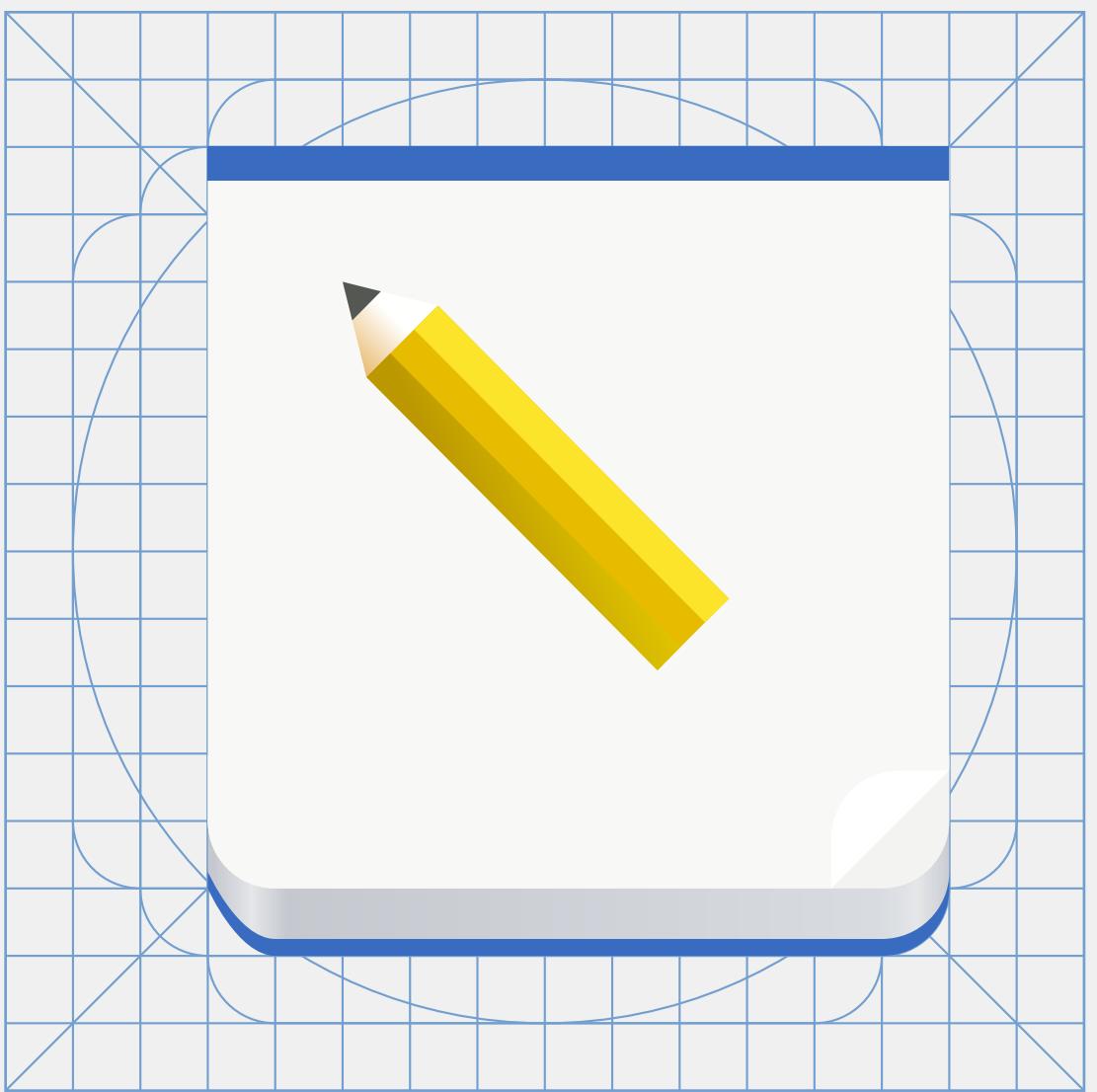
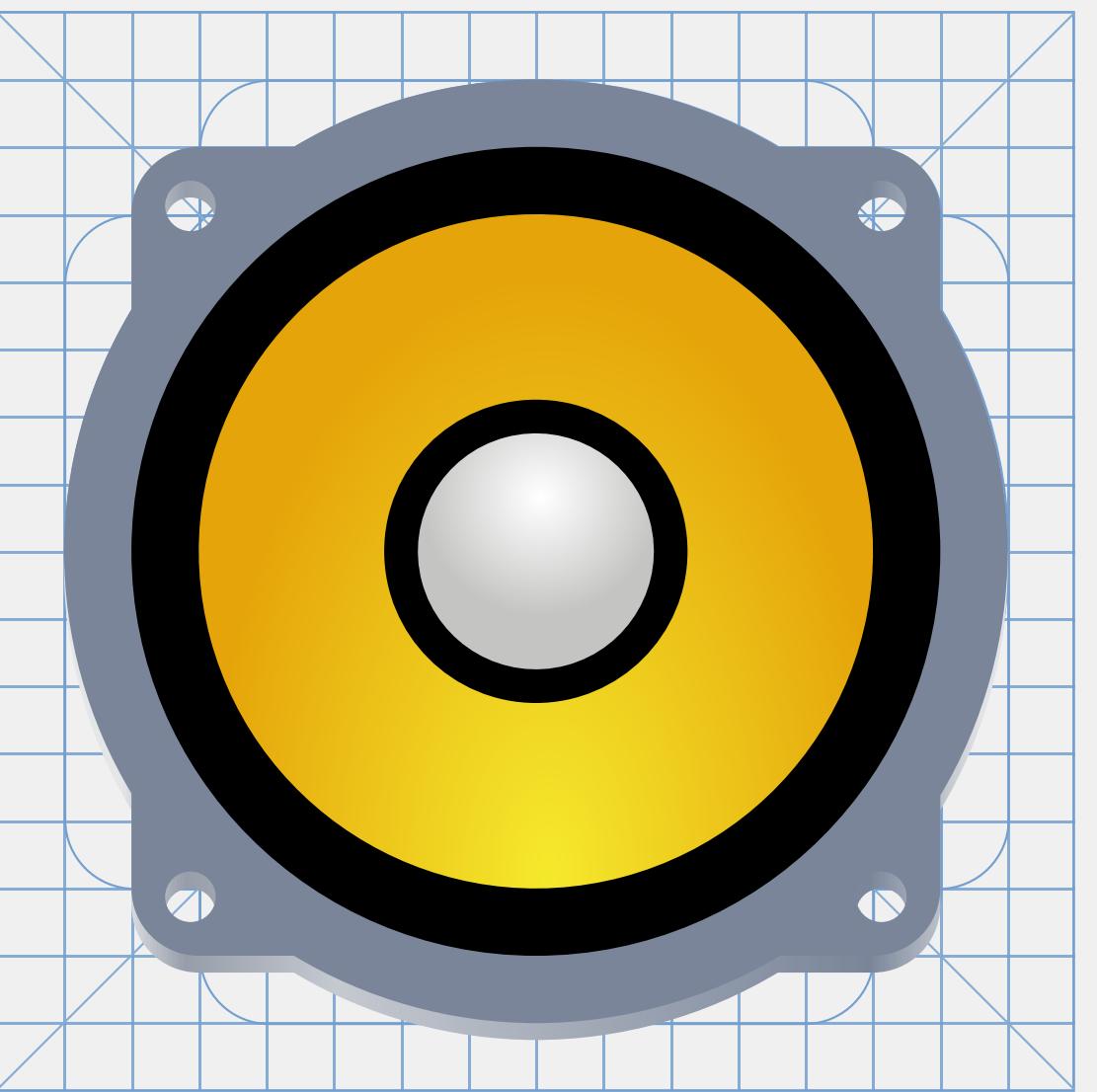
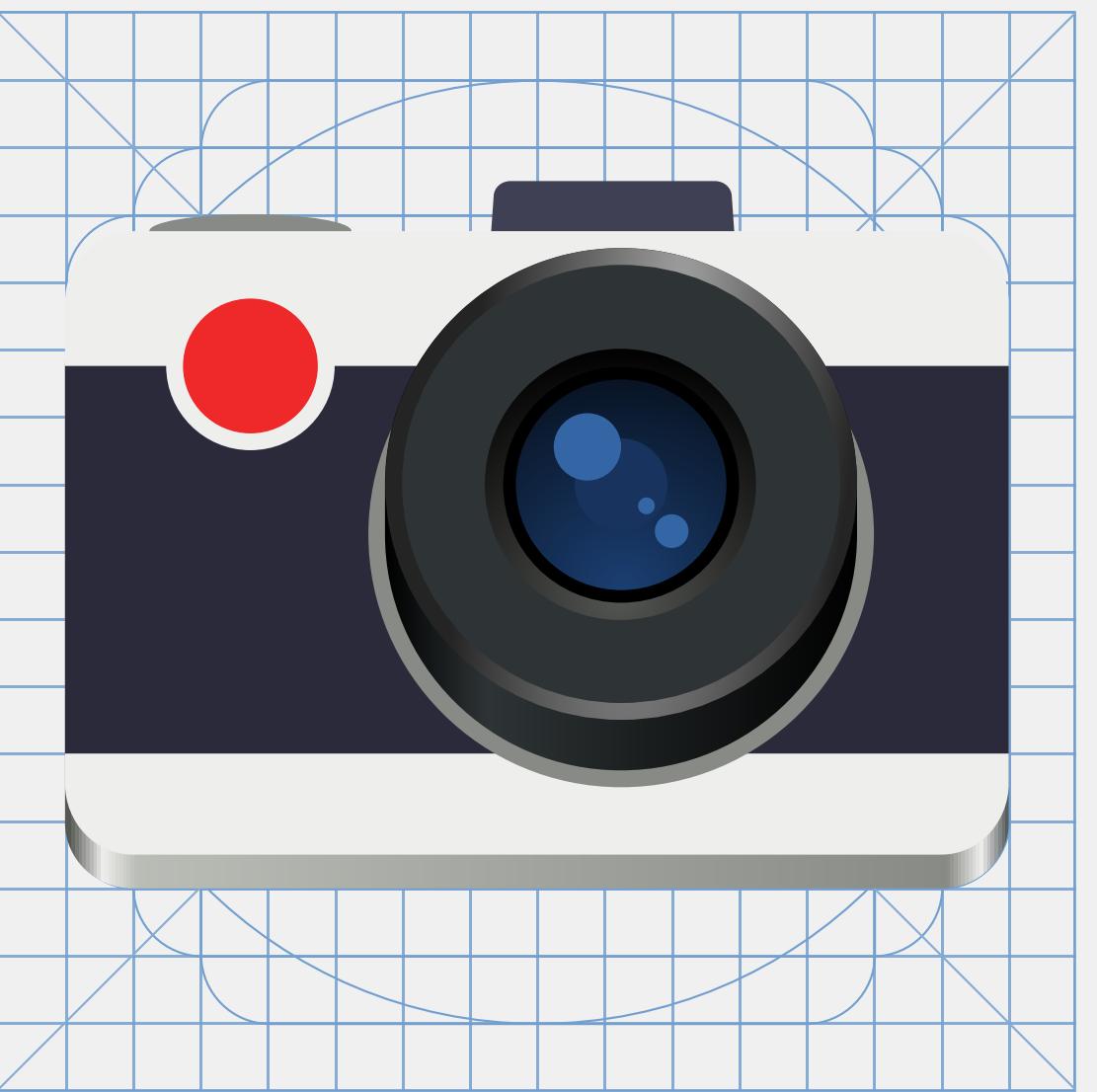
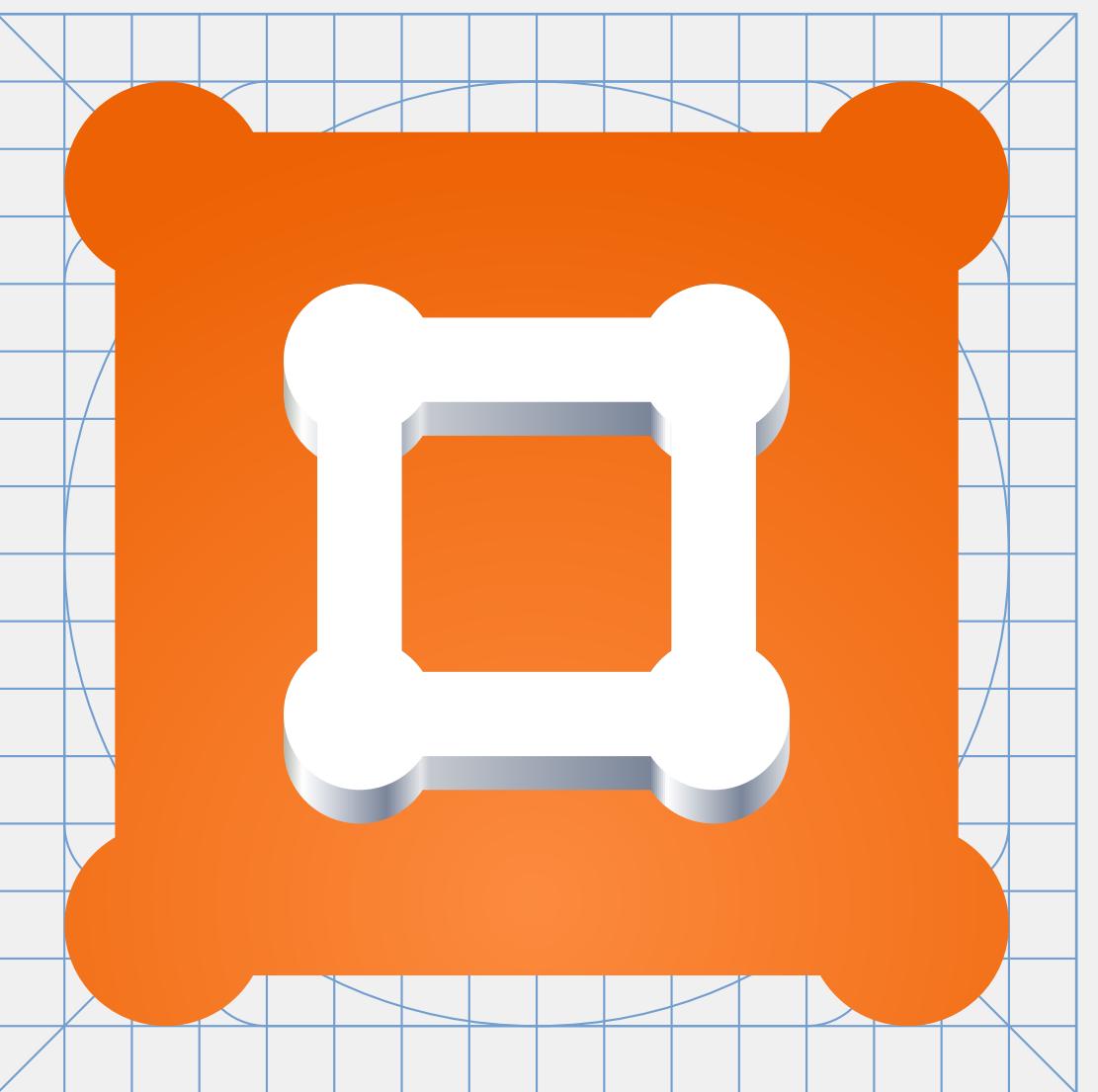
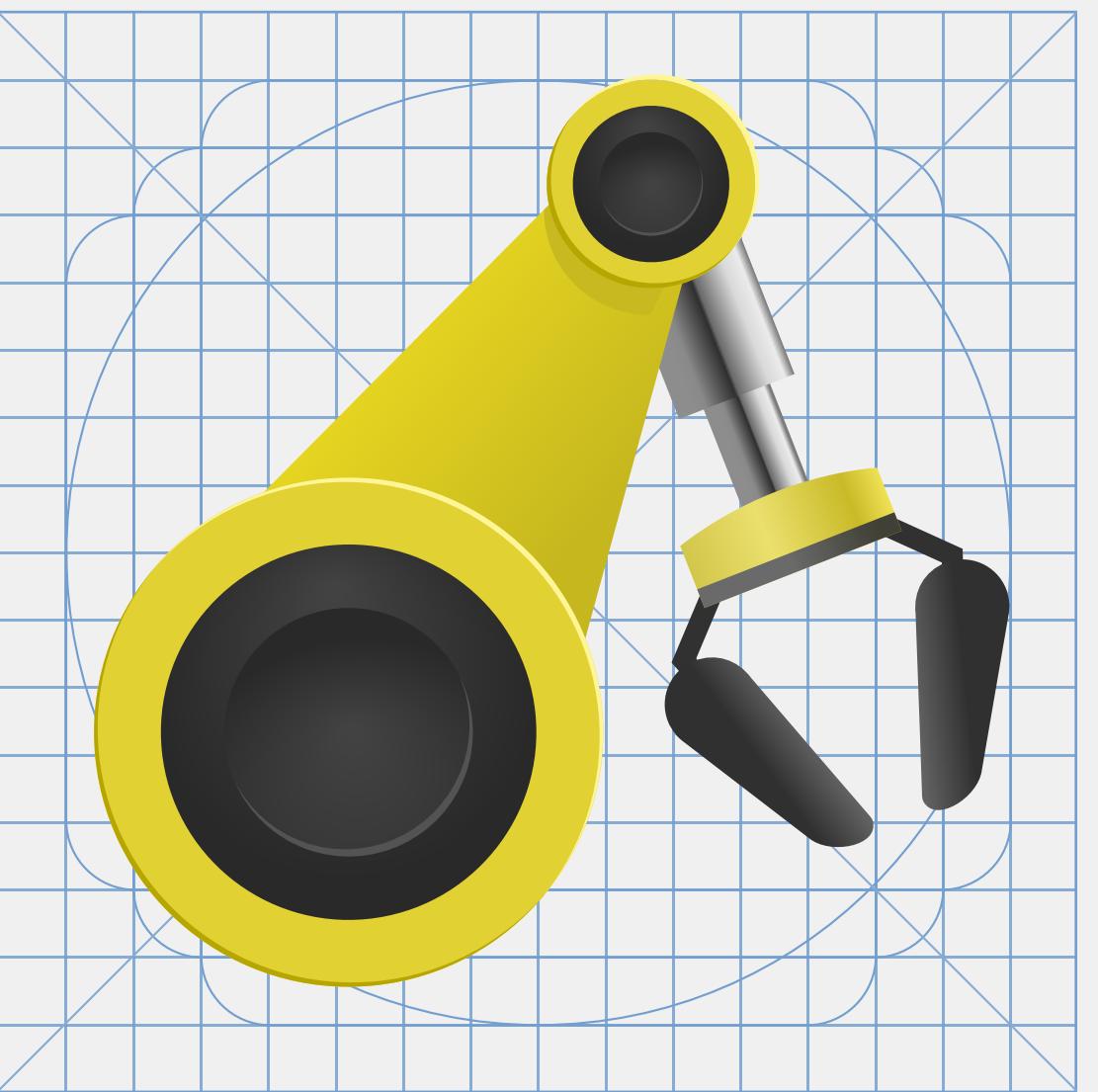


first iteration



final grid





Perspective

Top



Front



Side

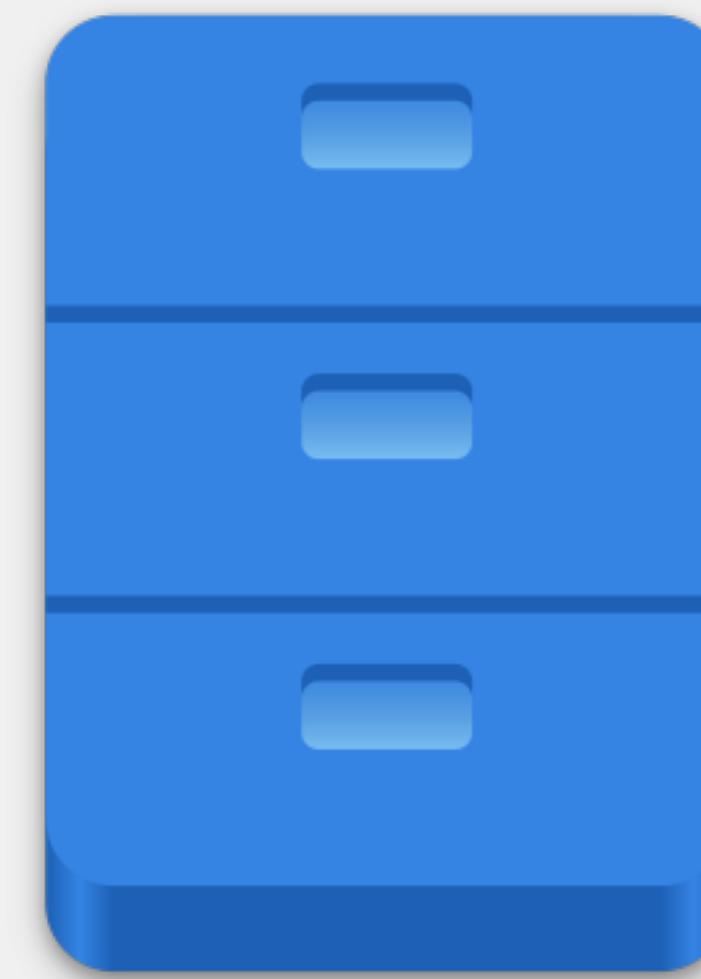
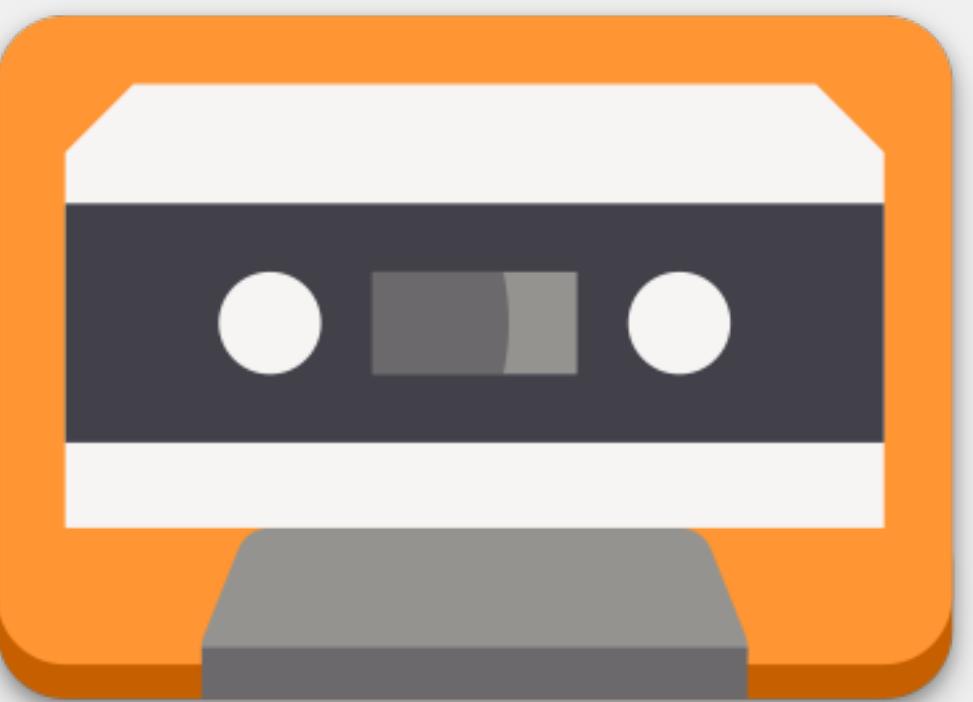
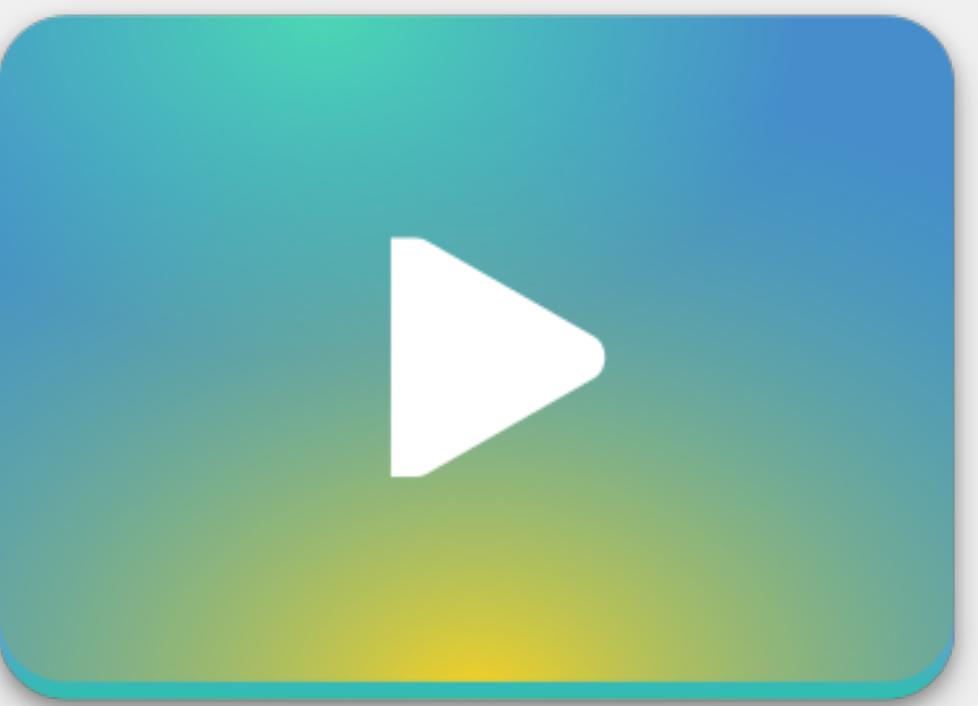


Perspective



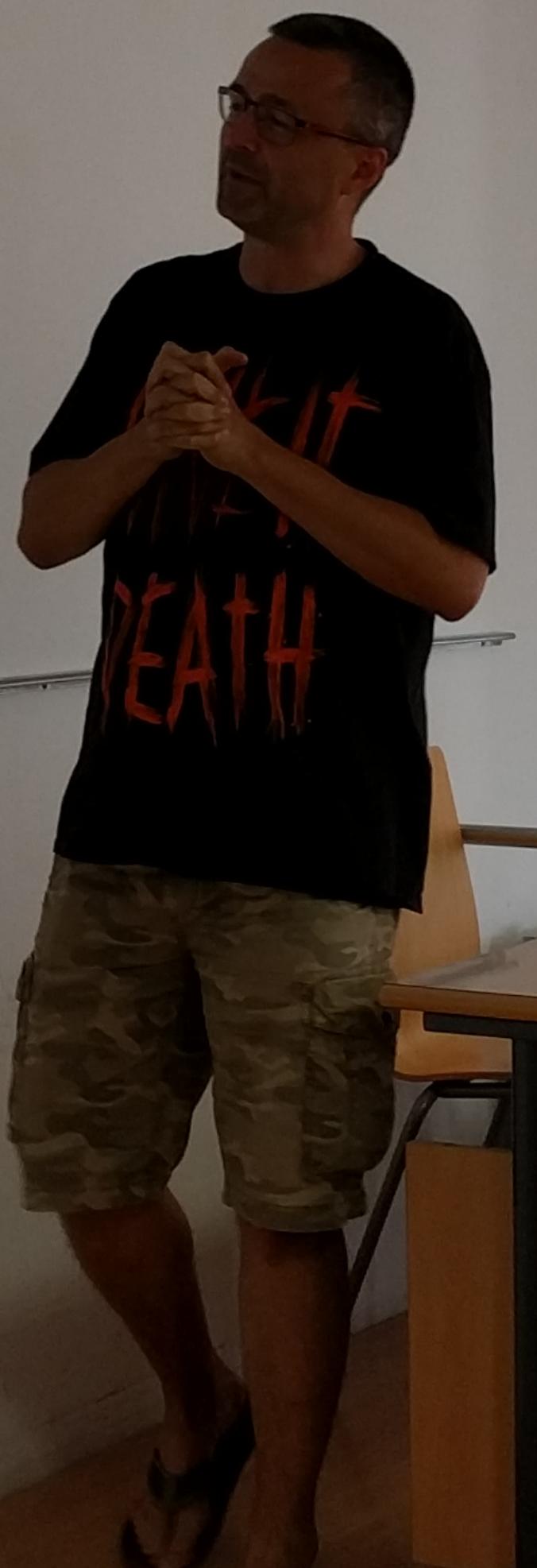
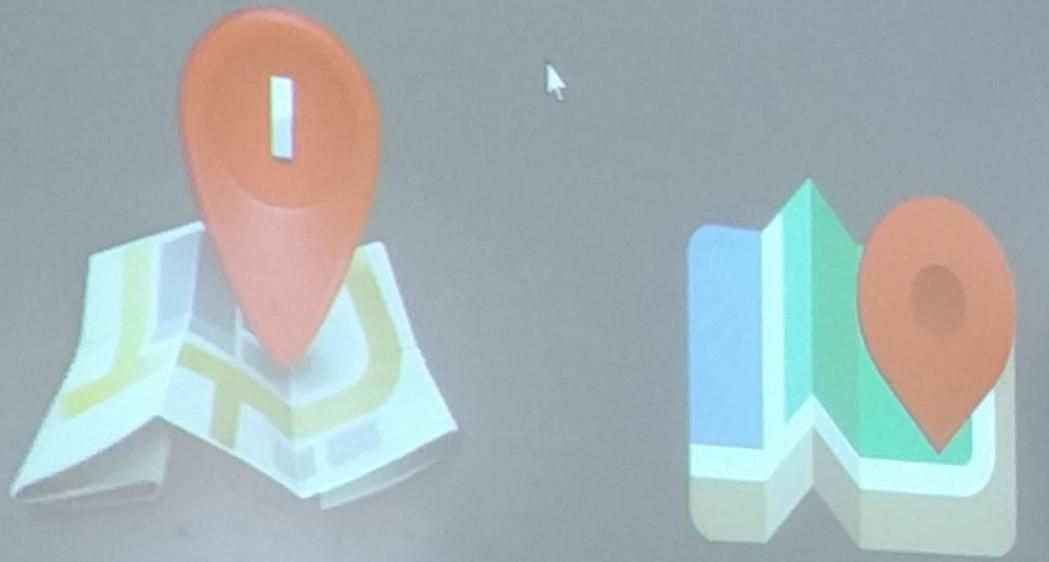
Nightly Apps



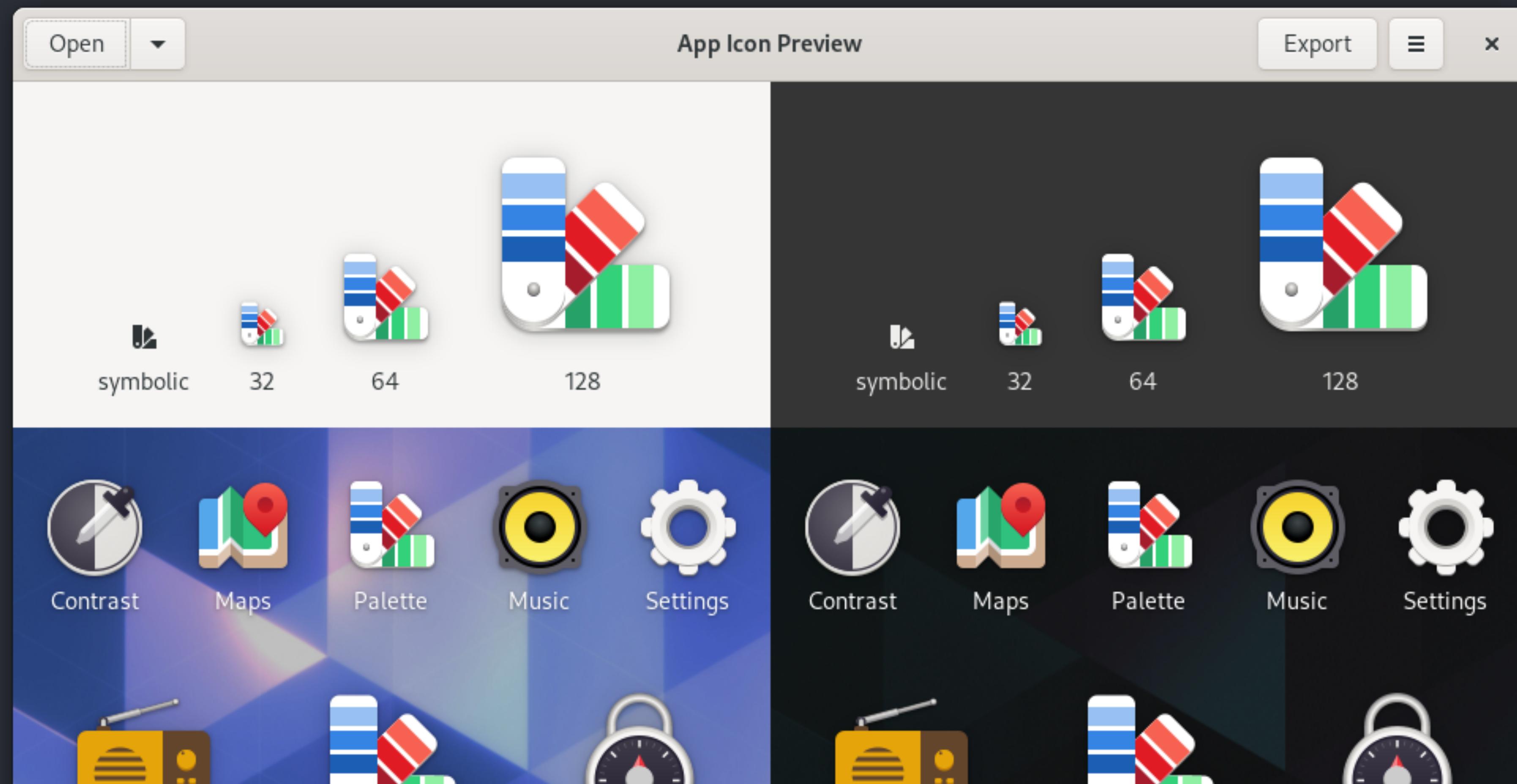


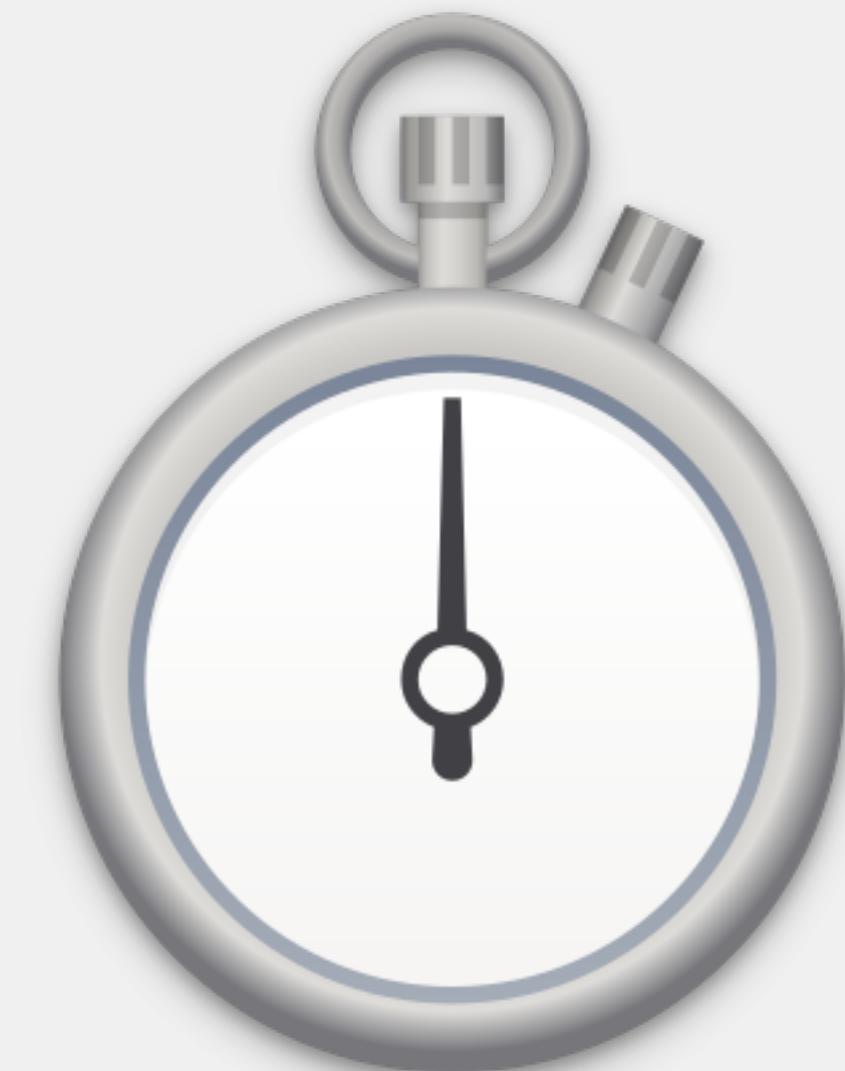
Almería

July 2018



App Icon Preview



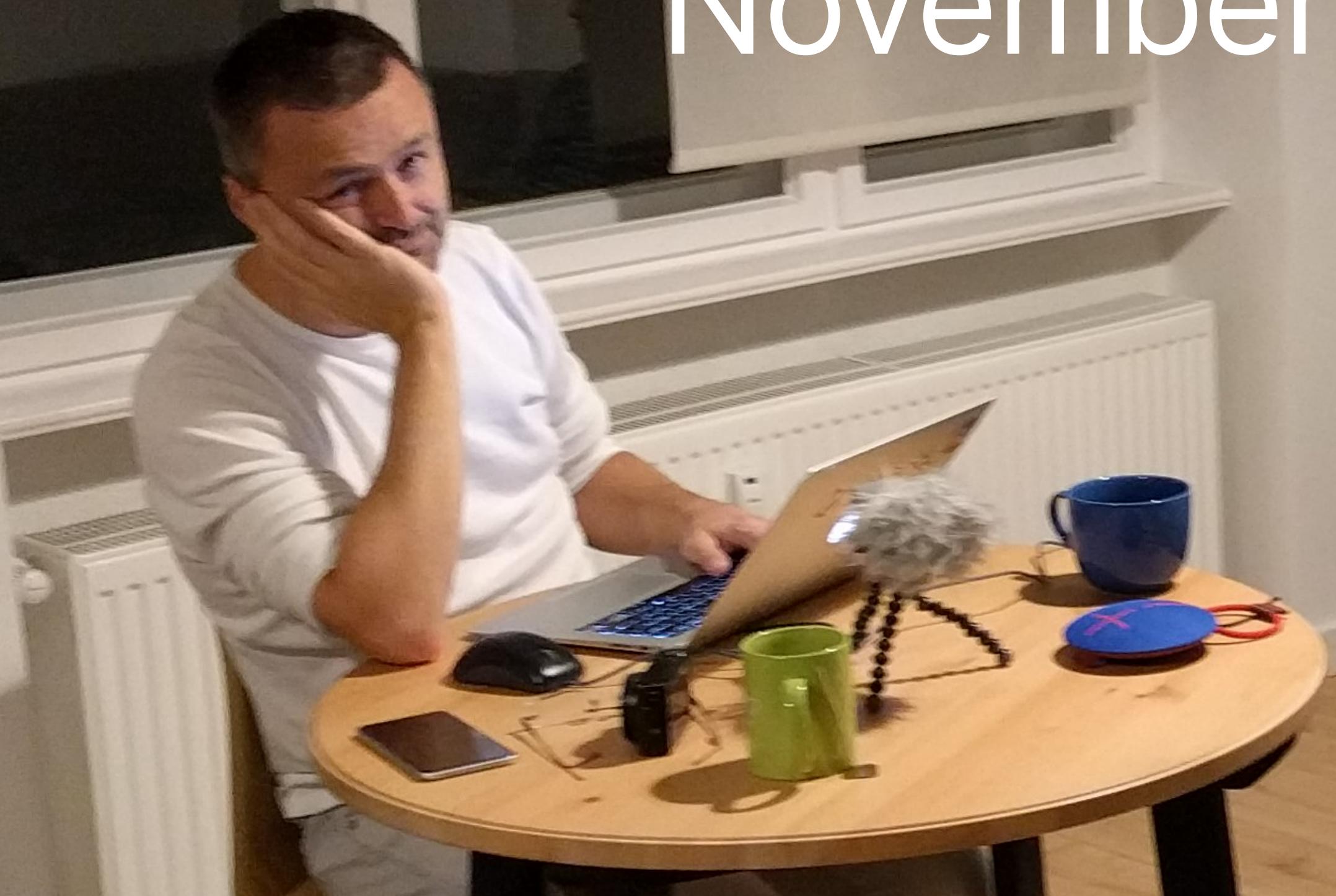


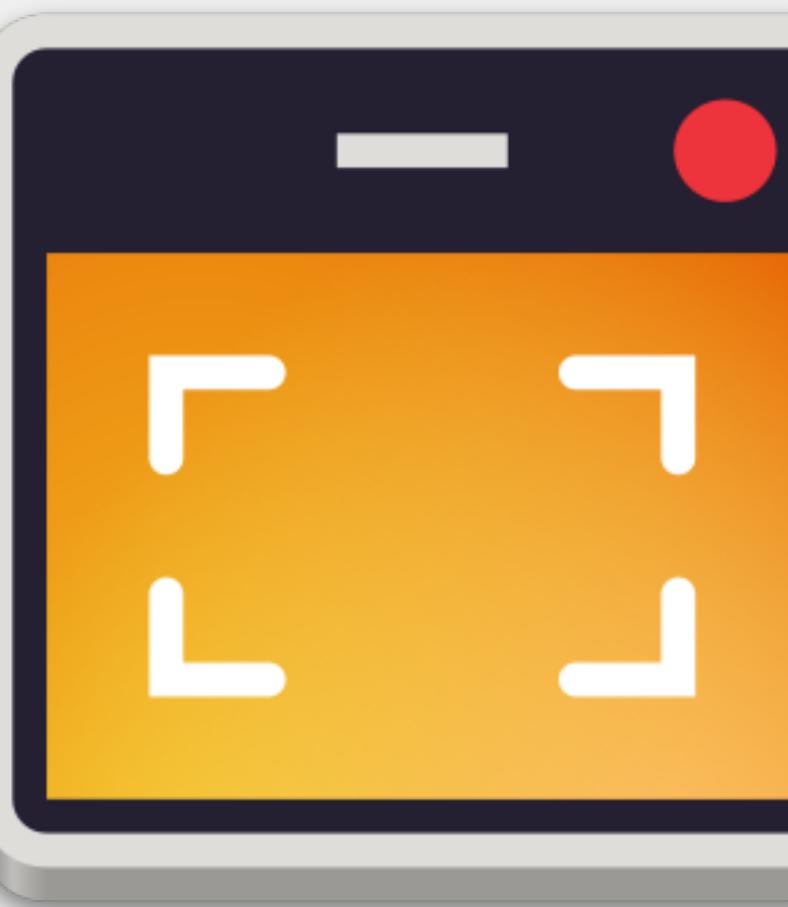
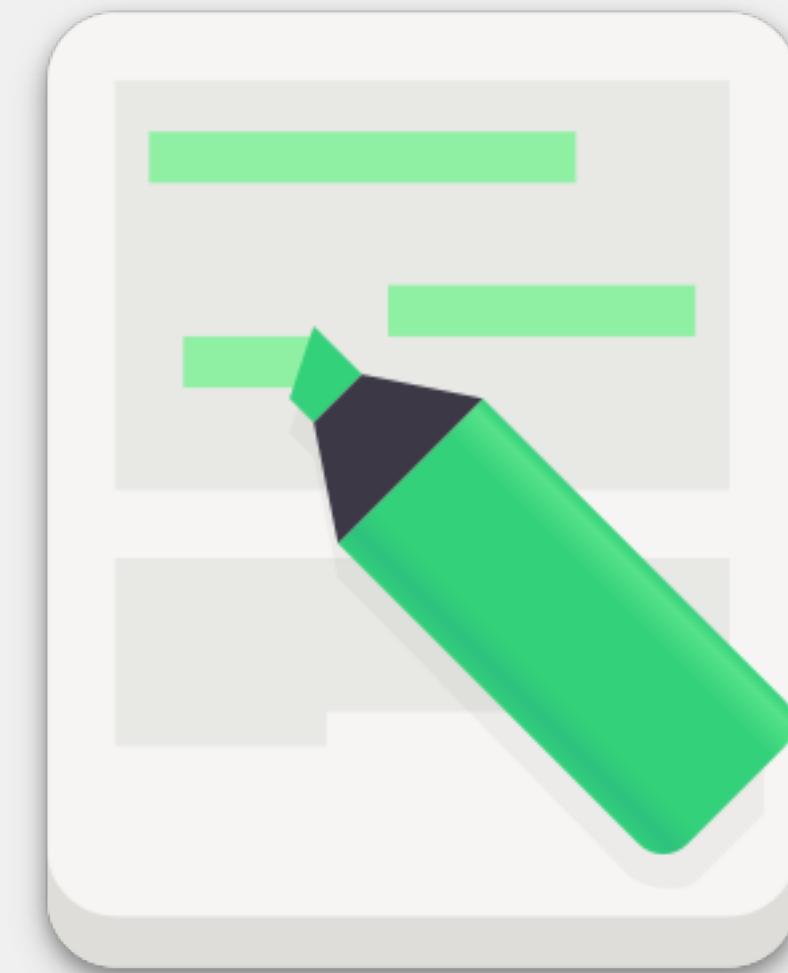
3.32

3.32

Berlin

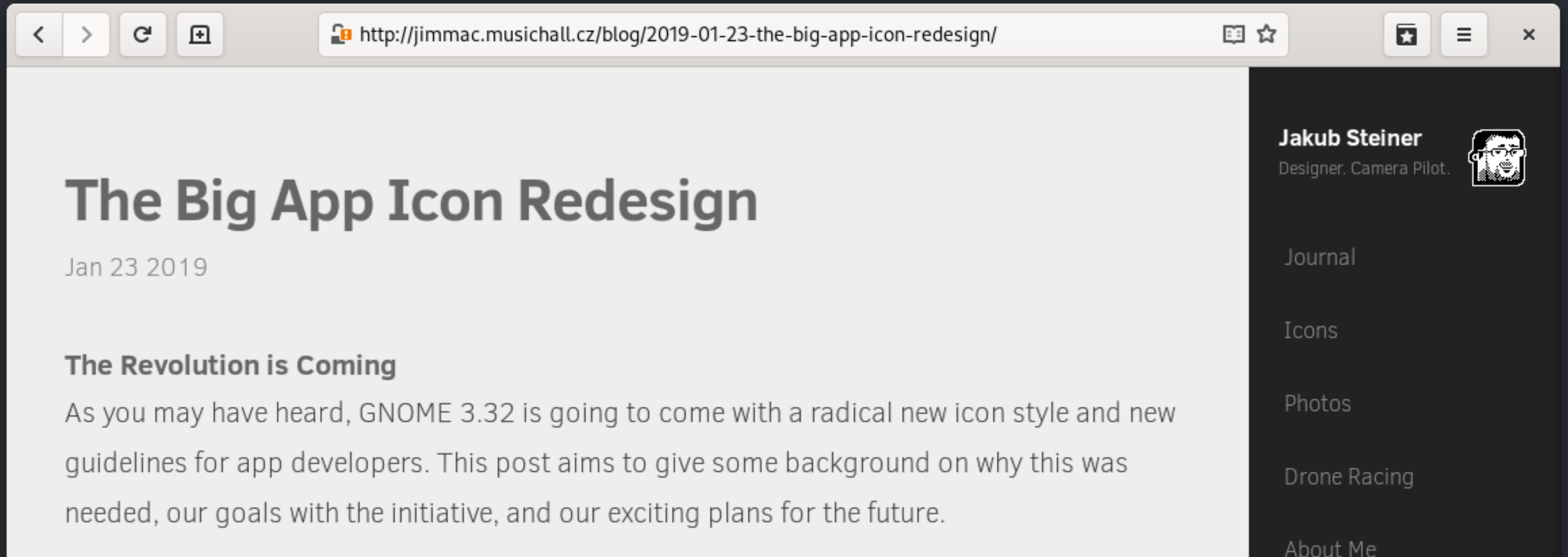
November 2018





Announcement

January 2019



The screenshot shows a web browser window with the following details:

- Address Bar:** http://jimmac.musicall.cz/blog/2019-01-23-the-big-app-icon-redesign/
- Toolbar:** Standard browser controls for back, forward, refresh, and search.
- Content Area:**
 - Title:** The Big App Icon Redesign
 - Date:** Jan 23 2019
 - Text:** **The Revolution is Coming**

As you may have heard, GNOME 3.32 is going to come with a radical new icon style and new guidelines for app developers. This post aims to give some background on why this was needed, our goals with the initiative, and our exciting plans for the future.
- Right Sidebar:** Features a profile for Jakub Steiner, including a small photo, and links to his posts:
 - Jakub Steiner (Designer, Camera Pilot.)
 - Journal
 - Icons
 - Photos
 - Drone Racing
 - About Me

Berlin

March 2019



3.32

March 2019

Type to search...

Boxes



Calendar



Cheese



Clocks



Contacts



Files



Firefox



LibreOffice Calc



LibreOffice Draw



LibreOffice Imp...



LibreOffice Wri...



Maps



Photos



Rhythmbox



Settings



Simple Scan



Software



Text Editor



Utilities



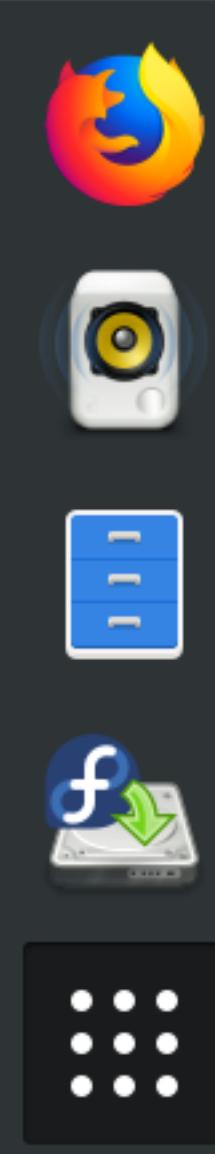
Videos



Weather

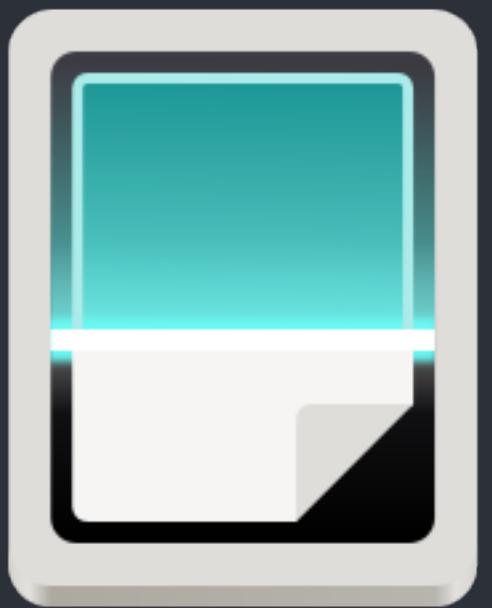
Frequent

All

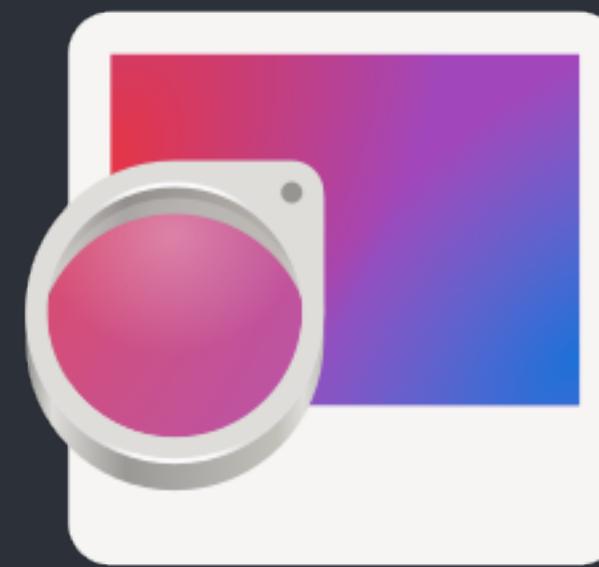




Iteration



3.32

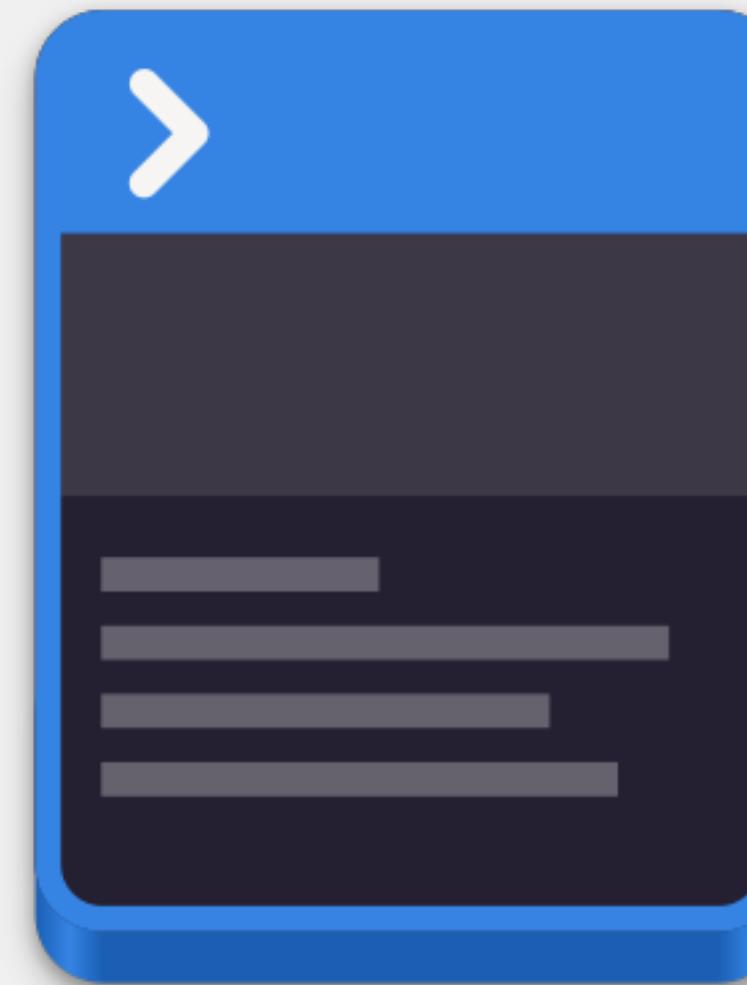
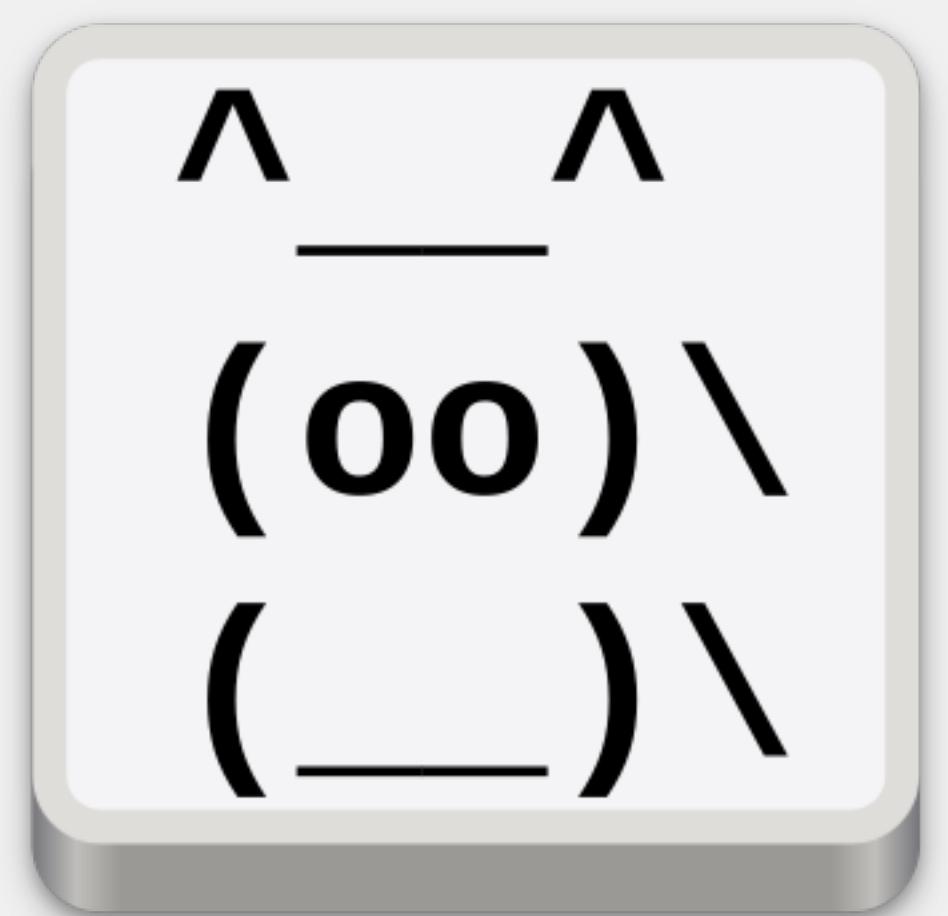
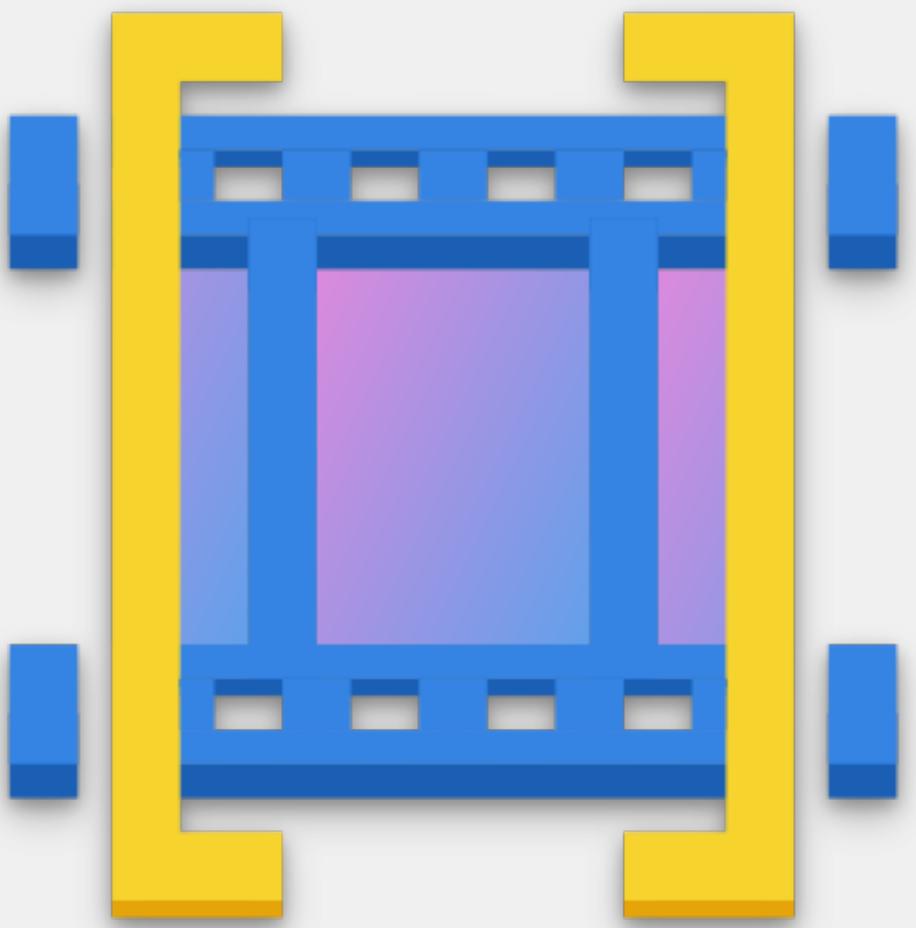


3.34

3.34

3.36

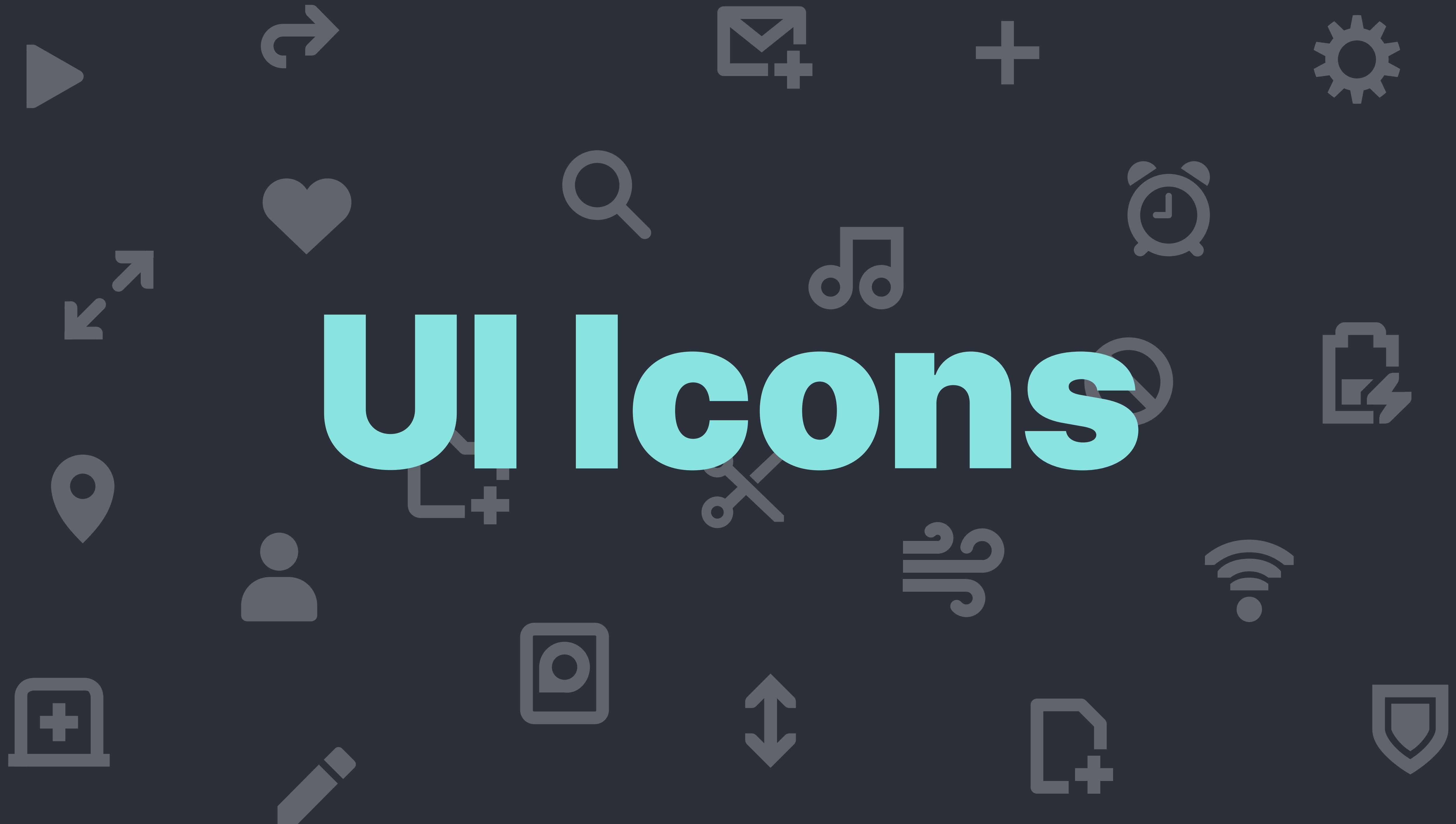




App Icon Preview

demo

UI icons



≡ text-justify-fill

🔍 system-search

> go-next

+ list-add

Problems

non-semantic use in apps

icon metaphors change

ever-growing core set

custom icons are hard

Goals

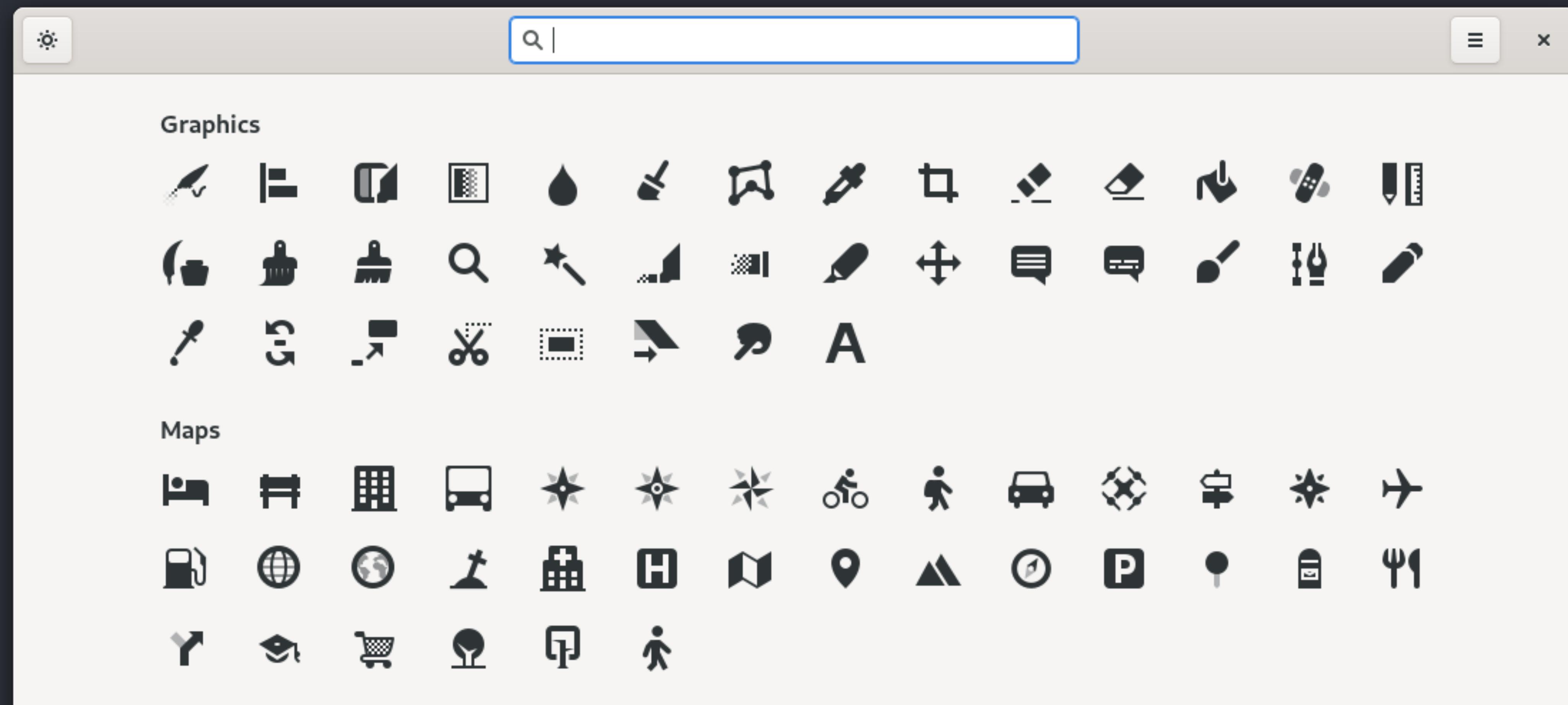
minimal core set in GTK

make custom icons easier

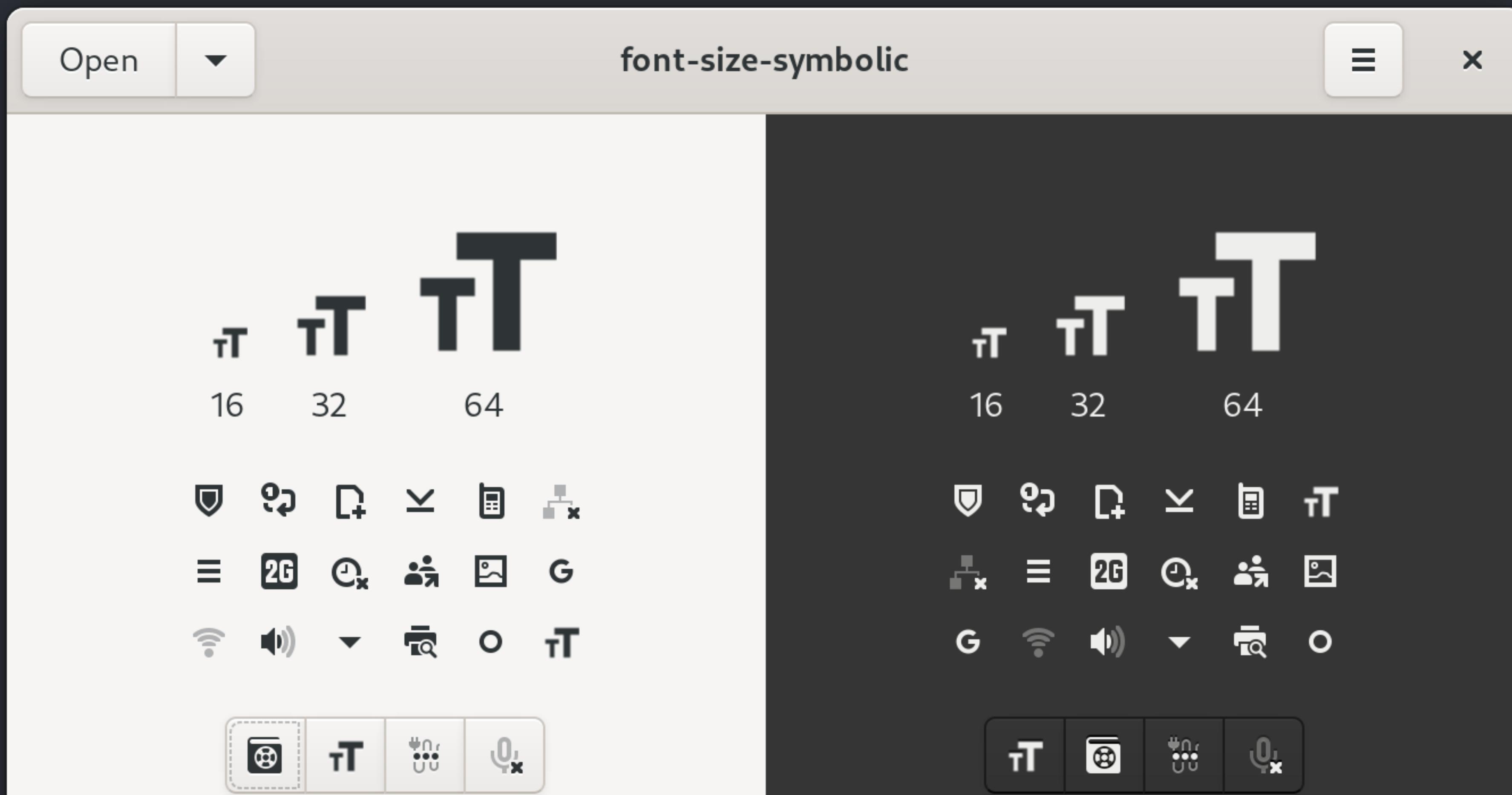
library of non-semantic icons

apps ship their own icons

Icon Library



Symbolic Preview



Icon Library

demo

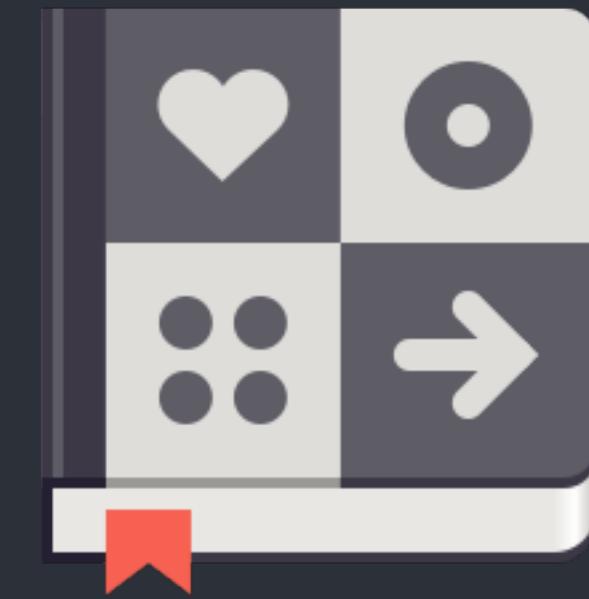
Getting Started

Icon Design Guidelines

developer.gnome.org/hig/stable/icon-design

App Icon Design Tutorial

blogs.gnome.org/tbernard/2019/12/30/designing-an-icon-for-your-app



Icon Library



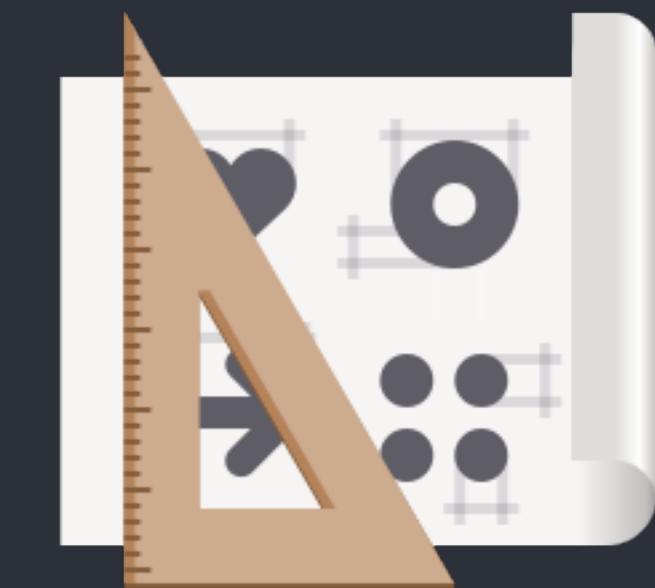
App Icon Preview



Palette



Contrast



Symbolic Preview

What's Next?

App Icon Preview goes Rust
workflow improvements
better plumbing for symbolics
Symbolic Preview export

Summary

Old Ideas

icons are centrally managed

pixel hinting at all costs

use icons at lots of sizes

3rd party apps not a focus

New Ideas

apps own their icons

pixel hinting when possible

be smart about sizes

optimize for 3rd party apps

Developers

Developers

Developers

Developers

Developers

Thanks

Icon Designers

Jakub Steiner

Lapo Calamandrei

Sam Hewitt

Design Tooling Group

Zander Brown

Bilal Elmoussaoui

Julian Sparber

Thanks!

tbernard@gnome.org

tbernard@mastodon.social

Slides: github.com/bertob/lgm2020-slides