

I had need to present a wall-of-text to show off a giant list of SSL certificate alternate names and needed the entire list to fit on one slide (not really for reading in full, but to show just how many there were in a way that a simple count would not really convey).

Keynote, PowerPoint, and gslides all let you make tables or draw boxes but I really didn't want to waste time fiddling as much as I'd need to with those tools just for this one slide.

Thankfully, I remembered that HTML5

elements can be styled with a `column-count` attribute and we can use `{htmltools}` to make quick work of this task.

To show it off, first we'll need some words, so let's make some using `stringi::stri_rand_lipsum()`:

```
library(stringi)
library(htmltools)
library(tidyverse)

set.seed(201912)

stri_rand_lipsum(5) %>%
  stri_paste(collapse = " ") %>%
  stri_split_boundaries() %>%
  flatten_chr() %>%
  stri_trim_both() -> words

head(words)
## [1] "Lorem" "ipsum" "dolor" "sit" "amet," "sapien"

length(words)
## [1] 514
```

Now, we'll make a function — `columnize()` — that we can reuse in the future and have it take in a character vector, the column count we want and some CSS styling, then use some `{htmltools}` tag functions to make quick work of this task:

```
columnize <- function(words, ncol = 5,
                      style = "p { font-family:'Roboto Condensed';font-size:12pt;line-height:12.5pt;padding:0;margin:0}") {

  tagList(
    tags$style(style[1]),
    tags$div(
      words %>%
        map(tags$p) %>%
          tagList(),
      style = sprintf("column-count:%d", as.integer(ncol[1]))
    )
  )
}
```

In this function we turn the `style` param into a

Alabama	California	Florida
Alaska	Colorado	Georgia
Arizona	Connecticut	Hawaii
Arkansas	Delaware	Idaho

Illinois	Montana	Rhode Island
Indiana	Nebraska	South Carolina
Iowa	Nevada	South Dakota
Kansas	New Hampshire	Tennessee
Kentucky	New Jersey	Texas
Louisiana	New Mexico	Utah
Maine	New York	Vermont
Maryland	North Carolina	Virginia
Massachusetts	North Dakota	Washington
Michigan	Ohio	West Virginia
Minnesota	Oklahoma	Wisconsin
Mississippi	Oregon	Wyoming
Missouri	Pennsylvania	
