

# Minimal SVG Favicon

June 15th, 2024. Tagged: [images](#), [performance](#)

## Why minimal?

I like "minimum-viable"s of all sorts. As a performance enthusiast I'm fascinated by anything minimal. So here goes a minimum viable SVG favicon.

## Why favicon?

Welp, browsers will look for one and if you don't have it, enjoy the 404s!

## Why SVG?

It could be tiny, almost as tiny as a CDN URL, it's scalable and it's all inline.

## Why all the "why"s, just show me?!

Ok, the first one is:

```
<link  
  rel="icon"  
  href="data:image/svg+xml,<svg xmlns='http://www.w3.org/2000/svg' />"  
>
```

It's based on prior research into [Minimum viable no-image image src](#) and also the research into [encoding of SVGs in data URIs](#). Long story short: you don't need to encode anything except #. So careful if you're adding hex colors to the SVGs.

Having an icon that's *nothing* is kinda trippy and worth checking out. Now let's go for *something*.

Next example. You like rectangles? fill-ed with salmon?

```
<link  
  rel="icon"  
  href="data:image/svg+xml,<svg xmlns='http://www.w3.org/2000/svg'><rect width='50' height='50' fill='salmon' /></svg>"  
>
```

As you can see we're keeping the SVGs readable and free of obfuscating encoding by using ' instead of ".

Next, who likes circles?

```
<link  
  rel="icon"  
  href="data:image/svg+xml,<svg xmlns='http://www.w3.org/2000/svg' viewBox='0 0 2 2'><circle cx='1' cy='1' r='1' fill='tomato' /></svg>"  
>
```

A triangle?

```
<link  
  rel="icon"  
  href="data:image/svg+xml,<svg xmlns='http://www.w3.org/2000/svg' viewBox='0 0 2 2'><polygon points='0,2 1,0 2,2' fill='salmon' /></svg>"  
>
```

Alrighty, you get the idea. This is where I leave you to your SVGizing of your favicons!

Note: this SVG icon post is inspired by an example by [Barry.Pollard](#) who hates missing favicons, that's why my favicon is his profile photo, flipped, because why not.

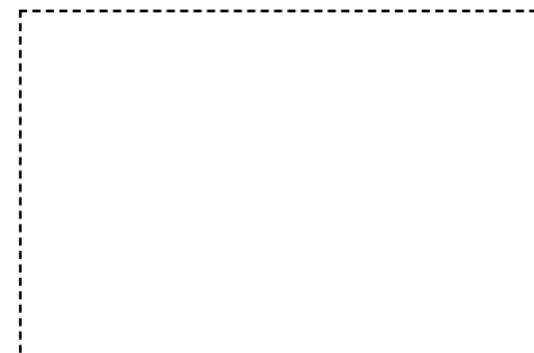
## Updates

1. Safari doesn't support SVG icons (thanks [Joseph Scott](#))
2. You can use emoji, a bit more useful than simple shapes (thanks [Barry](#) and [Lea](#)). Here's my minimal example:

```
<link  
  rel="icon"  
  href="data:image/svg+xml,<svg xmlns='http://www.w3.org/2000/svg' viewBox='0 0 1 1'><text font-size='1' y='0.9'>????</text></svg>"  
>
```

(replace ??? with your favorite emoji, cuz my WordPress DB tables are not the unicode-iest of them all, sorry)

Here's how that looks when you have a basketball emoji in place of ???:

Elements Console Performance insights Recorder Sources Network

```
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html>
  <head>
    <meta charset="UTF-8">
    <meta name="viewport" content="width=device-width, initial-scale=1.0">
    <title>Barcode support</title>
...
  <link rel="icon" href="data:image/svg+xml,<svg xmlns='http://www.w3.org/2000/svg' width='1' height='1' viewBox='0 0 1 1'><text>Basketball</text></svg>"> == $0
  <style> ...
</style>
```

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