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How to partially color fill an SVG path

29 SEPTEMBER 2015 on SVG

Recently I wanted to create a fancy preloader for an app. An **SVG shape** that gradually fills up with a solid color as the app loaded its content. kinda like a progress bar, except the shape is a cloud, like this one:



45% loaded

Sounds pretty simple right ? Well actually, it's not. there is no clear cut way to only **fill part of an SVG shape**. The W3 standard fill method can only fill the entire shape, so I had to find a

workaround.

After playing around with a few options for a while, I found a nifty solution. First, I filled the shape with a **linear gradient**, composed of **purple #B05BE0** on one end, and **transparent** on the other.



The HTML

```
<svg viewBox='0 0 105 75'>
  <!-- THE GRADIENT -->
  <linearGradient id="grad" x1="0%" y1="90%" x2="0%" y2="100%">
    <stop offset="0%" class="color-transparent" />
    <stop offset="50%" class="color-purple" />
  </linearGradient>
  <!-- THE CLOUD -->
  <path id="cloud" class="cloud" d='M 25,30
a 20,20 1 0,0 0,40
h 50 a 20,20 1 0,0 0,-40
a 10,10 1 0,0 -15,-10
a 15,15 1 0,0 -35,10 z' />
```

Sorry, your browser does not support inline SVG.

```
</svg>
```

The CSS

```
.cloud {  
    stroke: black;  
    stroke-width:1;  
    fill:url(#grad);  
}  
  
.color-transparent {  
    stop-color:transparent;  
    stop-opacity:1  
}  
  
.color-purple {  
    stop-color:#B05BE0;  
    stop-opacity:1  
}
```

Then I set the gradient offset to 1% to remove the blur effect in the area where the two colors meet.



```
<stop offset="1%" class="color-transparent" />  
<stop offset="1%" class="color-purple" />
```

Then with good Ol' JavaScript I was able to change the Y position of the gradient color from (100% to 0%) to create the illusion of the shape filling up from the bottom as the content loaded.

The Javascript

```
function setProgress (percentage) {  
  document.getElementById('grad').setAttribute('y1', (100 -  
  }
```

If you find this useful head over to the [JsFiddle example](#) to play around with the code.