

Improving UX Through Front End Performance

dyn.com/webperf

for slides, links and extra stuff

or follow [@laraswanson](https://twitter.com/laraswanson)

Lara Swanson, User Experience Manager at



PEDESTRIANS
YOU MUST
PUSH BUTTON
TO
CALL FOR
WALK SIGNAL

#webperf is
kind of a big deal.

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Adding **500ms** decreased Google traffic
and ad revenues by **20%**.

source: websiteoptimization.com

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Every additional 100ms
decreased Amazon sales by 1%.

source: websiteoptimization.com

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Google Maps reduced their home page size.

10% more traffic the first week
25% in the following 3 weeks

source: websiteoptimization.com

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Users expect **2 seconds**.

source: gomez.com

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After 3 seconds 40% will **abandon** your site.

source: gomez.com

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DoubleClick: one client-side redirect
12% increase in click-through rate

source: doubleclickadvertisers.blogspot.com

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75% of shoppers who experience an issue
will not buy from that site.

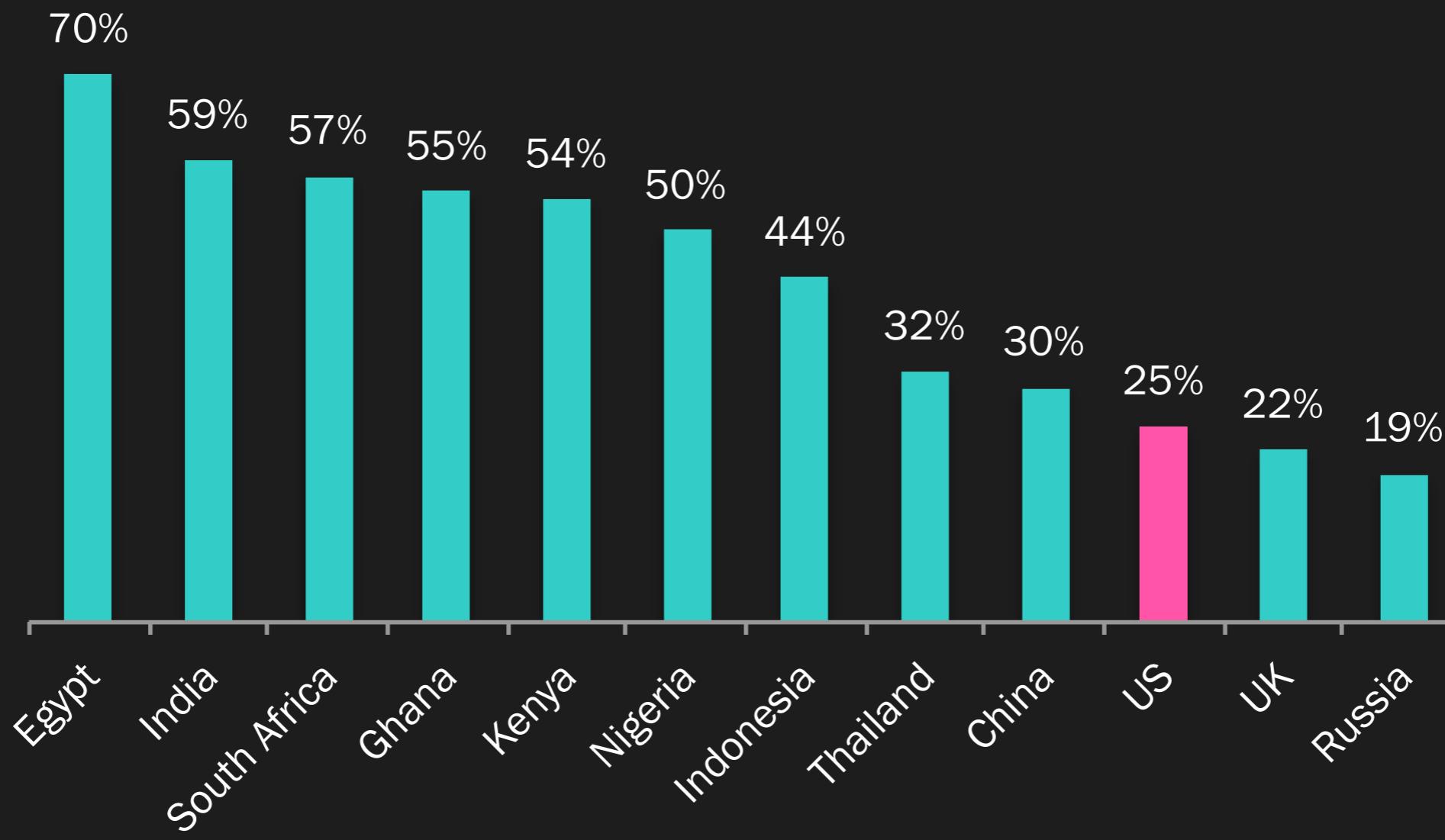
source: akamai.com

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>56% of shoppers left for a competitor's site
rather than suffer delays.

source: gomez.com

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Mobile-only Internet Users

source: [OnDevice Research](#)

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A cellular device has to establish a **radio channel** before it can send/get data.

more at [Taming the Mobile Beast](#)

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Mobile is only a little bit faster than old dialup connections.

Round Trip Time

Desktop Wifi	Mobile Network
50ms	344ms

Downlink Throughput

Desktop Wifi	Mobile Network
5mbps	1.6mbps

more at [Taming the Mobile Beast](#)

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We have not designed for mobile.

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e.g. Responsive design

Search

Inclusive Design

By Faruk Ateş

January 12th, 2012

Interfaces, UI

Comments

We've come a long way since the days of monochrome colors to millions, from intuitive touchscreens, from scroll bars and pan. But while hardware, software technology have all advanced dramatically over the last few decades, our approach to designing inter

Advertisement

Advertise with us!



e.g. JavaScript

Search

- select -

Simulating The Letterpress: From Live Filters In Fireworks To CSS Code

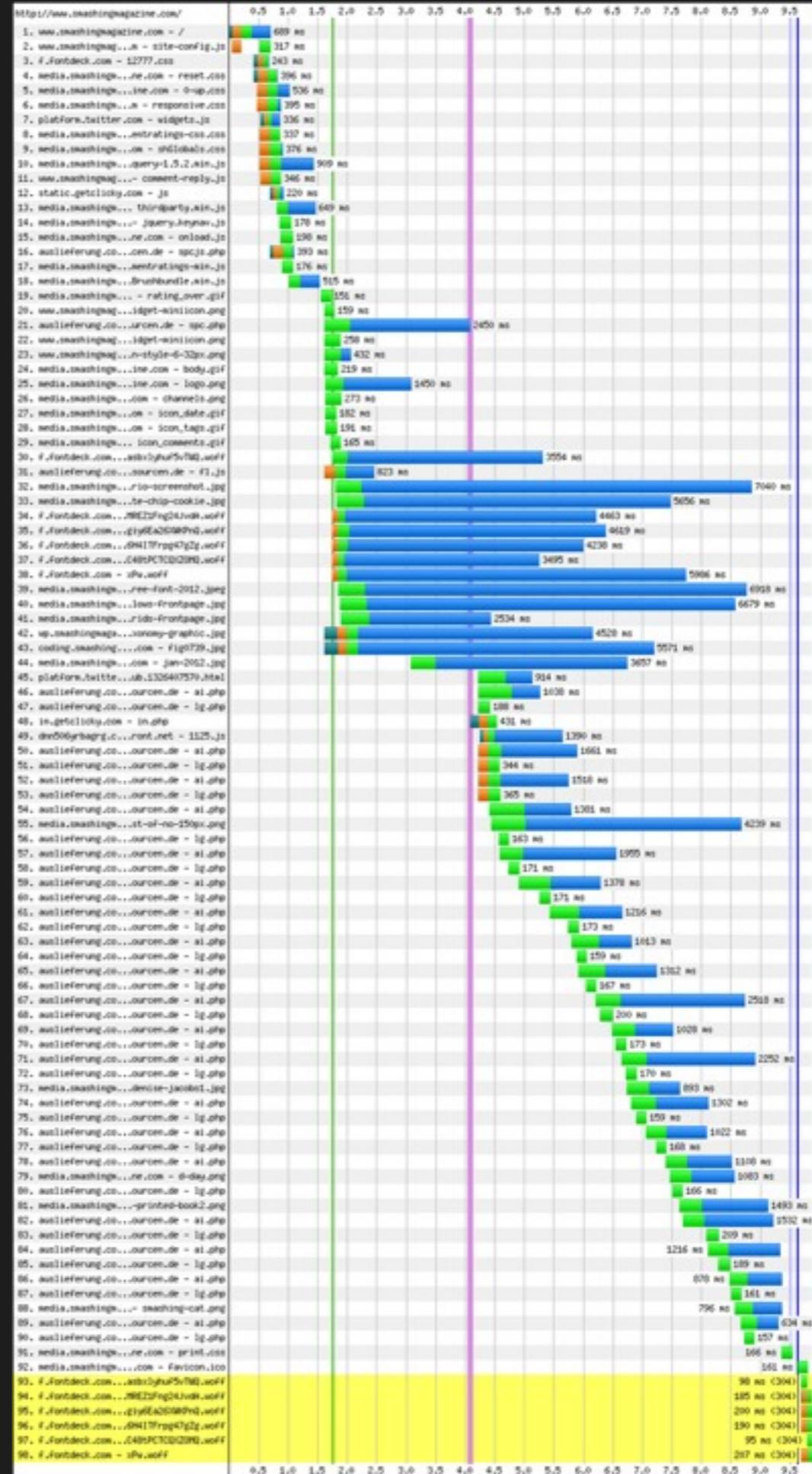
By Jose Olarte

July 23rd, 2012

CSS

Comments

One of the visual effects that is a mainstay in my Web design toolkit is the letterpress effect. Used properly, it's a quick way to make text blend better with the layout, as if it were machine-stamped onto the background. Think of what a home appliance marquee or a professional business card looks (and feels) like, and you'll know what I'm talking about.



A good user experience
is intuitive and fast.

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Fast page load time
builds **trust** in your website.

We need commitment to performance.
Designers, Developers and Clients.

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Website performance starts with **design**.

lots more at nathanleighdavis.com

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performance + beauty
= overall user experience

impact on page speed
vs.
impact on conversion rate

Question design decisions
with performance in mind.

Test it.

@laraswanson

Test it.

A/B

Manual

Test it.

A/B

Manual

3/12	Load Time	First Byte	Start Render	Time	Requests	Bytes In	Time	Requests	Bytes In	# Connections	
First View	1.826s	0.408s	1.699s	1.826s	27	239 KB	3.081s	36	333 KB	15	Increase in load time due to blog image (no image last week) and fonts taking longer
Repeat View	1.472s	0.656s	0.109s	1.472s	5	14 KB	1.718s	6	15 KB	2	
3/12/12	Load Time	First Byte	Start Render	Time	Requests	Bytes In	Time	Requests	Bytes In	# Connections	
First View	1.785s	0.382s	1.801s	1.785s	27	234 KB	3.211s	36	329 KB	15	Decrease in first view load time due to Dan merging 11 cookies into 1. Google adwords will be removed next week.
Repeat View	1.602s	0.755s	0.138s	1.602s	5	15 KB	1.855s	6	15 KB	2	
3/19/12	Load Time	First Byte	Start Render	Time	Requests	Bytes In	Time	Requests	Bytes In	# Connections	
First View	1.550s	0.393s	1.563s	1.550s	24	233 KB	3.121s	33	358 KB	13	Big improvement = we removed the Google remarketing code.
Repeat View	0.145s	0.583s	0.215s	0.145s	0	0 KB	1.590s	4	29 KB	2	
3/26/12	Load Time	First Byte	Start Render	Time	Requests	Bytes In	Time	Requests	Bytes In	# Connections	
First View	1.499s	0.414s	1.514s	1.499s	24	223 KB	2.895s	32	329 KB	12	Extra call to ssl.gstatic.com removed from previous week after updated Google + button update
Repeat View	0.151s	0.629s	0.231s	0.151s	0	0 KB	1.590s	4	29 KB	2	
4/2/12	Load Time	First Byte	Start Render	Time	Requests	Bytes In	Time	Requests	Bytes In	# Connections	
First View	1.625s	0.390s	1.641s	1.625s	24	239 KB	3.050s	32	346 KB	12	Increased load time observations: Google plusone and apis code is taking longer.
Repeat View	0.151s	0.503s	0.196s	0.151s	0	0 KB	1.277s	4	29 KB	2	
4/9/12	Load Time	First Byte	Start Render	Time	Requests	Bytes In	Time	Requests	Bytes In	# Connections	
First View	1.572s	0.390s	1.587s	1.572s	24	233 KB	2.849s	32	339 KB	12	Will go back to investigate
Repeat View	0.151s	0.546s	0.206s	0.151s	0	0 KB	1.182s	4	29 KB	2	
4/16/12	Load Time	First Byte	Start Render	Time	Requests	Bytes In	Time	Requests	Bytes In	# Connections	
First View	1.582s	0.400s	1.600s	1.582s	25	236 KB	3.019s	33	343 KB	12	user_data.js added to help cookie tracking with Varnish - saved 5.4% by using ImageOptim on b
Repeat View	0.405s	0.372s	0.169s	0.405s	2	5 KB	1.320s	5	30 KB	2	
4/23/12	Load Time	First Byte	Start Render	Time	Requests	Bytes In	Time	Requests	Bytes In	# Connections	
First	1.840s	0.179s	1.584s	1.840s	25	240 KB	2.814s	32	343 KB	12	Switched to using Varnish with Dyn.com

Benchmarking

PageSpeed Insights — Google Developers

<https://developers.google.com/speed/pagespeed/insights?url=http://www.capitalcamp.org&mobile=false>

Google Developers Search

Home Products Events Showcase Live Groups

PageSpeed Insights — www.capitalcamp.org/ [Edit](#)

Desktop Mobile Refresh

Overview

Critical Path Explorer

High priority (1)

- Leverage browser caching

Medium priority (3)

- Combine images into CSS sprites
- Serve scaled images
- Optimize images

Low priority (8)

- Defer parsing of JavaScript
- Minify JavaScript
- Specify a cache validator
- Minify CSS
- Minify HTML
- Put CSS in the document head
- Remove query strings from URLs
- Specify a Vary: Accept-Encoding header

Experimental rules (2)

Already done! (15)

The page CapitalCamp 2012 got an overall PageSpeed Score of 80 (out of 100). [Learn more](#)

Analyze the critical path of your web page with the new [Critical Path Explorer!](#)

This PageSpeed Report is generated for this page as it appears in desktop browsers. To get suggestions on how to optimize the performance of this page for mobile devices, generate a [mobile report](#).

Overview



Suggestion Summary

Click on the rule names to see suggestions for improvement.

- High priority.** These suggestions represent the largest potential performance wins for the least development effort. You should address this item first:
[Leverage browser caching](#)
- Medium priority.** These suggestions may represent smaller wins or much more work to implement. You should address these items next:
[Combine images into CSS sprites](#), [Serve scaled images](#), [Optimize images](#)
- Low priority.** These suggestions represent the smallest wins. You should only be concerned with these items after you've handled the higher-priority ones:
[Defer parsing of JavaScript](#), [Minify JavaScript](#), [Specify a cache validator](#), [Minify CSS](#), [Minify HTML](#), [Put CSS in the document head](#), [Remove query strings from static resources](#), [Specify a Vary: Accept-Encoding header](#)
- Experimental rules.** These suggestions are experimental, but do not affect the overall PageSpeed score. Consider these items as points to an area to explore, but your mileage might vary:
[Reduce request serialization](#), [Eliminate unnecessary reflows](#)
- Already done!** There are no suggestions for these rules, since this page already follows these best practices. Good job!

« Google Terms of Service Privacy Policy Jobs English ▾

PageSpeed (online and browser add-on)

@laraswanson

chrome-extension://ninejjcohidippngpapiiinmkglmakh/yslow.html#256

Home Grade Components Statistics Rulesets YSlow(V2) Edit Help

Grade C Overall performance score 74 Ruleset applied: YSlow(V2) URL: http://www.capitalcamp.org/

ALL (23) FILTER BY: [CONTENT \(6\)](#) | [COOKIE \(2\)](#) | [CSS \(6\)](#) | [IMAGES \(2\)](#) | [JAVASCRIPT \(4\)](#) | [SERVER \(6\)](#)

[Tweet](#) [Share](#)

F Make fewer HTTP requests

F Use a Content Delivery Network (CDN)

A Avoid empty src or href

F Add Expires headers

A Compress components with gzip

A Put CSS at top

B Put JavaScript at bottom

A Avoid CSS expressions

n/a Make JavaScript and CSS external

A Reduce DNS lookups

A Minify JavaScript and CSS

A Avoid URL redirects

A Remove duplicate JavaScript and CSS

A Configure entity tags (ETags)

A Make AJAX cacheable

A Use GET for AJAX requests

A Reduce the number of DOM elements

A Avoid HTTP 404 (Not Found) error

A Reduce cookie size

F Use cookie-free domains

A Avoid AlphalmageLoader filter

F Do not scale images in HTML

A Make favicon small and cacheable

Grade F on Make fewer HTTP requests

This page has 7 external Javascript scripts. Try combining them into one.
This page has 7 external stylesheets. Try combining them into one.
This page has 26 external background images. Try combining them with CSS sprites.

Decreasing the number of components on a page reduces the number of HTTP requests required to render the page, resulting in faster page loads. Some ways to reduce the number of components include: combine files, combine multiple scripts into one script, combine multiple CSS files into one style sheet, and use CSS Sprites and image maps.

[Read More](#)

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YSlow

@laraswanson

WebPageTest Test Result - D X

www.webpagetest.org/result/120702_YQ_PT5/ Login | Register | Login with Google

WEBPAGETEST Create your own online store shopify

HOME TEST RESULT TEST HISTORY FORUMS DOCUMENTATION ABOUT

Page Speed 1.12 Score: 81/100 Need help improving?

A A A A F X

First Byte Time Keep-alive Enabled Compress Text Compress Images Cache static content CDN detected

Web Page Performance Test for www.capitalcamp.org

From: Dulles, VA - IE8 - DSL
Mon Jul 02 2012 15:36:08 GMT-0400 (EDT)

Summary Details Performance Review Page Speed Content Breakdown Domains Screen Shot

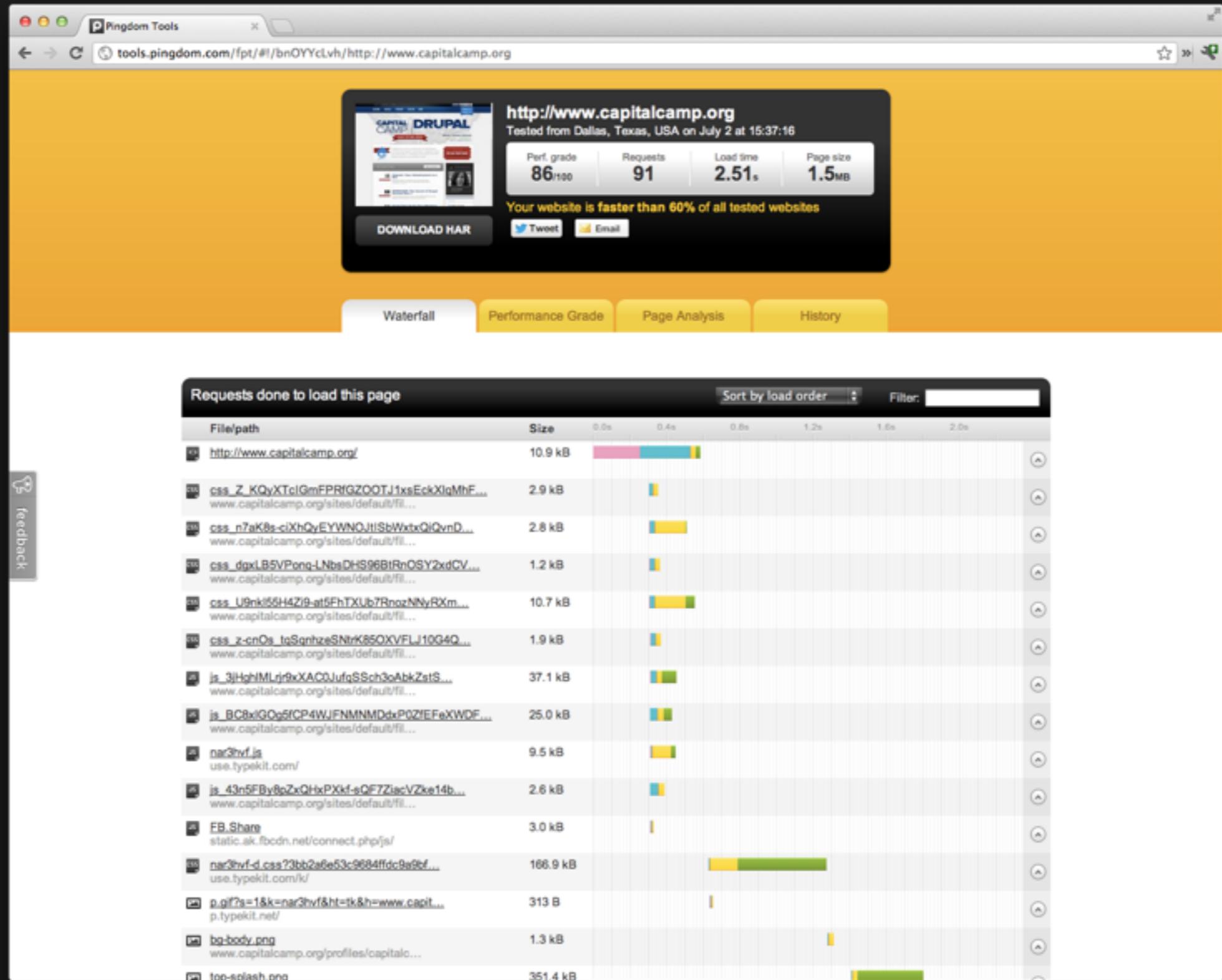
Re-run the test Raw page data - Raw object data Export HTTP Archive (.har)

	Load Time	First Byte	Start Render	DOM Elements	Document Complete	Time	Requests	Bytes In	Fully Loaded	Time	Requests	Bytes In
First View	10.404s	0.326s	5.725s	997	10.404s	93	1,756 KB	10.404s	93	1,756 KB		
Repeat View	3.047s	0.222s	1.047s	996	3.047s	6	37 KB	3.997s	7	37 KB		

Waterfall Screen Shot

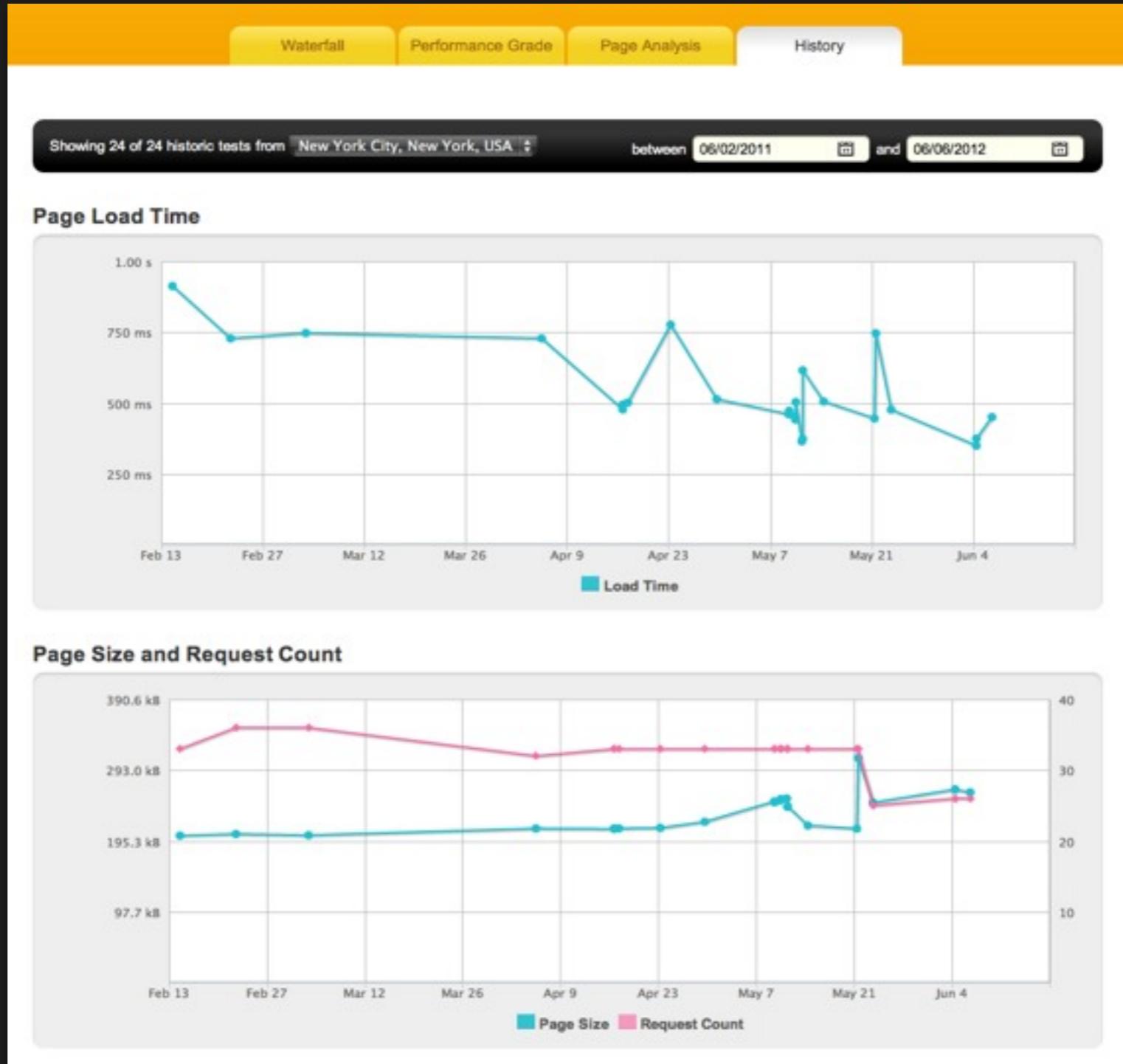
First View (10.404s)

Repeat View



tools.pingdom.com

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tools.pingdom.com

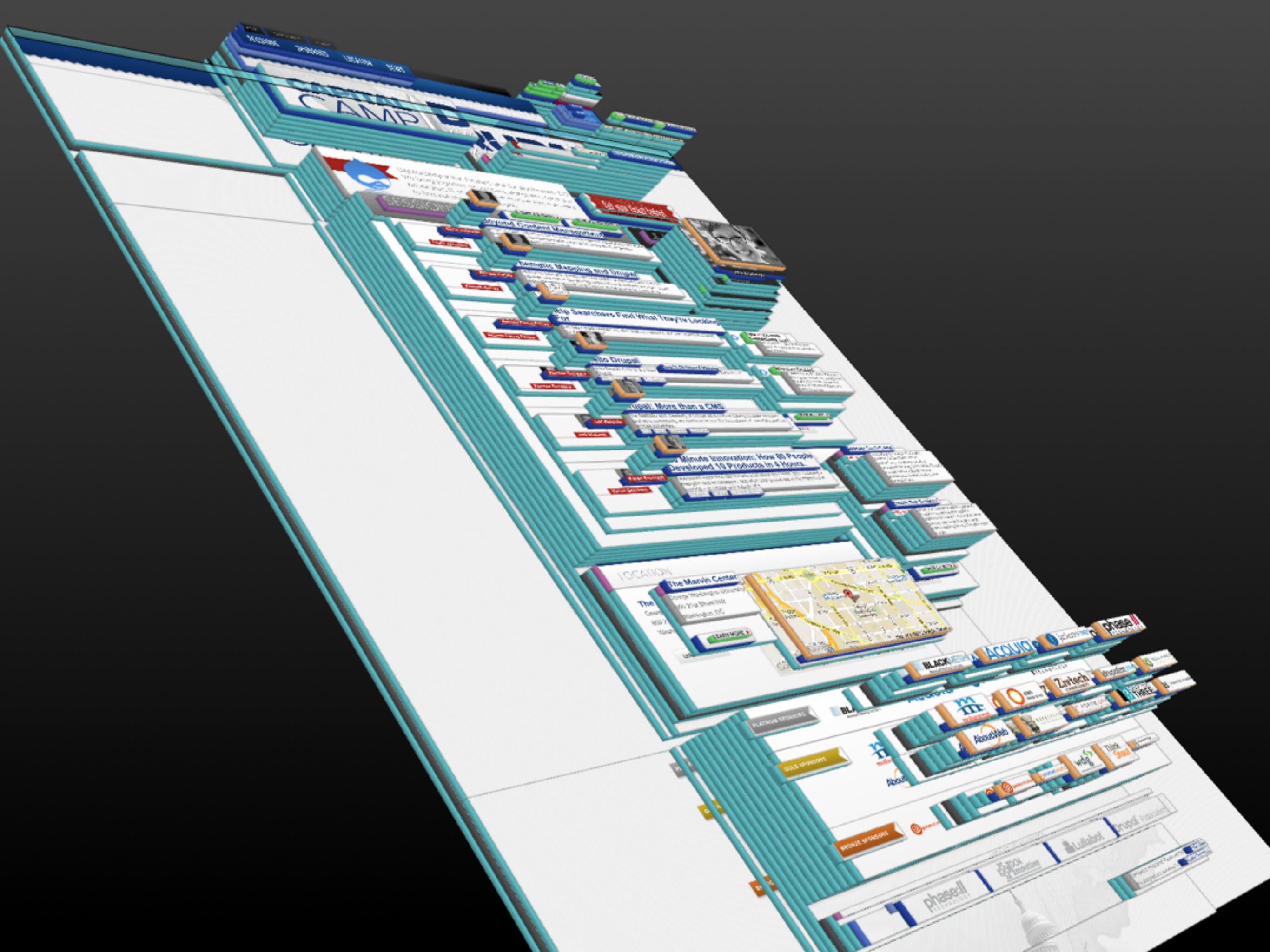
@laraswanson

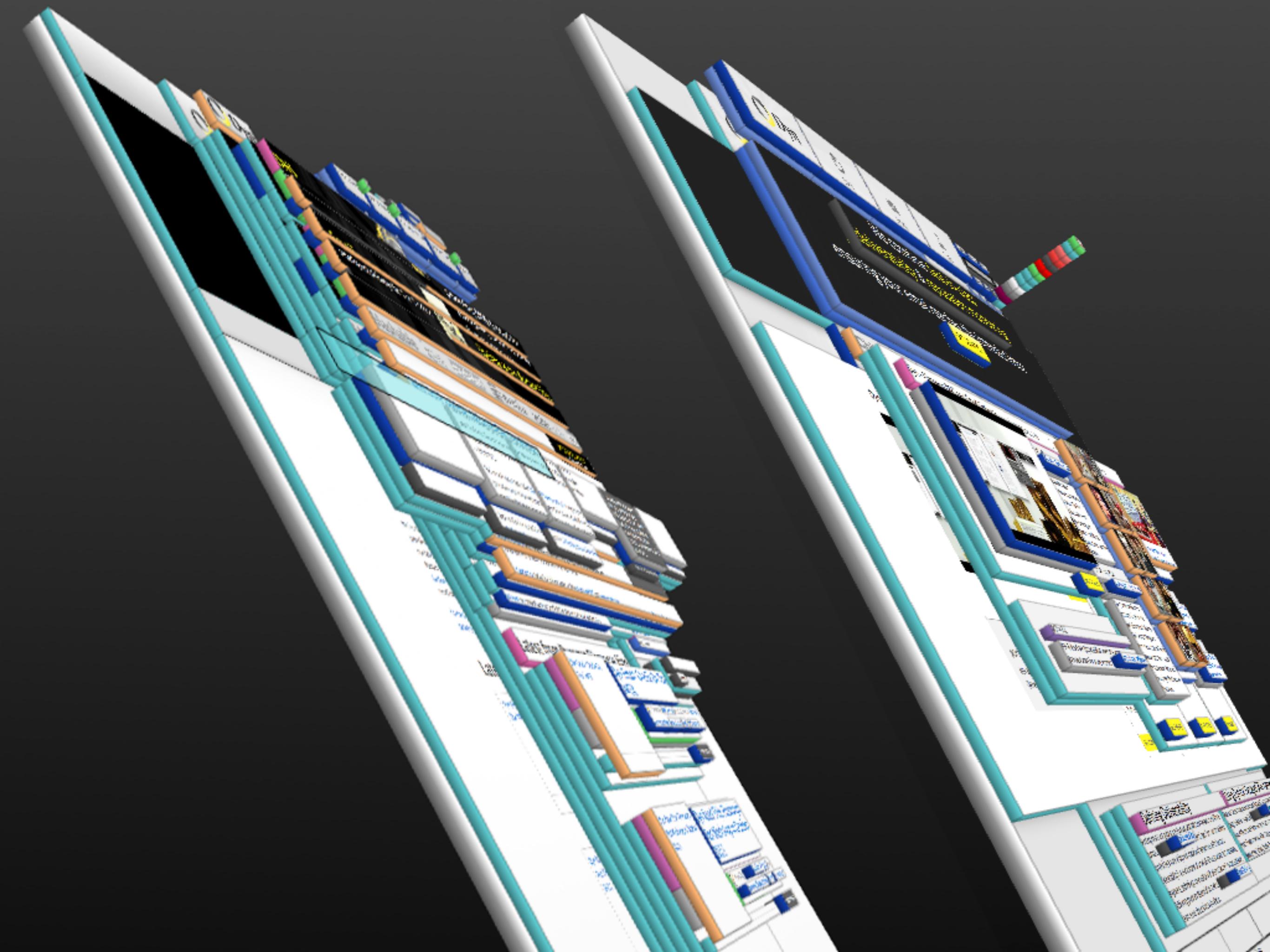
Clean Your **HTML** and **CSS**

@laraswanson

Bloated HTML
leads to bloated CSS,
and vice versa.







HTML: Rename unsemantic elements

HTML

```
<div class="clearfix">  
  <p class="blue">
```

CSS

```
.clearfix p.blue { }
```

HTML: Rename unsemantic elements

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CSS

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.clearfix p.blue { }
```

HTML: Rename unsemantic elements

HTML

```
<div class="clearfix">  
  <p class="blue">
```

CSS

```
.clearfix p.blue { }
```

```
<div id="login">  
  <h2>
```

HTML: Rename unsemantic
elements

→ CSS: Remove inefficient
selectors

HTML

```
<div class="clearfix">  
  <p class="blue">
```

CSS

```
.clearfix p.blue { }
```

```
<div id="login">  
  <h2>
```

HTML: Rename unsemantic
elements

→ CSS: Remove inefficient
selectors

HTML

```
<div class="clearfix">  
  <p class="blue">
```

CSS

```
.clearfix p.blue { }
```

```
<div id="login">  
  <h2>
```

```
#login h2 { }
```

HTML: Remove unnecessary elements (divitis)

HTML

```
<div class="content">  
  <div class="sidebar">  
    <div class="login">
```

CSS

```
.content { margin: 0 auto; }  
.sidebar { float: right; }  
.login { width: 200px; }
```

HTML: Remove unnecessary elements (divitis)

HTML

```
<div class="content">  
  <div class="sidebar">  
    <div class="login">
```

CSS

```
.content { margin: 0 auto; }  
.sidebar { float: right; }  
.login { width: 200px; }
```

HTML: Remove unnecessary elements (divitis)

HTML

```
<div class="content">  
  <div class="sidebar">  
    <div class="login">
```

CSS

```
.content { margin: 0 auto; }  
.sidebar { float: right; }  
.login { width: 200px; }
```

```
<div class="content">  
  <div class="login">
```

HTML: Remove unnecessary elements (divitis) → CSS: Remove unused styles

HTML

```
<div class="content">  
  <div class="sidebar">  
    <div class="login">
```

CSS

```
.content { margin: 0 auto; }  
.sidebar { float: right; }  
.login { width: 200px; }
```

```
<div class="content">  
  <div class="login">
```

HTML: Remove unnecessary elements (divitis) → CSS: Remove unused styles

HTML

```
<div class="content">  
  <div class="sidebar">  
    <div class="login">
```

CSS

```
.content { margin: 0 auto; }  
.sidebar { float: right; }  
.login { width: 200px; }
```

```
<div class="content">  
  <div class="login">
```

```
.content { margin: 0 auto; }  
.login { float: right;  
        width: 200px; }
```

HTML: Create repurposable code

HTML

```
<div class="post">
  <p class="headline">
    <p class="byline">
...
<div class="article">
  <h2>
    <p class="subtitle">
```

CSS

```
.post { }
.article { }
.headline { }
.article h2 { }
.byline { }
.subtitle { }
```

HTML: Create repurposable
code

→ CSS: Combine/condense
styles

HTML

```
<div class="post">
  <p class="headline">
    <p class="byline">
...
<div class="article">
  <h2>
    <p class="subtitle">
```

CSS

```
.post { }
.article { }
.headline { }
.article h2 { }
.byline { }
.subtitle { }
```

HTML: Create repurposable
code

→ CSS: Combine/condense
styles

HTML

```
<div class="post">
  <p class="headline">
    <p class="byline">
...
<div class="article">
  <h2>
    <p class="subtitle">
```

CSS

```
.post { }
.article { }
.headline { }
.article h2 { }
.byline { }
.subtitle { }
```

```
.post, .article { }
.headline, .article h2 { }
.byline, .subtitle { }
```

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HTML: Create repurposable
code

→ CSS: Combine/condense
styles

HTML

```
<div class="post">
  <p class="headline">
    <p class="byline">
...
<div class="article">
  <h2>
    <p class="subtitle">
```

CSS

```
.post { }
.article { }
.headline { }
.article h2 { }
.byline { }
.subtitle { }
```

```
.post, .article { }
.headline, .article h2 { }
.byline, .subtitle { }
```

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HTML: Create repurposable
code

→ CSS: Combine/condense
styles

HTML

```
<div class="post">
  <p class="headline">
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<div class="article">
  <h2>
    <p class="subtitle">
```

CSS

```
.post { }
.article { }
.headline { }
.article h2 { }
.byline { }
.subtitle { }
```

```
<div class="article">
  <h2>
    <p class="byline">
```

```
.post, .article { }
.headline, .article h2 { }
.byline, .subtitle { }
```

HTML: Create repurposable
code

→ CSS: Combine/condense
styles

HTML

```
<div class="post">
  <p class="headline">
    <p class="byline">
...
<div class="article">
  <h2>
    <p class="subtitle">
```

CSS

```
.post { }
.article { }
.headline { }
.article h2 { }
.byline { }
.subtitle { }
```

```
<div class="article">
  <h2>
    <p class="byline">
```

```
.post, .article { }
.headline, .article h2 { }
.byline, .subtitle { }
```

HTML: Create repurposable
code

→ CSS: Combine/condense
styles

HTML

```
<div class="post">
  <p class="headline">
    <p class="byline">
...
<div class="article">
  <h2>
    <p class="subtitle">
```

CSS

```
.post { }
.article { }
.headline { }
.article h2 { }
.byline { }
.subtitle { }
```

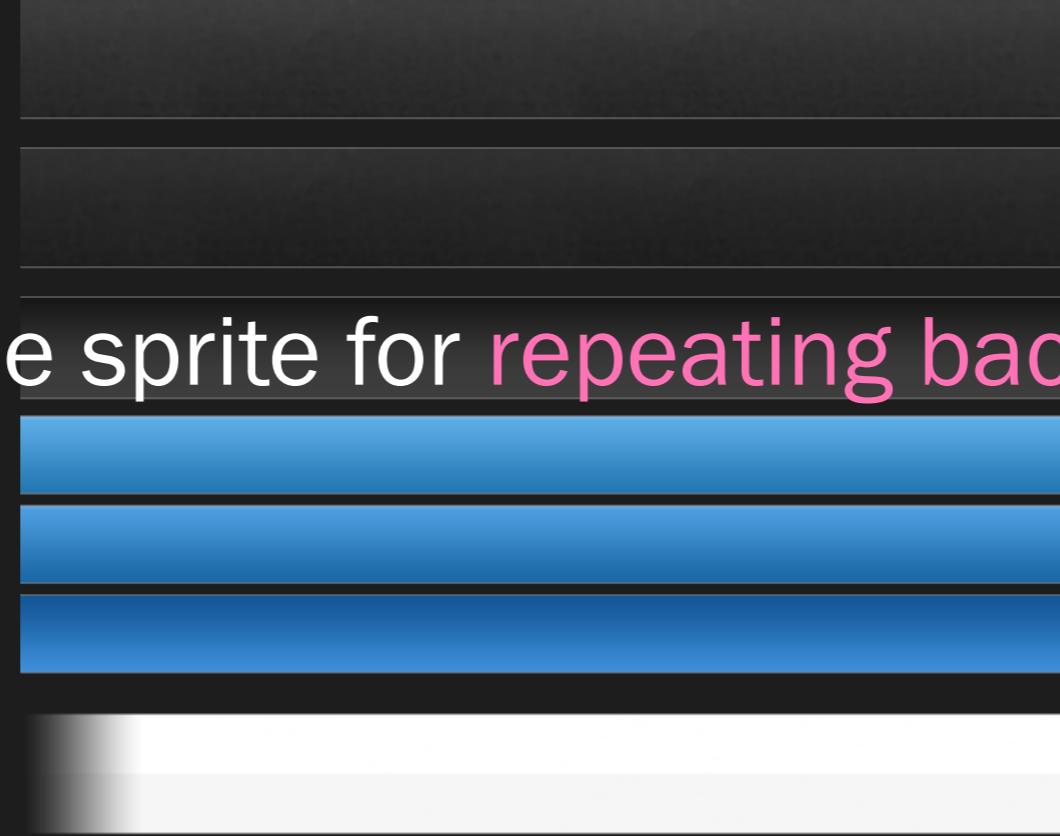
```
<div class="article">
  <h2>
    <p class="byline">
```

```
.article { }
.article h2 { }
.byline { }
```

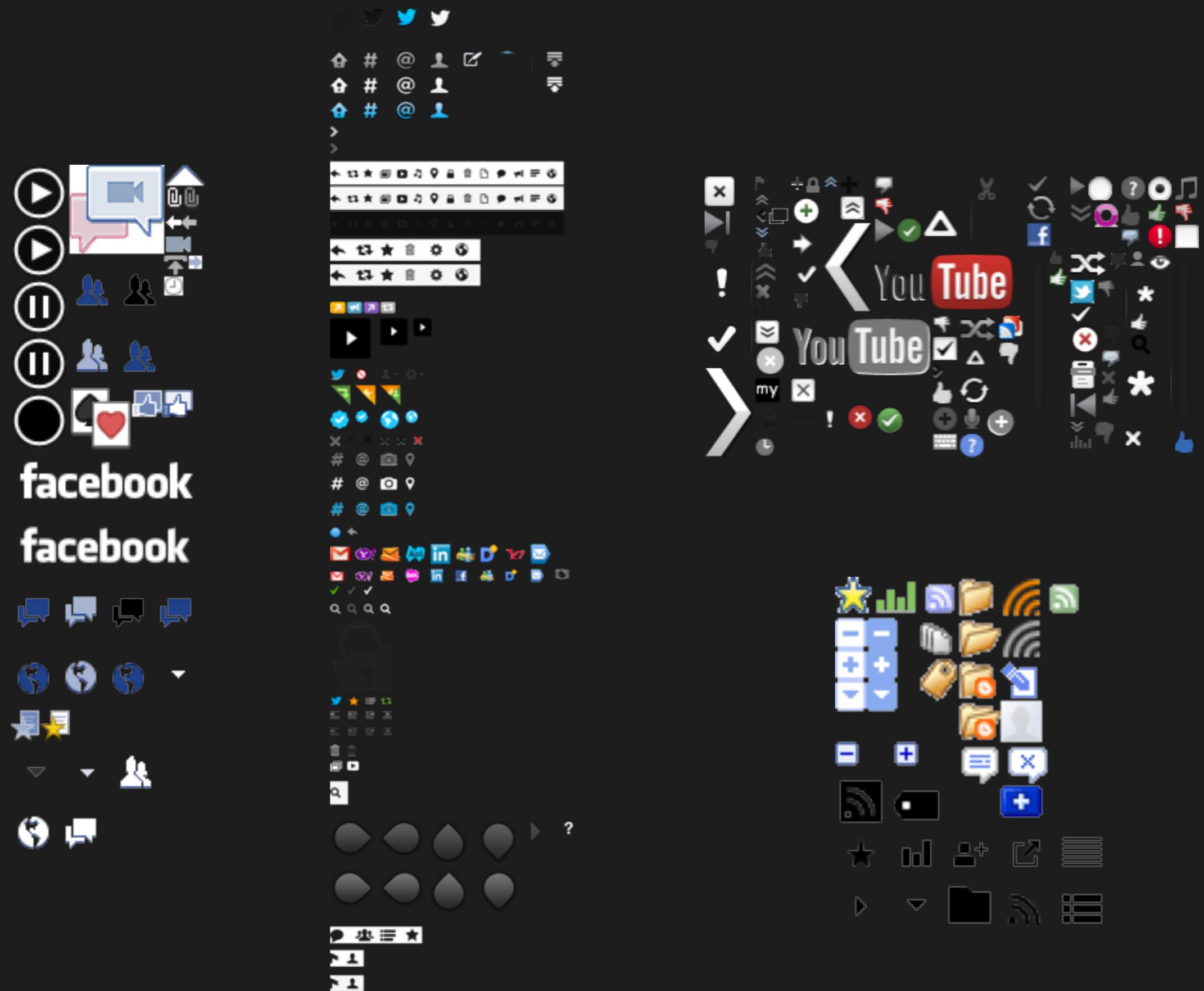
Optimize Your Images

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Create one sprite for repeating backgrounds.



Create one sprite for no-repeat backgrounds.



even more info: css-tricks.com/css-sprites/

@laraswanson

Regenerate images
using the **right format**
(PNG-8, PNG-24, or JPG)
and optimize them.

Dyn - Managed DNS and Email Delivery



[ALL VIDEOS](#)

@DYNINC

UX Manager @LaraSwanson will be the keynote speaker at @CapitalCampDC <http://t.co/bL1exny0> #webperf #UX

[ALL EVENTS](#)

WHERE WE'LL BE

Jul 16 – 20, 2012
OSCON – Portland, OR
Join the world's open source pioneers, builders, and innovators for five intense days where you will learn about open development, challenge your assumptions, and fire up your brain.

Jul 16 – 18, 2012
HostingCon – Boston, MA
The premier conference and trade show for the hosted services industry. The best and brightest from the industry will be in attendance to learn about the latest news, ideas and technology affecting their businesses.

[ALL PHOTOS](#)



[ALL NEWS](#)

BLOG & NEWS

Jun 29, 2012

Velocity 2012: Like A Band, Become The Company People Like

Jun 27, 2012
Dyn Prepares For Bold Future With Technology Leadership Shifts

Jun 26, 2012
Velocity 2012: Performance is the Most Important Type of DNS Security

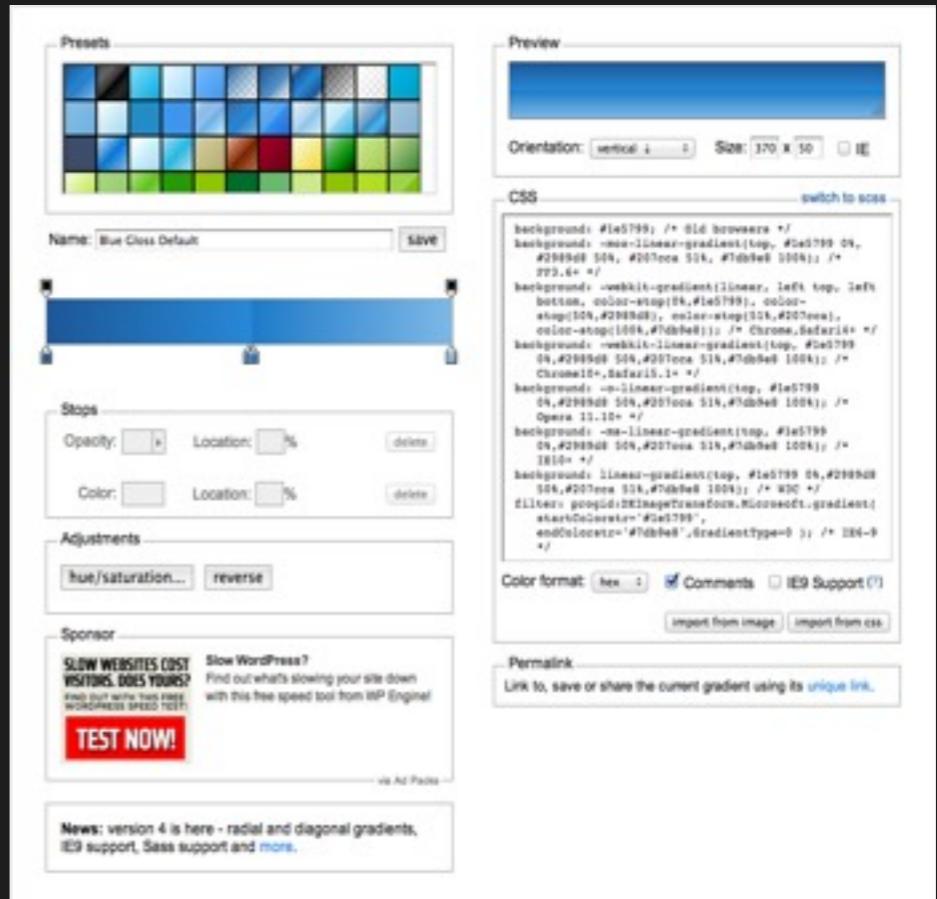
Spriting increased total home page size by 60K
Decreased requests by 21%
Cut home page load time by 35%

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Use CSS3 gradients instead of a repeating background image.

Case Study

- Added 2.7% CSS file size
- Saved 22% requests
- Saved 2.8% page load time



<http://www.colorzilla.com/gradient-editor/>

@laraswanson

	Original	New	Improvement
CSS	11.8K (gzipped)	7.2K (gzipped)	39%
Images	121.5K	63.85K	47.4%
Requests	22	9	59%
Page Speed grade	95%	99%	4.2%
Time to fully load	3.550s	1.569s	55.8%

[full details at dyn.com](https://dyn.com)

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Optimize Your Requests

@laraswanson

The number of parallel connections varies greatly across mobile browsers.

from [Taming the Mobile Beast](#)

@laraswanson

Only serve content when it's **needed**.

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Minify Javascript and CSS.

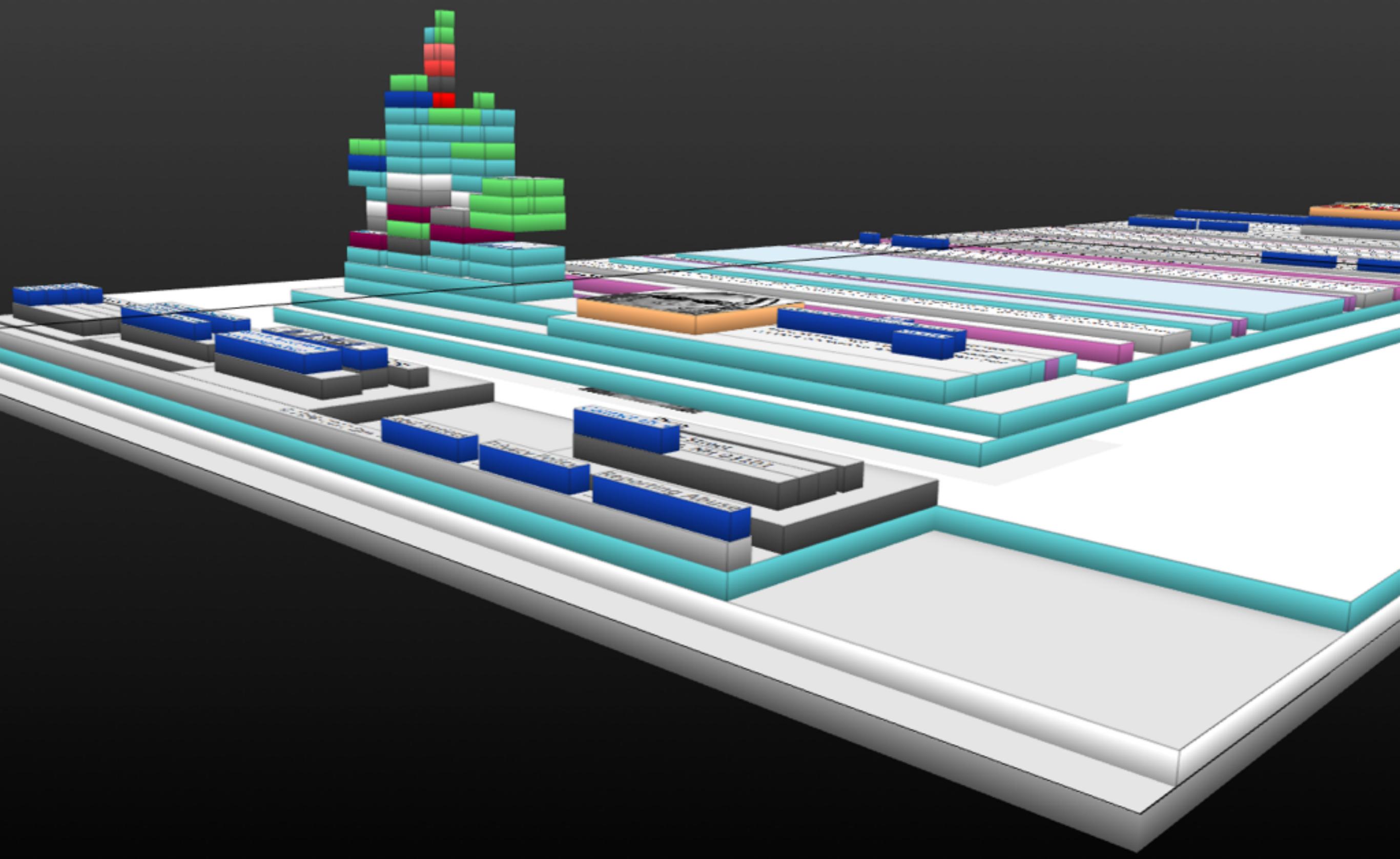
@laraswanson

Load JavaScript **asynchronously.**

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Limit **third-party** scripts.
Load them **asynchronously**.





Learn best practices:
writegoodcode.com

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Performance Results

Roll over each test name to see more details. Click on a test name to see the test page.

Baseline		Page Load Time			
Test	Size	IE7	IE8	IE9	Chrome
Basic Page	23.4K	0.643s	0.521s	0.602s	0.434s
HTML Tests					
Test	Size	IE7	IE8	IE9	Chrome
HTML5 Doctype	23.4K	0.653s	0.521s	0.580s	0.408s
Transitional Doctype	23.4K	0.648s	0.587s	0.578s	0.412s
+10KB HTML	24.0K	0.689s	0.550s	0.619s	0.447s
CSS Tests					
Test	Size	IE7	IE8	IE9	Chrome
Unused CSS	23.7K	0.648s	0.518s	0.602s	0.410s
not using shorthand styles	23.6K	0.652s	0.531s	0.588s	0.407s

We created a baseline test page.

We performance tested poorly-crafted HTML, CSS, and images against it.

Using `@import` added **+7.6%** load time

Using inefficient CSS selectors: **+5.5%**

Adding 10kb of extra HTML: **+4.8%**

(See them all: writegoodcode.com)

Convince **Clients**

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There will be extra development time (\$\$\$) now.

Why?

A better user experience leads to
better conversion rates

A better user experience leads to
brand trust

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A better user experience leads to
visitors choosing you over a competitor

A better user experience leads to
more returning visitors

As an industry,
we need to focus
on the end user.

dyn.com/webperf
for more info and tools
[@laraswanson](https://twitter.com/laraswanson)

Scalable Stylesheets - 3pm today in Room 308
Beginner's Guide to Performance - 9am tomorrow in Room 310
The Fight Against Divitis - 9am tomorrow in Room 307

