**To summarize how ems and rems work:**

An em is based on the font size of the current (or ANCESTOR) element(s). It is calculated (multiplied) based on that font size.

So, if a current element's font size is 12px, specifying 1em in that element would be 12px, 1.5em would be 18px, and 2em would be 24px (2em \* 12px = 24px).

With rems it’s different. Size is ***always*** calculated based on the default/root font-size, which is 16px (unless you specify otherwise in the HTML {} CSS rule). This is helpful in avoiding the cascading effect of ems, with each child element’s em size being based on it’s parent.

So, with rems, 2em would be 32px (2em \* 16px = 32px). You can rely on the size not being dependent on current or parent element font-size.