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# How to change the background colour's opacity in CSS [duplicate]

Asked 6 years, 4 months ago   Active 6 years, 4 months ago   Viewed 95k times



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[How do I give text or an image a transparent background using CSS?](#) 28 answers



I have a PNG file which I give a background colour to its transparent areas, but I would like to make the background colour a bit transparent, like opacity. Here is my code so far:



```
social img{
  opacity:0.5;
}
.social img:hover {
  opacity:1;
  background-color:black;
}
```

css

css3

background

png

opacity

asked Jun 2 '13 at 15:43



Alex Jj

418

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**marked** as duplicate by [James Donnelly](#) css Jul 29 '16 at 14:38

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```
background: rgba(0,0,0,.5);
```

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you can use rgba for opacity, will only work in ie9+ and better browsers



answered Jun 2 '13 at 15:46



[bob](#)

**646** 1 6 15

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30 Is it possible to just change the opacity with an already set rgb background color? – [Andres SK](#) Dec 26 '15 at 16:42

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Use [RGBA](#) like this: `background-color: rgba(255, 0, 0, .5)`

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answered Jun 2 '13 at 15:46



[bookcasey](#)

**31.4k** 11 64 89



Use rgba as most of the commonly used browsers supports it..

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```
.social img:hover {  
  background-color: rgba(0, 0, 0, .5)  
}
```

answered Jun 2 '13 at 17:43



[Mohd. Umar](#)

**949** 9 22

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Use **RGB** values combined with **opacity** to get the transparency that you wish

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```
<div style=" background: rgb(255, 0, 0) ; opacity: 0.2;">&nbsp;</div>
<div style=" background: rgb(255, 0, 0) ; opacity: 0.4;">&nbsp;</div>
<div style=" background: rgb(255, 0, 0) ; opacity: 0.6;">&nbsp;</div>
<div style=" background: rgb(255, 0, 0) ; opacity: 0.8;">&nbsp;</div>
<div style=" background: rgb(255, 0, 0) ; opacity: 1;">&nbsp;</div>
```

Similarly, with actual values without opacity, will give the below.

```
<div style=" background: rgb(243, 191, 189) ; ">&nbsp;</div>
<div style=" background: rgb(246, 143, 142) ; ">&nbsp;</div>
<div style=" background: rgb(249, 95 , 94) ; ">&nbsp;</div>
<div style=" background: rgb(252, 47, 47) ; ">&nbsp;</div>
<div style=" background: rgb(255, 0, 0) ; ">&nbsp;</div>
```

You can have a look at this [WORKING EXAMPLE](#).

Now, if we specifically target your issue, here is the [WORKING DEMO SPECIFIC TO YOUR ISSUE](#).

### The HTML

```
<div class="social">
  
</div>
```

### The CSS:

```
social img{
  opacity:0.5;
}
.social img:hover {
  opacity:1;
  background-color:black;
  cursor:pointer;
  background: rgb(255, 0, 0) ; opacity: 0.5;
}
```

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Nitesh

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- 3 Note that using something like: `<div style=" background: rgb(255, 0, 0) ; opacity: 0.2;">&nbsp;  </div>` Will not only change the background but also the contents. Change the above line to this and you will see the situation: `<div style=" background: rgb(255, 0, 0) ; opacity: 0.2;">Some text here</div>` – Jelgab Jun 23 '15 at 20:20
- 



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Not too sure to add opacity via CSS is such a good idea.

Opacity has that funny way to be applied to all content and childs from where you set it, with unexpected results in mixed of colours.

It has no really purpose in that case , for a bg color, in my opinion.

If you'd like to lay it hover the bg image, then you may use multiple backgrounds.

this color transparent could be applied via an extra png repeated (or not with background-position),

CSS gradient (*radial*-) linear-gradient with rgba colors (*starting and ending with same color*) can achieve this as well. They are treated as background-image and can be used as filter.

Idem for text, if you want them a bit transparent, use rgba (okay to put text-shadow together).

I think that today, we can drop funny behavior of CSS opacity.

Here is a mixed of rgba used for opacity if you are curious [dabblet.com/gist/5685845](https://dabblet.com/gist/5685845)

edited Jun 2 '13 at 17:05

answered Jun 2 '13 at 17:00



G-Cyr

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