

# Modes Architecture I



semantic/

└─ sizing.json # W3C DTCG compliant

└─ spacing/desktop.json # Responsive multipliers

└─ spacing/mobile.json # Responsive multipliers

└─ color/s1-lightness/ # Light/dark themes

└─ color/s2-emphasis/ # Emphasis modes

└─ color/s3-semantic/ # Compiled semantic layer

global/themes-user/

└─ lightness/ # Light/dark switching

└─ viewport/ # Responsive system (4px/5px)

## ⚠ Identified Gaps for VP

- Missing: Unified semantic/modes/ architecture
- Missing: component-size theme configuration
- Missing: Basic viewport mode simplification (desktop/mobile only)
- Inconsistent: Component size implementation pattern

**Primary Goal:** Establish comprehensive modes architecture foundation with Phase 1 MVP implementation:

- **Big picture architecture** - Complete future vision with 11-dimensional modes system
- **Strategic roadmap** - Phased implementation strategy for systematic expansion
- **Architecture foundation** - Extensible framework for all future mode types
- **Phase 1 VP modes** - Essential foundation modes for immediate implementation

## Complete Future Architecture Vision

 **Full modes Architecture Roadmap** \*(All structures prepared, selective implementation)\*

**Phase 1: VP Foundation modes** \*(Primary Implementation Focus)\*

- **Contrast modes** - standard/high (A11y color contrast enhancement)

## Phase 3: User Preference & Accessibility Modes

- **Motion modes** - enabled/disabled/reduced (animation accessibility controls)
- **Typography modes** - readable/standard/compact/A+/A- dyslexia-friendly (font weight, line height, letter spacing for readability + user preference typography scaling dyslexia support)
- **Colorblind modes** - standard/deuteranopia/protanopia/achromatopsia (colorblind-friendly palettes for common color vision deficiencies)
- **Motion Preference modes** - User-controlled animation settings with system integration
- **Contrast Preference modes** - User-controlled contrast with system high-contrast support

## Complete Multi-Dimensional Architecture





Full Future System (All 11 Mode Types):

lightness × interaction-emphasis × viewport × component-size × density × contrast × motion × typography × user-font-scale  
× user-motion-pref × user-contrast-pref × dyslexia-support

= 11-dimensional mode combinations

🎯 **VP Goal:** Prove modes architecture with essential foundation + targeted testing

## VP Modes Selection \*(Phase 1 Essential Implementation)\*

-  **Lightness modes:** light/dark (existing theme lightness switching)
-  **Interaction-emphasis modes:** low/standard/high (existing component interaction states)
-  **Component Size modes:** sm/md/lg (WIP migration component dimension coordination)
-  **Viewport modes:** desktop/mobile (basic 2-breakpoint system for MVP)

**VP Architecture:** lightness × interaction-emphasis × component-size × viewport (4D system)

\*Note: Density modes moved to Phase 2 - focus on size mode migration completion first\*

## VP Component Testing Suite \*(Strategic Component Selection)\*

### Test Case 1: Simple Component - icon\_holder

- **Purpose:** Baseline size mode behavior validation
- **Modes tested:** All size modes (sm/md/lg)
- **Complexity:** Low (single dimension changes)

### Test Case 2: Interactive Component - button

- **Purpose:** Interactive states + size mode coordination
- **Modes tested:** All size modes + interaction-emphasis modes + lightness modes
- **Complexity:** Medium (multiple mode interactions)

### Test Case 3: Content Component - tag

- **Purpose:** Text content + size mode relationships
- **Modes tested:** All size modes + interaction-emphasis modes + basic viewport modes
- **Complexity:** Medium (content-responsive sizing + viewport coordination)

### Test Case 4: Status Component - infobox

- **Purpose:** Semantic color modes + worst-case status scenarios
- **Modes tested:** All interaction-emphasis modes + lightness modes (all status colors)
- **Complexity:** High (color mode combinations + status semantics)





### Test Case 5: Composite Component - input text field

- **Purpose:** Babuschka doll complexity (input + tag + remove button inside)

- **Complexity:** Very High (nested component mode inheritance + worst-case scenario)

## VP Token Foundation \*(Complete Architecture, Selective Population)\*

```

\
semantic/
├─ modes/ #  COMPLETE ARCHITECTURE PREPARED
|   ├─ component-size/ #  MVP: Full implementation (Compact/lg)
|   |   ├─ sm.json
|   |   ├─ md.json
|   |   └─ lg.json
|   ├─ density/ #  STRUCTURE READY: Implementation derived from MVP
|   |   ├─ compact.json # (architecture prepared, tokens placeholder)
|   |   ├─ comfortable.json
|   |   └─ spacious.json
|   └─ _future-modes/ #  COMPLETE STRUCTURE PREPARED
|   └─ responsive/ # (folder structure + placeholder files)
|   └─ contrast/
|   └─ motion/
|   └─ typography/
|   └─ user-preferences/

```

└─ lightness/ # ✅ MVP: Existing (light/dark)

└─ interaction-emphasis/ # ✅ MVP: Existing (s2-emph... modes: low/standard/high)

└─ viewport/ # ✅ MVP: Simplified (desktop/mobile on)

└─ component-size/ # ✅ MVP: Full implementation

| └─ sm.json

| └─ md.json

| └─ lg.json

└─ density/ # 🔄 STRUCTURE READY: Files created, implementation deferred

└─ \_future-modes/ # 🚧 COMPLETE STRUCTURE: All folders + placeholder files

### 🎯 Implementation Phases:

- **Phase 1 (VP): 4 essential modes** - lightness × interaction-emphasis × viewport × component-size
- **Phase 2: Add advanced system modes** - + density × contrast × motion + full viewport coverage
- **Phase 3: Add user preference & accessibility modes** - + typography × user-font-scale × user-motion-pref × user-contrast-pref × dyslexia-support

\*Complete architecture prepared from start, selective activation by phase\*

### ✅ Already Implemented - Icon Holder Component

**Location:** src/lib/themes/component/atom/icon\_holder/

└─ sm icon # Small variant



- └─ minimum variant
- └─ large variant
- └─ Context-independent

Current state:

```
{  
  "ob"  
  "c"  
  "id"  
  "si"  
  "st" value": "{ob.p.size.250}" },  
  "mi" value": "{ob.p.size.175}" }  
}  
}  
}  
}  
}
```

Implement component



```

\ json
{
  "padding": {
    "vertical": {
      "sm": { "$value": "{ob.s.spacing.none}" },
      "md": { "$value": "{ob.s.spacing.xs}" },
      "lg": { "$value": "{ob.s.spacing.lg}" }
    },
    "horizontal": {
      "sm": { "$value": "{ob.s.spacing.md}" },
      "md": { "$value": "{ob.s.spacing.lg}" },
      "lg": { "$value": "{ob.s.spacing.2xl}" }
    }
  }
}

```

```

\

```

## Current Token Architecture

### Existing Semantic Structure:

```

\

```

```
semantic/
```

```

├─ sizing.json # ✅ W3C DTCG compliant dimension tokens
├─ spacing/
|   ├─ desktop.json # ✅ Responsive spacing with multipliers
|   └─ mobile.json # ✅ Responsive spacing with multipliers
├─ color/
|   ├─ s1-lightness/ # ✅ Theme mode implementation
|   ├─ s2-emphasis/ # ✅ Emphasis mode implementation
|   └─ s3-semantic/ # ✅ Compiled semantic layer
└─ [other categories]

```

## Global Theme System:

```

global/themes-user/
├─ lightness/ # ✅ Light/dark theme switching
|   ├─ dark.json
|   └─ light.json
├─ viewport/ # ✅ Responsive multiplier system
├─ desktop.json # mult_responsive: 4
├─ mobile.json # mult_responsive: 5
└─ static.json

```







# Modes Architecture Implementation Strategy


## Phase 1: Establish Universal Modes Architecture Foundation

Create semantic/modes/ Architecture Framework



semantic/

- └─ modes/ #  NEW: Universal modes system architecture
- | └─ component-size/ #  Component dimension modes
  - | | └─ sm.json # Small size mode tokens
  - | | └─ md.json # Medium size mode tokens (baseline)
  - | | └─ lg.json # Large size mode tokens
- | └─ density/ #  Spacing density modes
  - | | └─ compact.json # Tighter spacing multipliers
  - | | └─ comfortable.json # Standard spacing (baseline)
  - | | └─ spacious.json # Looser spacing multipliers
- | └─ \_future-modes/ #  Reserved space for modes requiring research
  - | | └─ responsive/ # Phase 2: Viewport-based scaling framework enabled, implementation deferred)
  - | | └─ contrast/ # Phase 2: A11y high contrast modes (research required)

- | | — typography/ # Phase 2: Font scaling, reading modes (research required)
- | | — user-preferences/ # Phase 3: User-controlled modes (font scaling, motion, contrast, dyslexia support)
- | — README.md #  Modes architecture system documentation

### Key Modes Architecture Principles:

- **Scalable:** Easy to add new mode categories
- **Consistent:** All modes follow the same token structure patterns
- **Semantic:** Mode tokens reference primitive/semantic tokens, not hardcoded values
- **Extensible:** Architecture supports future AI/UX and brand mode requirements

## Phase 2: Semantic Mode Token Definitions

### Component Size Modes (semantic/modes/component-size/)

**sm.json** - Small component dimensions: `sm.json`

```
{
  "ob": {
    "s": {
      "modes": {
        "component-size": {
          "button": {
            "height": { "$type": "dimension", "$value": "{ob.s.size.element.sm}" },
            "min-height": { "$type": "dimension", "$value": "{ob.s.size.element.sm}" }
          },

```

```

    "height": { "$type": "dimension", "$value": "{ob.s.size.element.sm}" },
  },
  "tag": {
    "padding-vertical": { "$type": "spacing", "$value": "{ob.s.spacing.none}" },
    "padding-horizontal": { "$type": "spacing", "$value": "{ob.s.spacing.md}" }
  }
}
}
}
}
}
}
}
}

```

```

\ md.json - Medium component dimensions (baseline): md.json

```

```

{
  "ob": {
    "s": {
      "modes": {
        "component-size": {
          "button": {
            "height": { "$type": "dimension", "$value": "{ob.s.size.element.md}" },
            "min-height": { "$type": "dimension", "$value": "{ob.s.size.element.md}" }

```

```

"input": {
  "height": { "$type": "dimension", "$value": "{ob.s.size.element.md}" },
},
"tag": {
  "padding-vertical": { "$type": "spacing", "$value": "{ob.s.spacing.xs}" },
  "padding-horizontal": { "$type": "spacing", "$value": "{ob.s.spacing.lg}" }
}
}
}
}
}
}
}

```

## Density modes (semantic/modes/density/)

**comfortable.json** - Standard density (baseline): `comfortable.js`

```

{
  "ob": {
    "s": {
      "modes": {
        "density": {

```

```

"stack-gap": { "$type": "spacing", "$value": "{ob.s.spacing.lg}" },
"card-padding": { "$type": "spacing", "$value": "{ob.spacing.xl}" },
"section-margin": { "$type": "spacing", "$value": "{ob.spacing.2xl}" }
}
}
}
}
}
}
}
`compact.json - Tighter density: `json
{

```

```

"ob": {
"s": {
"modes": {
"density": {
"layout": {
"stack-gap": { "$type": "spacing", "$value": "{ob.s.spacing.md}" },
"card-padding": { "$type": "spacing", "$value": "{ob.spacing.lg}" },
"section-margin": { "$type": "spacing", "$value": "{ob.spacing.xl}" }
}
}
}
}
}
}

```








## Phase 3: Universal Nodes Architecture The Integration

## Add to global/themes-user/ - Comprehensive User Support



global/health

- └─ lightness/ #  Existing: Light/dark theme modes
- └─ viewport/ #  Existing: Responsive scaling modes
- └─ component-size/ #  NEW: Size modes configuration (design system controlled)
  - └─ sm.json # References semantic/modes/component-size/sm.json
  - └─ md.json # References semantic/modes/component-size/md.json (default)
  - └─ lg.json # References semantic/modes/component-size/lg.json
- └─ density/ #  NEW: Density modes configuration (product designer controlled)
  - └─ compact.json # References semantic/modes/density/compact.json
  - └─ comfortable.json # References semantic/modes/density/comfortable.json (default)
  - └─ spacious.json # References semantic/modes/density/spacious.json
- └─ future-modes/ #  RESERVED: Modes architecture reserved for expansion (Phase 2+)

- └ responsive/ # Phase 2: Viewport-based scaling modes (framework ready, research needed)
- └ contrast/ # Phase 2: A11y high contrast modes (research required)
- └ motion/ # Phase 2: Animation preference modes (enabled/disabled/reduced)
- └ typography/ # Phase 2: Typography scaling modes (research required)
- └ user-preferences/ # Phase 3: User-controlled A11y modes (font scaling, motion prefs, contrast, dyslexia support)



### Multi-Dimensional Modes Architecture:



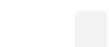
- **Phase 1:** lightness × viewport × component-size × density (4D) - Full implementation
- **Phase 2:** + responsive × contrast × motion × typography (8D) - Framework enabled, research required
- **Phase 3:** + user-preferences (9D+) - User-controlled A11y modes (font scaling, motion, contrast, dyslexia support)
- **Future:** Additional modes as requirements emerge



## Phase 4: Component Migration

### Strategy A: Keep Current Icon Holder Pattern Recommended

**Rationale:** Already working, follows semantic boundaries  
Current icon\_holder structure → Continue using separate files



- sm icon md icon lg icon reference semantic icons

- Allows component-specific size boundaries

## Strategy B: ingrate Tag to Semantic Reference

Before (current):

```
\ json
{
  "padding": {
    "vertical": {
      "sm": { "$value": "{ob.s.spacing.none}" },
      "md": { "$value": "{ob.s.spacing.xs}" },
      "lg": { "$value": "{ob.s.spacing.lg}" }
    }
  }
}
```

After (semantic reference):

```
\ json
{
  "padding": {
    "vertical": {
```

```
"md": { "$value": "{ob.s.modes.component-size.tag.padding-vertical}" },
"lg": { "$value": "{ob.s.modes.component-size.tag.padding-vertical}" }
}
}
}
```

## Implementation Recommendations

### ✓ Preserve What Works

- Keep icon\_holder file-based structure - Already follows semantic boundaries
- Keep responsive multiplier system - mult\_responsive in viewport themes works well
- Keep existing semantic/sizing.json - W3C DTCG compliant and properly structured

### 🔄 Migrate Gradually

#### Pre-migration: System Cleanup ⚠️

1. Create dedicated migration branch - Work on feature/modes-migration to isolate changes from current development
2. Create new Figma file for migration branch - Duplicate current design system file and associate with the migration branch

values 5. **Test current build process** - Confirm all existing components compile successfully

## Priority 1: Create Universal Modes Architecture Foundation

1. Create semantic/modes/ folder structure with extensible modes architecture
2. Define component-size modes tokens (sm/md/lg)
3. Define density modes tokens (compact/comfortable/sparse)
4. Reserve \_future-modes/ structure for planned architecture expansions

## Priority 2: Component Integration with Modes Architecture

1. Tag component → Reference semantic modes architecture
2. Add component boundaries (sm/md/lg limits per component)
3. Validate grid alignment with multiplier system

## Priority 3: Establish Multi-Dimensional Modes Architecture System

1. Add component-size and density modes configuration (controlled by design system consumers/product designers)
2. Test multi-dimensional modes combinations (lightness × viewport × component-size × density)
3. Document modes interaction patterns and architectural extensibility
4. Validate scalability for future modes additions requiring research (responsive, contrast, motion, typography)

**Note:** Density modes are design system configurations controlled by product designers, not user preferences.

## ⚠ Key Considerations

### Grid Alignment Validation

- Ensure mult\_responsive (4px desktop, 5px mobile) reserves 4px grid
- Test all mode combinations maintain proper alignment
- Validate that semantic mode tokens respect base

## Component Boundaries

Based on competitive analysis findings, most design systems (75%) use independent component sizing:

```
`json
// Components define their supported size ranges

{
  "button": { "modes": ["sm", "md", "lg"] }, // Supports all modes
  "navigation": { "modes": ["md"] }, // Fixed medium only
  "card": { "modes": ["md", "lg"] } // Medium and large only
}
```

**Note:** This pattern is rare in industry - only 2/8 analyzed systems use component size coordination.

## Modes Architecture Theme Resolution Order - Responsible Framework

Phase 1: lightness × viewport × component-size × density (8D - Full Implementation) Phase 2: + responsive × contrast × motion × typography (8D - Framework enabled, research required) Phase 3: + user-preferences (9D+ - User-controlled A11y modes requiring extensive research)  
Future: Additional modes as requirements emerge (nD)

**Validation needed:** Test that "last wins" theme resolution scales with multi-dimensional modes architecture combinations.

## Implementation Checklist

### Phase 1: Universal Modes Architecture Foundation

- ☐ Create semantic/modes/ folder structure with extensible modes architecture design
- ☐ Define component-size modes tokens (sm/md/lg)
- ☐ Define density modes tokens (compact/comfortable/spacious)
- ☐ Reserve \_future-modes/ architecture for Phase 2 modes (responsive, contrast, motion, typography)
- ☐ Document modes architecture system in README with Phase 1/2 roadmap

### Phase 2: Multi-Dimensional Modes Theme Integration

- ☐ Add global theme files for size and density modes (Phase 1 implementation)
- ☐ Update \$themes.json to support multi-dimensional modes architecture system
- ☐ Test modes configuration with existing light/dark/viewport modes
- ☐ Validate theme resolution scales with nD modes combinations
- ☐ Enable framework for Phase 2 modes (responsive, contrast, motion, typography) without full implementation

## Phase 3: Component Migration & Modes Architecture Validation

- [ ] Migrate tag component to semantic modes architecture references
- [ ] Validate icon\_holder compatibility with new modes architecture
- [ ] Test grid alignment across all current modes combinations
- [ ] Document component integration patterns for future modes

## Phase 4: Modes Architecture Validation & Future-Proofing

- [ ] Verify multiplier system maintains 4px grid alignment
- [ ] Test all current modes combinations function correctly
- [ ] Validate component boundaries prevent breaking points
- [ ] Document extensible patterns for future modes architecture categories
- [ ] **Phase 2 Planning:** Research responsive modes, color high contrast, animation preferences, and typography scaling
- [ ] **Phase 3 Planning:** Research user preference models (font scaling A+/A/A-, motion preferences, contrast settings, dyslexia-friendly typography)
- [ ] **Long-term Planning:** Define implementation roadmap for user-controlled accessibility modes

## Expected Benefits

### For Designers

- Comprehensive mode system for component size coordination \*(Note: Based on research, only 25% of design systems implement size coordination)\*
- **Extensible architecture** supporting future mode categories (contrast, motion, typography)
- Component size mode options (sm/md/lg) at the design system level



## For Developers

- **Universal modes architecture** that scales beyond screen size and density
- Clear modes system patterns following W3C DTCG standards
- **Future-proof architecture foundation** for accessibility and UX modes requirements

## For System

- **Scalable tokens architecture** aligned with W3C DTCG standards
- Maintains existing responsive multiplier benefits
- Preserves 4px grid alignment system
- **Extensible modes architecture foundation** ready for planned mode categories (contrast, motion, typography)
- **Multi-dimensional modes theme system** supporting complex product requirements



## VP Success Criteria

### Architecture Validation

- [ ] Complete modes architecture structure prepared for all future phases
- [ ] 4D mode system working: lightness x interaction emphasis x viewport x component-size
- [ ] Token resolution validates across all MVP mode combinations
- [ ] Theme switching works seamlessly between all modes

- [ ] All 5 test components render correctly in all 9 mode combinations
- [ ] infobox shows all status colors work across brightness + interaction-emphasis modes
- [ ] input text field babuschka complexity handles nested component modes correctly
- [ ] Size mode coordination works across icon\_holder, button, tag` relationships

## Technical Validation

- [ ] Simplified viewport (desktop/mobile) maintains 4px grid alignment
- [ ] Build system processes all mode combinations without errors
- [ ] No broken token references across any MVP mode combination
- [ ] Documentation clearly shows MVP scope vs future architecture vision



## Post-MVP Expansion Path

**Phase 2:** Add density modes to existing 4D system → 5D system **Phase 3:** Enable responsive, contrast, motion, typography → 9D system **Phase 4:** User preference modes → 12D system (complete)

\*Complete architecture prepared from MVP, selective activation per phase\*