

Dealing with CSS Generated Content

We ended the last lesson with a bang!

Now, let's make the iPhone look better.

Generated Content

In an earlier lesson, I explained how the pseudo-elements, `:before` and `:after` worked.

You most likely didn't see a practical use for it. Let me show you one.

In cases like this where I'm keen on not messing the DOM with redundant markup, I can take advantage of pseudo-elements.

We will create the iPhone home button and speaker using CSS pseudo-elements.

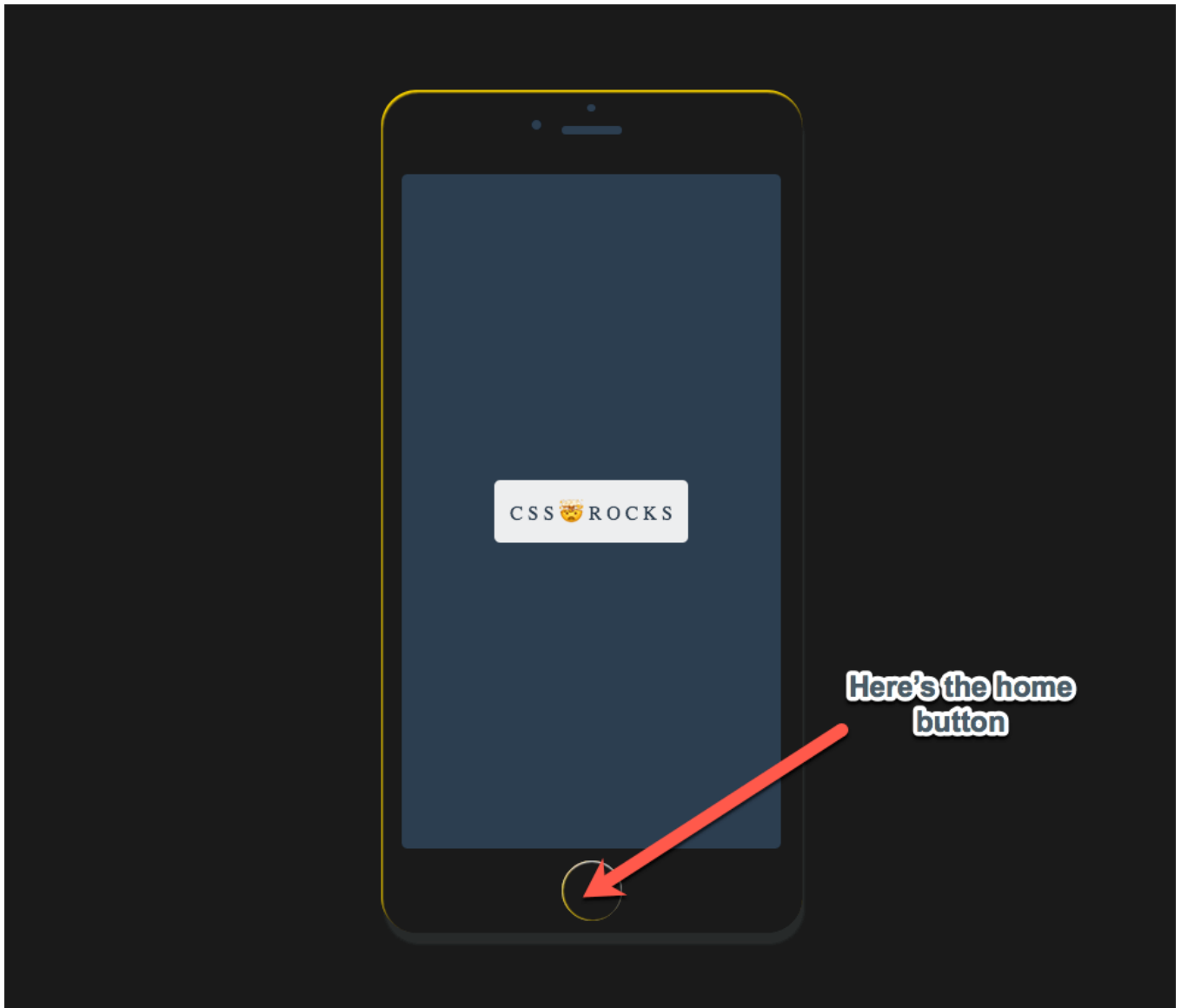
So, where do we start?

Output
HTML
CSS (SCSS)



The output above represents the current state of the project.

Let's begin with the home button.



The final result

Select the `:after` pseudo-element and style it this way:

```
.phone-inner:after{  
  content: '';  
  width: 50px;  
  height: 50px;  
  border-radius: 50%;  
}
```

Don't forget that either `:before` or `:after` needs to have the `content` property present for any meaningful result. Since we don't plan on generating any texts, leave the value of `content` as an empty string.

I have given the element a width and height of `50px`. The `border-radius` of `50%` will ensure that the element is round, like a circle.

Let's get that into the project.

Oh, one more thing...

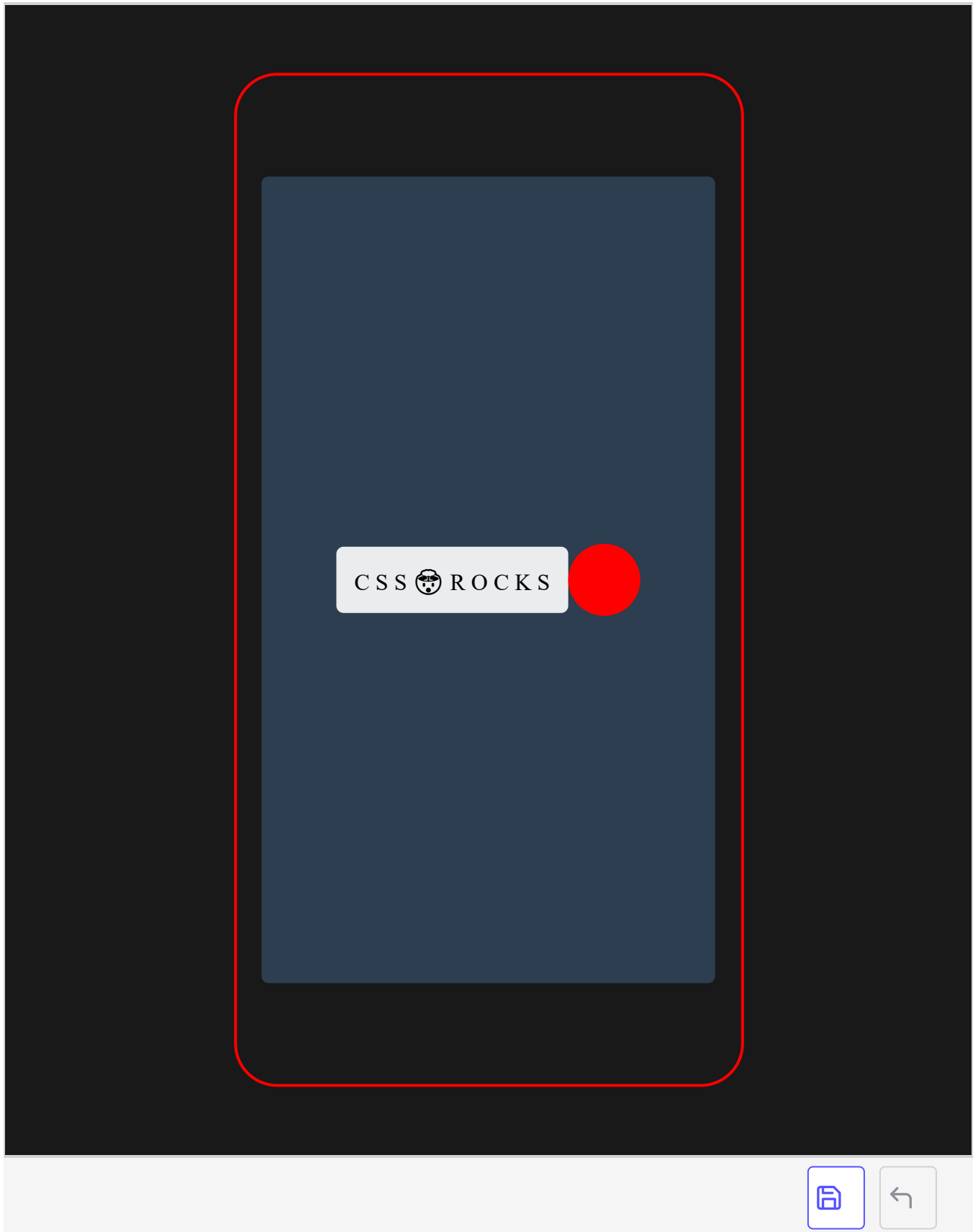
Let's have a `background-color` so we know if this thing worked as expected...

```
.phone-inner:after{
  content: '';
  width: 50px;
  height: 50px;
  border-radius: 50%;
  background: red;
}
```



Look at the result below:

Output
HTML
CSS (SCSS)



Do you see the red round box?

Yeah! That's the sound of progress.

Let me show you something else.

Instead of after, i'll add the same code, but targeting the `:before` element like

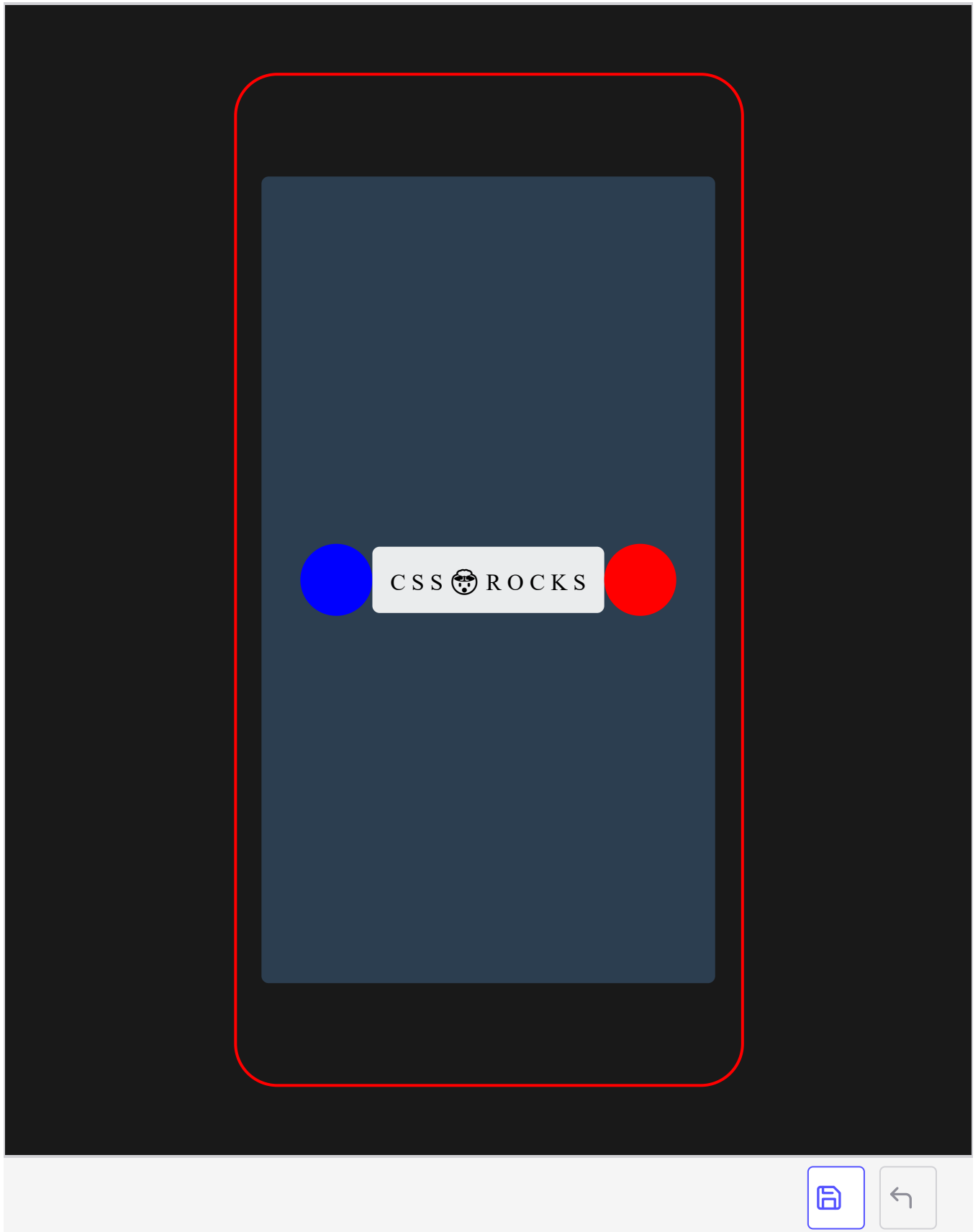
so:

```
.phone-inner:after{  
  content: '';  
  width: 50px;  
  height: 50px;  
  border-radius: 50%;  
  background: blue;  
}
```

The only difference here is the `blue` background color.

Below is the result of that

Output
HTML
CSS (SCSS)



I'm pretty sure you understand why both objects appear where they are.

Content generated with `:before` appears **before** the element's content, while `:after` has its generated content **after** the element's content.

This explains why the blue box appears 'before' the text, 'CSS rocks', and the red box appears 'after' the text.

red box appears after the text.

That being said, we'll go ahead and position these elements in the next lesson.