Let's Start Building the Tooltip

Now that we've found a way to get the middle, let's get a skeleton of a tooltip to display. In this lesson, we will code a basic layout of a tooltip in HTML which we will further extend in the upcoming lessons.

WE'LL COVER THE FOLLOWING ^

- SVG or PNG?
- Rendering the tooltip

SVG or PNG?

At the end of the last lesson, we found the middle of some text we highlight. There's still work to be done, like getting the middle of the first line when multiple are selected, and only having the event respond to selections (as of now it responds to clicks too), but I think the hard part is over. In a similar fashion, if you're rapidly iterating on a product and you're coding towards some work-in-progress designs, it would be wise to get 80% of the way there in CSS. Chances are, the last 20% of making things pixel perfect take disproportionately longer, and your efforts will be doubled when the design inevitably changes.

So, let's make 80% of the tooltip.

We won't spend too much time on styling. It's a rectangle with a dark background and four icons separated by a thin divider. For the icons, they seem to use SVG over PNG.

trucks in California and Arizona. Our software is learning to drive big rigs in much the same way a bur syg.sygIcon-use 25×25 after years of driving passenger cars. The principles a principles a principle are different with a fully-loaded truck and trailer.

SVG tells the browser how to draw something, whereas PNG tells the browser where to put pixels. There are some tradeoffs between the two, like how SVG takes more computing power but doesn't lose sharpness when increased in size. Which one should you use? Often, the answer is just whichever format you can get your icons in.

Rendering the tooltip



The work is 80% there! There's some padding, color, and miscellaneous things (rounded corners, that triangle thing at the bottom), but we can add that at the end. We need something resembling the finished product to iterate on the functionality visually.