

CUBE CSS

July 1st 2020

#technica11y



**CSS Doesn't
Scale!**



Just use Tailwind

Just use Emotion

Just use Styled components

Just use CSS Modules



Tailwind CSS default output:

80,936 **lines**
102kb **weight**

`https://unpkg.com/tailwindcss@1.4.6/dist/tailwind.css`



npm init -y



WordPress

36%



React JS

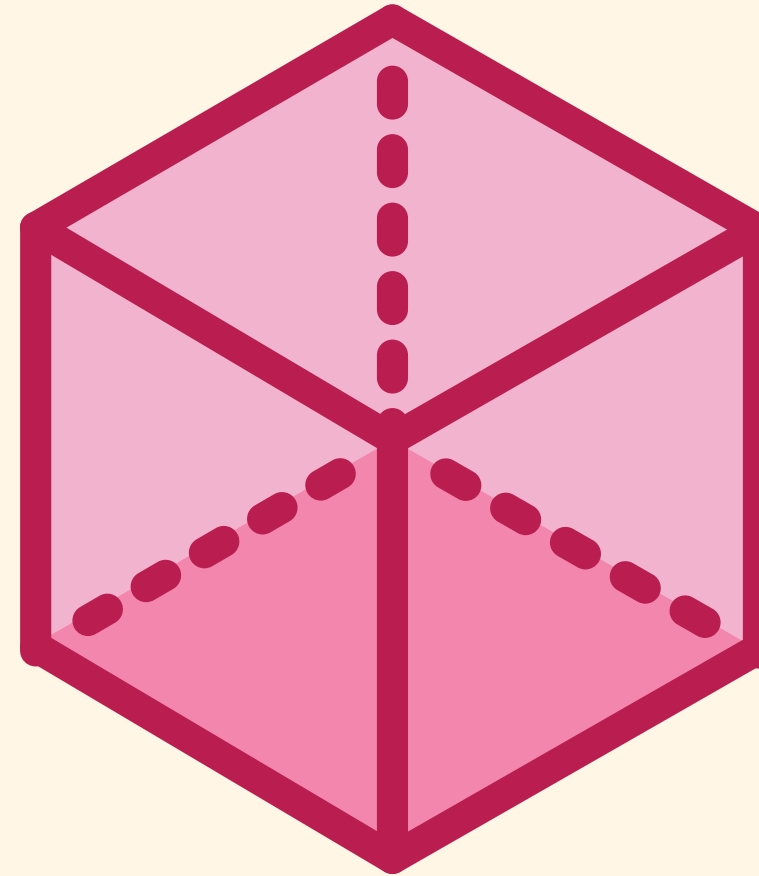
0.3%



```
body {  
  content: "How Andy Does it"  
}
```



CUBE



CSS



What is CUBE CSS?



Composition

Utility

Block

Exception



The “C” in CSS
stands for
“Cascading”



CSS + CUBE = 



CSS



CSS scales *Beautifully*



CSS

PROGRAMMER






```
body {  
  background: #efefef;  
  color: #252525  
  line-height: 1.5;  
  
}
```

CSS



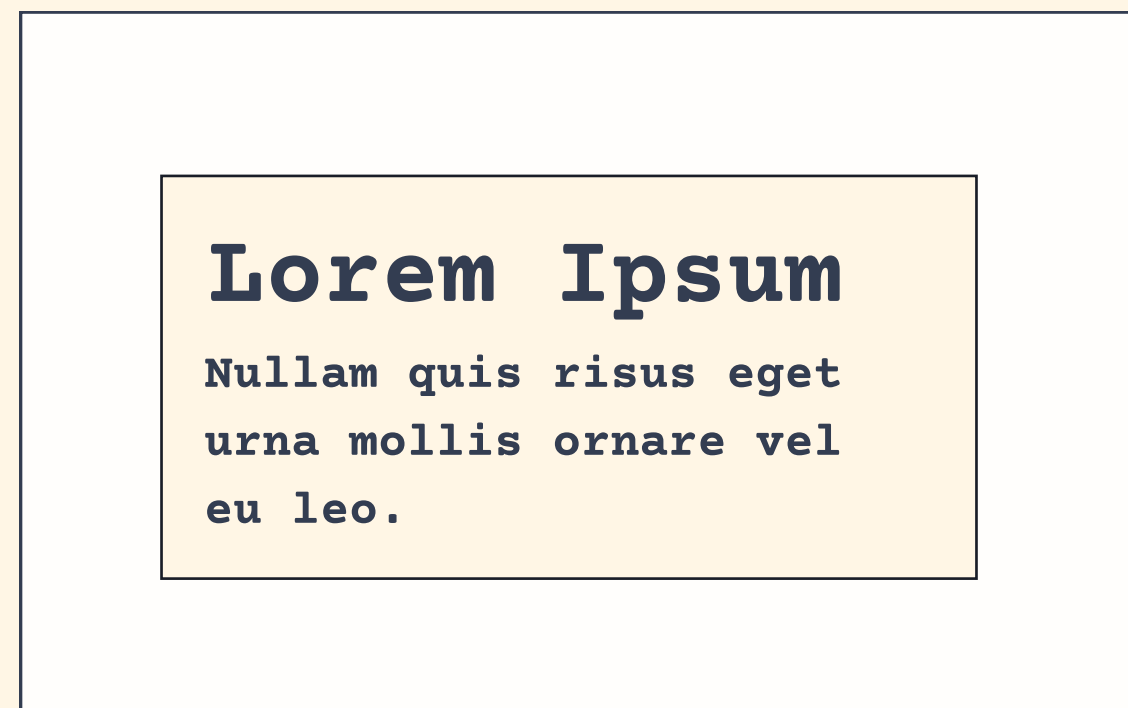
Progressive Enhancement

for the win



Composition





Micro



Macro

Design System Work *is often diplomacy work*





- ✓ **Provide high-level, flexible layouts**
- ✓ **Determine how elements interact with each other**
- ✓ **Create consistent flow and rhythm**



- ✖ **Provide visual treatment such as colour or font style**
- ✖ **Provide decorative styles such as shadows and patterns**
- ✖ **Force a browser to generate a pixel-perfect layout**



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**This is an agency that
doesn't actually exist.**

EVERY LAYOUT

Featuring Heydon Pickering

<https://every-layout.dev>



✓ **Simplify and
distill layout**



EVERY LAYOUT

- ✓ **Simplify and distill layout**
- ✓ **Hints & rules, rather than micromanaging**



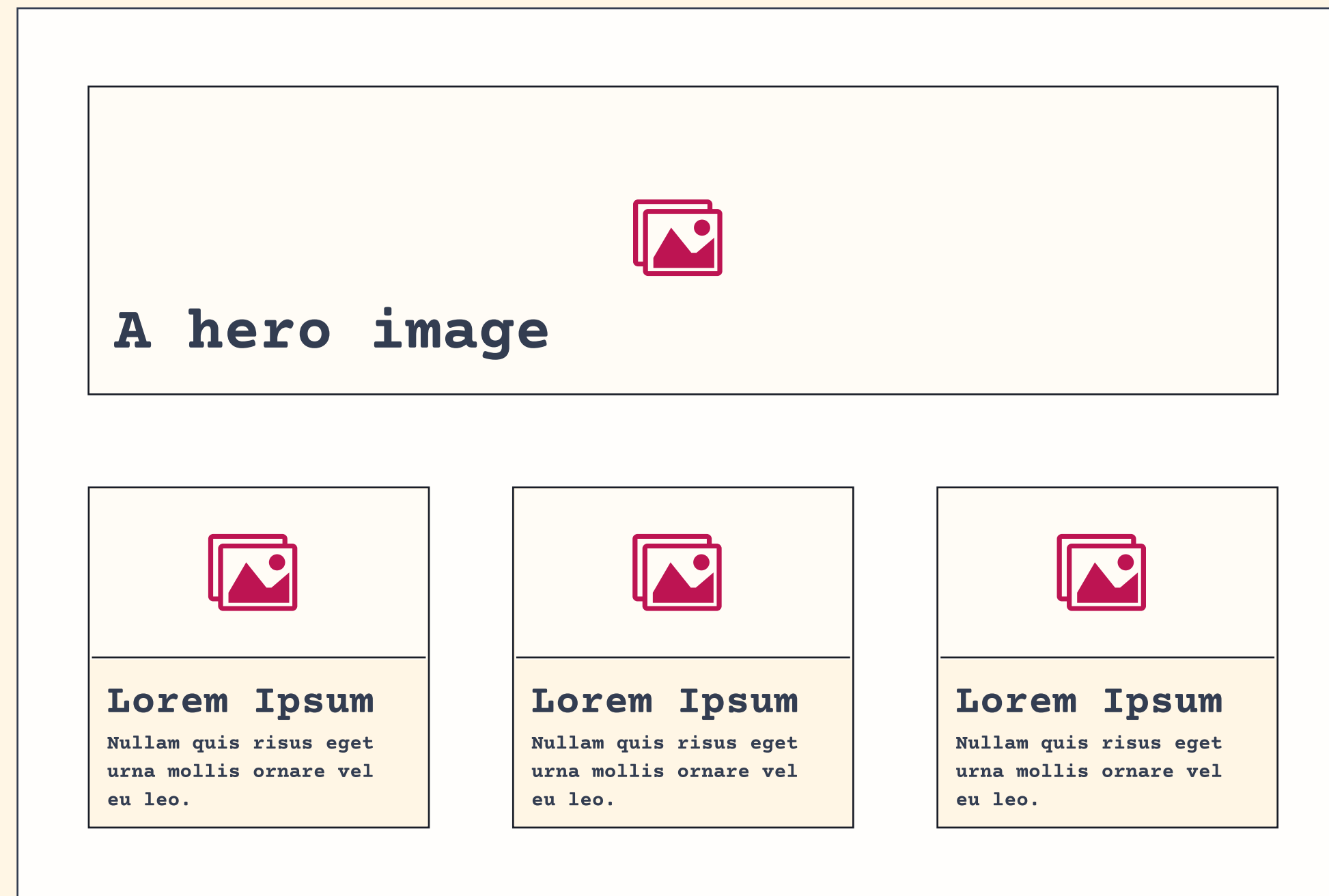
EVERY LAYOUT

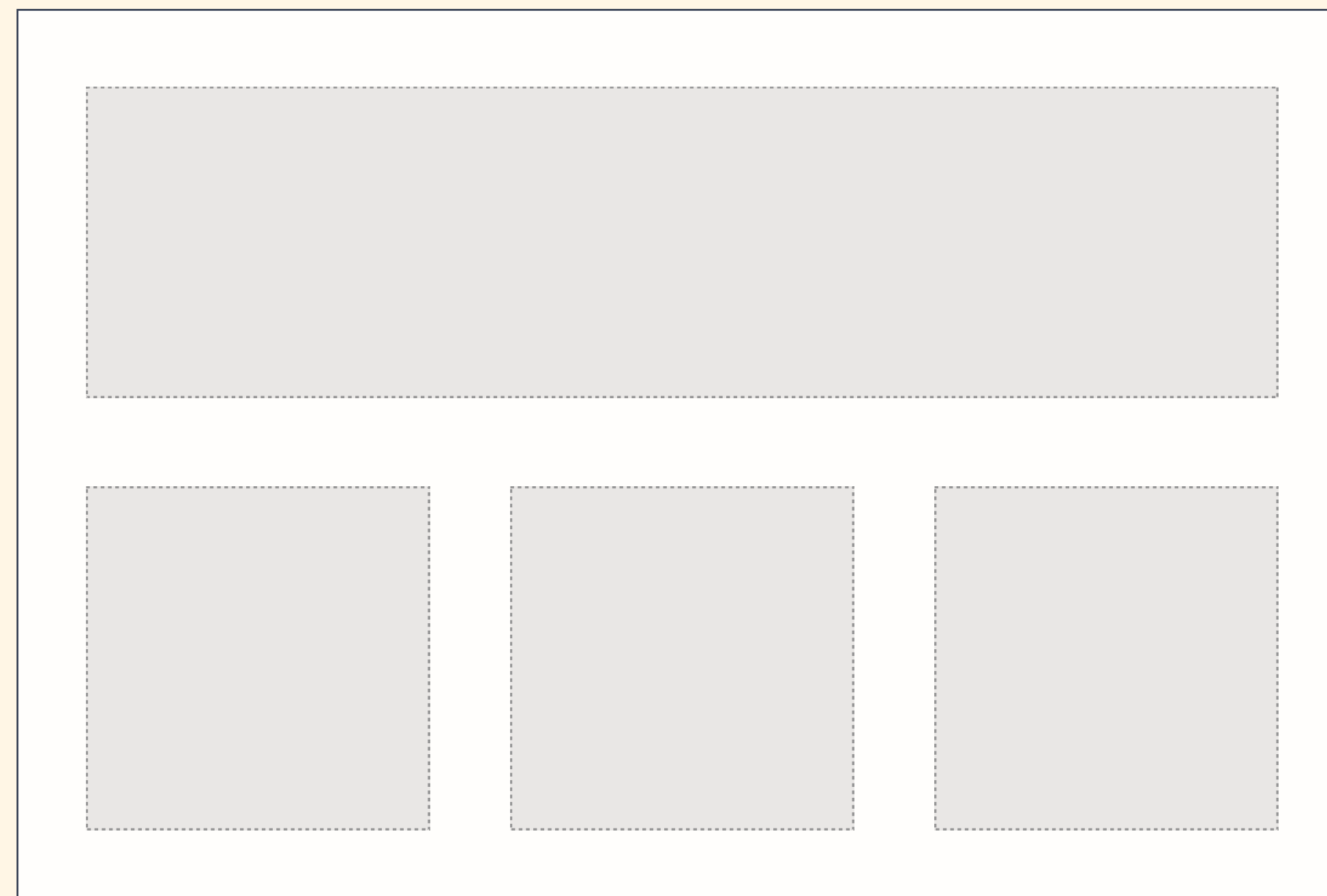
- ✓ **Simplify and distill layout**
- ✓ **Hints & rules, rather than micromanaging**
- ✓ **Achieves solid, resilient layouts**

EVERY LAYOUT

Featuring Heydon Pickering

<https://every-layout.dev>









Lorem Ipsum

1em

Nullam quis risus eget
urna mollis ornare vel
eu leo.

1em

Nullam quis risus eget
urna mollis ornare vel


```
.flow > * + * {  
  margin-top: var(--flow-space, 1em);  
}
```

CSS




```
<article class="card">
  <img class="card__image" alt="" />
  <div class="[ card__content ] [ flow ]">
    <!-- our content in here will auto-flow now -->
  </div>
</article>
```

HTML



Utility





Image: thedrum.com


```
.wrapper {  
  margin-inline: auto;  
  padding-inline: 1rem;  
  max-width: 60rem;  
}
```

CSS



Design Tokens



“Design Tokens are the visual atoms of the design system – specifically, they are named entities that store visual design attributes. We use them in place of hard-coded values in order to maintain a scalable and consistent visual system.”

@jina



Design tokens

for scalable systems



```
{  
  "colours": {  
    "primary": "#ff00ff",  
    "secondary": "#ffbf81",  
    "base": "#252525"  
  }  
}
```

JSON


```
.bg-primary {  
  background: #ff00ff;  
}  
  
.bg-secondary {  
  background: #ffbf81;  
}  
  
.color-primary {  
  color: #ff00ff;  
}  
  
.color-secondary {  
  color: #ffbf81;  
}
```

CSS



```
<article class="bg-primary color-base"></article>
```

HTML



Design tokens

mean light CSS



- ✓ **Apply a single CSS property, or a concise group of related properties**
- ✓ **Extend design tokens to maintain a single source of truth**
- ✓ **Abstract repeatability away from the CSS and apply it in the HTML instead**

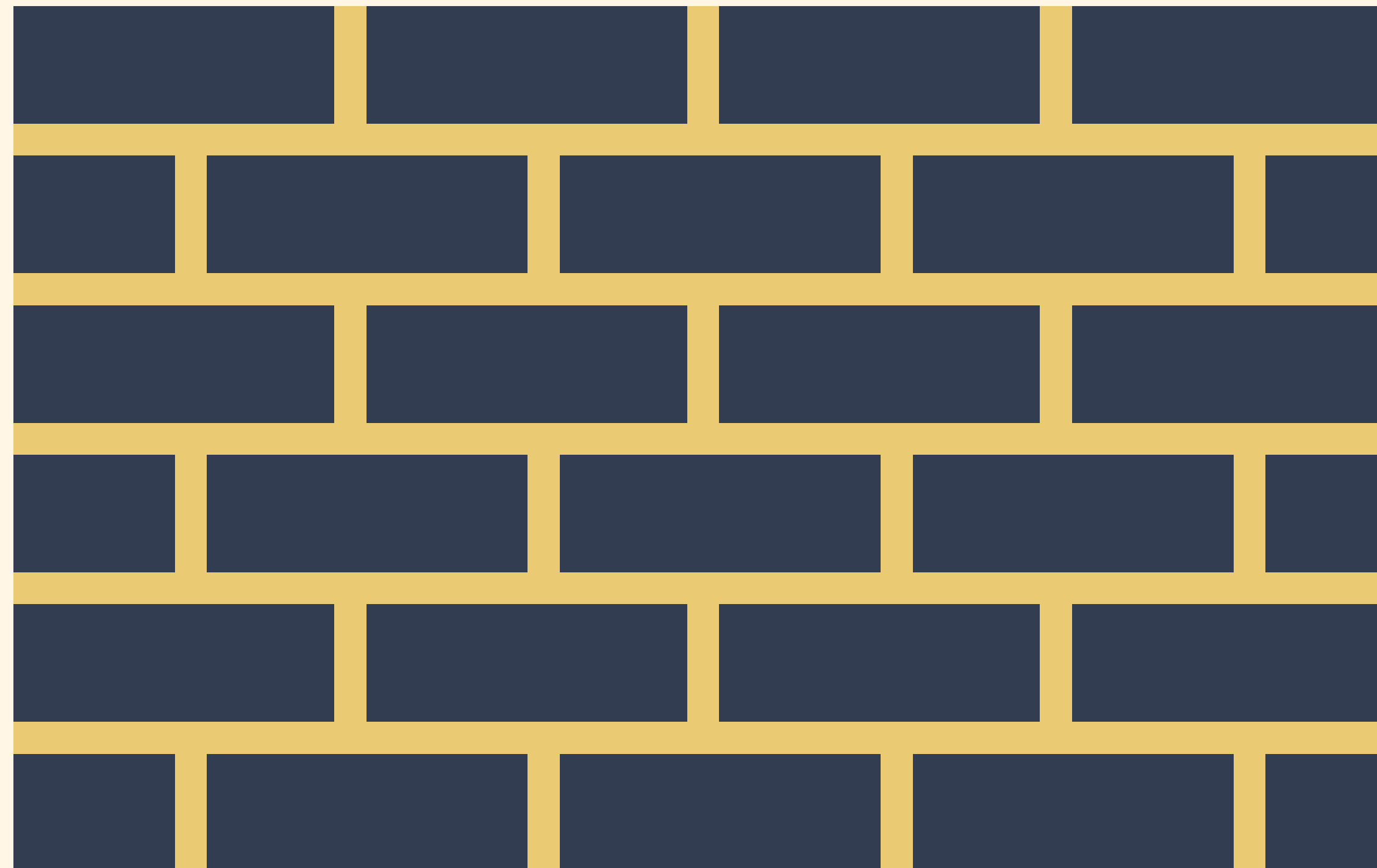


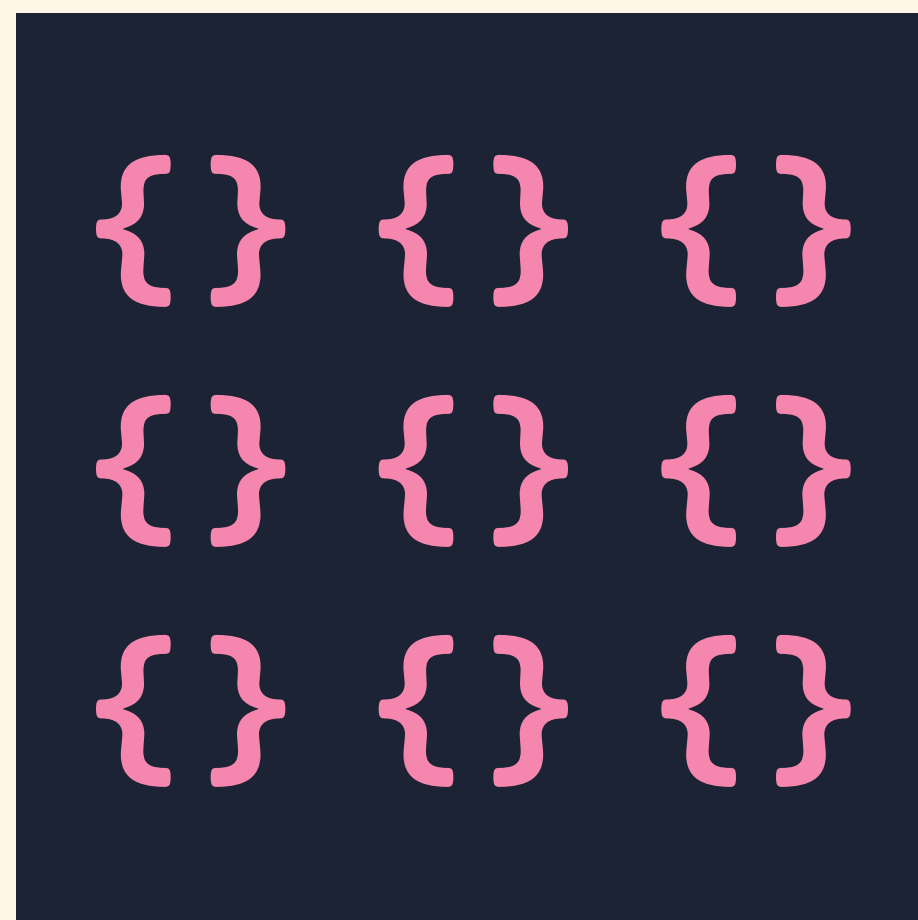
- × **Define a large group of unrelated CSS properties.**
- × **Be used as a specificity hack.**



Block







CUBE CSS



BEM

**Bring your own
opinions**
(slightly risky)




```
.my-block__my-element {  
  /* Cool CSS goes here */  
}
```

CSS



```
.my-block .title {  
  /* Cool CSS goes here */  
}  
  
.my-block h2 {  
  /* Cool CSS goes here */  
}
```

CSS



- ✓ **Extend the work already done by CSS, composition and utility**
- ✓ **Apply a collection of design tokens within a concise group**
- ✓ **Create a namespace or specificity boost**



- × **Grow to anything larger than a handful of CSS rules** (max 80–100 lines)
- × **Solve more than one contextual problem**



Exception





Lorem Ipsum

Nullam quis risus eget
urna mollis ornare vel
eu leo.



Lorem Ipsum

Nullam quis risus eget
urna mollis ornare vel
eu leo.




```
<article class="card" data-state="reversed"></article>
```

HTML



```
.card[data-state='reversed'] {  
  display: flex;  
  flex-direction: column-reverse;  
}
```

CSS



Principles



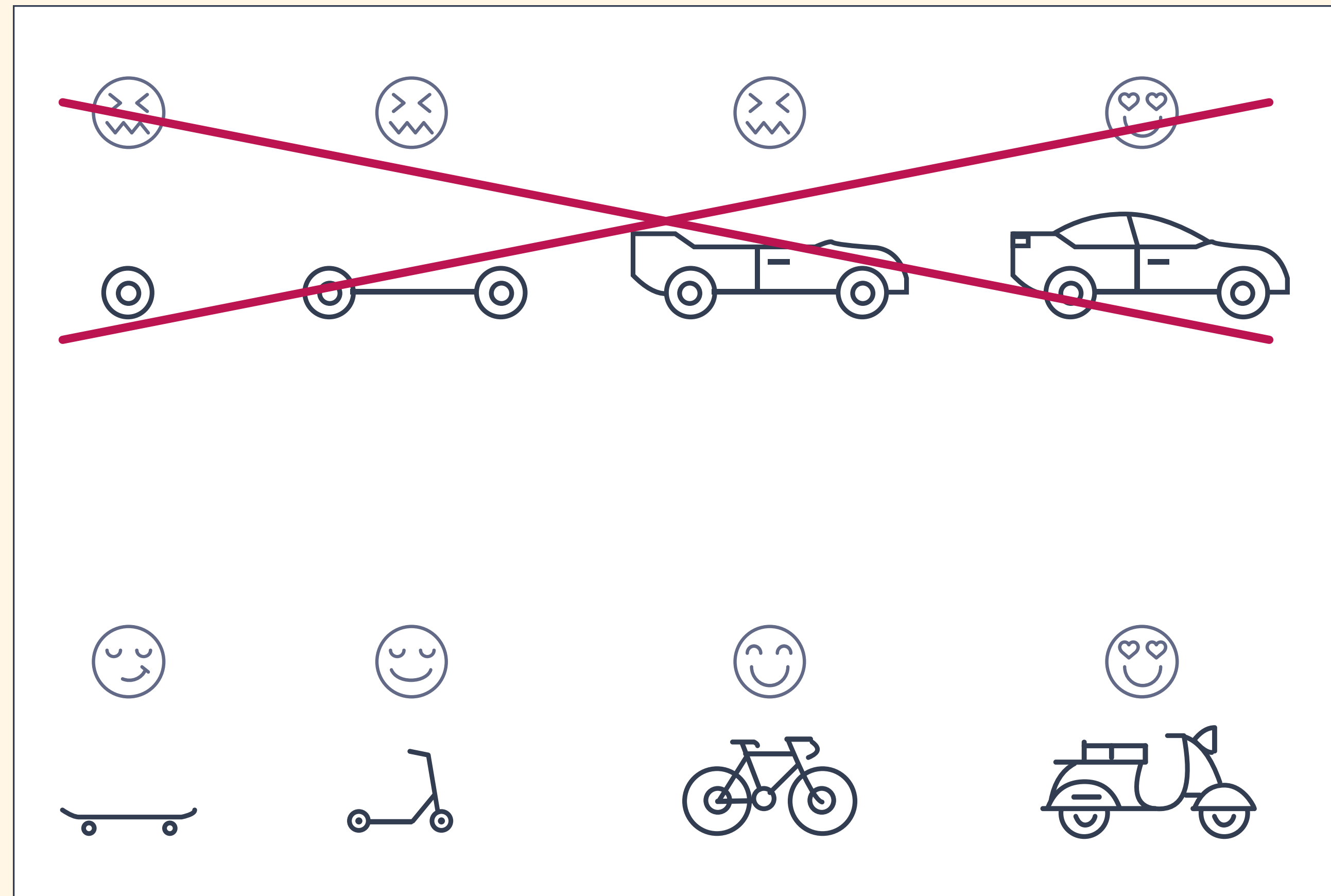
**Pls do this
layout thx**



Progressive Enhancement

for the win





<https://swop.link/pe>

Bye Bye AutoPrefixer

we will not miss you



Abstraction

only when necessary



Any technology is fine
just keep the output light



Wrapping up



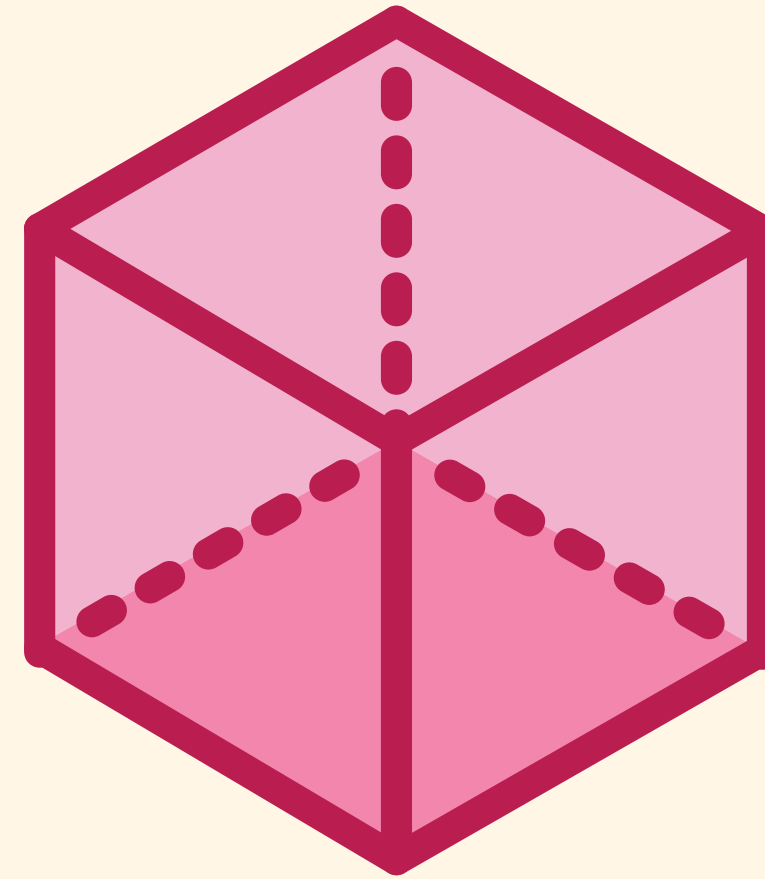
IT'S A LIE





CUBE

<https://cube.fyi>



CSS

Thank you

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<https://swop.link/11ty-cube>



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