Adventures in Browser tooling



\$ whoami



- Chris Heilmann @codepo8 he/him/his
- Principal Program Manager Microsoft
 Developer Experience (VSCode, Devtools...)
- W3C Member
- 20 years web developer
- eToys, Agilisys, Yahoo, Mozilla...
- Wrote 3 books, contributed to 10(?)...
- Blogged since 2004, loud on Twitter

Minding the gap...

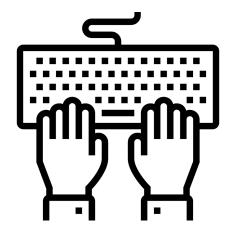
A demands gap...

Useful, effective and pretty amazing things in devtools

What we use day to day...

What we demand of the web...

An assumptions gap...



Build it!



Ship it!



Great success!

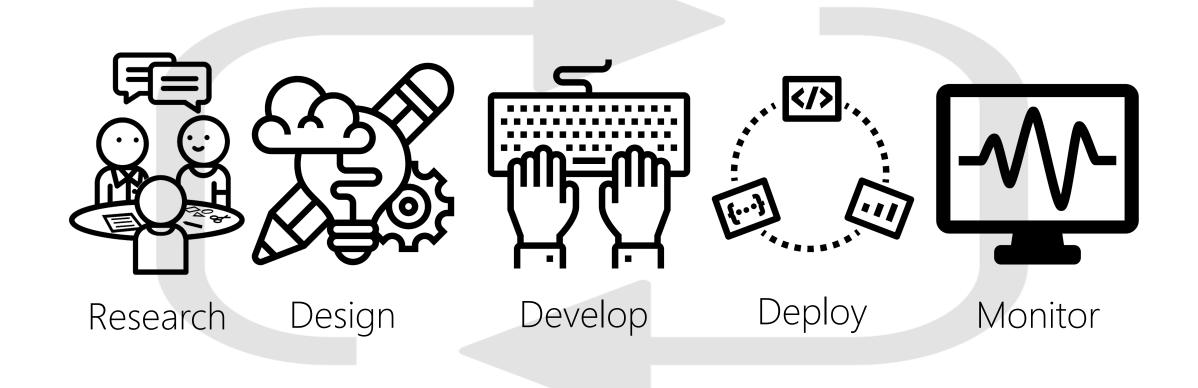


The web isn't a native platform

Our products should:

- work independent of device and operating system
- still cater to users of older devices and environments
- not make any assumptions
- be customizable by our users
- have a longer lifetime than the current state of technology

Realities of great software projects...



My audience: developers

Different developers, different needs

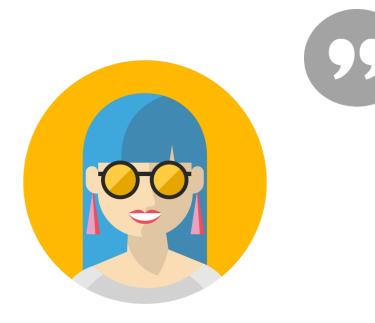


"This is a job" developer



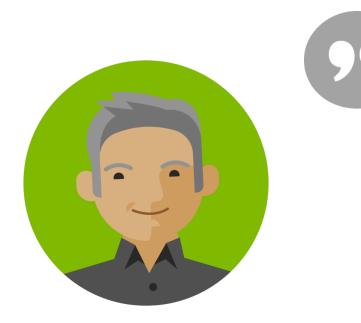
I work for a company that defines our tools and computer setup. I know there are probably better things out there, but as I don't get to use them at work, why bother learning them?

The "switched on" developer



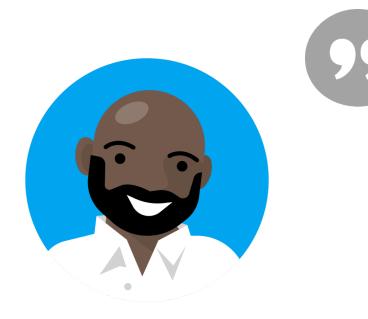
It is frustrating that there are still people out there with old computers and outdated browsers. With a library I can support them as I'd rather learn and try out new things.

The "I am here to deliver" developer



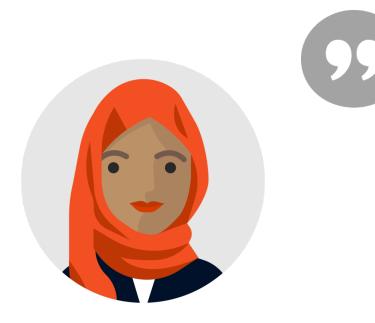
My clients don't pay extra for fancy new technology. They need to get something that works on their machines. It needs to be legally compliant, you know, accessible so they can't be sued. That's why I use a framework.

The "the web is broken" developer

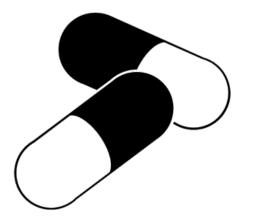


I've always worked with higher programming languages and rich UI environments. The web seems like a mess and I don't want to spend time trying to guess what the outcome of my code is.

The "I'm here to learn" developer



I just started as a web developer and wherever I look, I am confused. There is so much information and often people give contradicting advice. I just want to learn the right thing...



Somehow bitter pills to swallow...

- The caring developer is a tiny fraction of the market
- For many, this is a job to make a living
- New developers don't find an empathic, open world, but an avalanche of choice and opinions
- Satisfying developer needs has no direct correlation to creating better user products

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Tech innovation isn't the answer

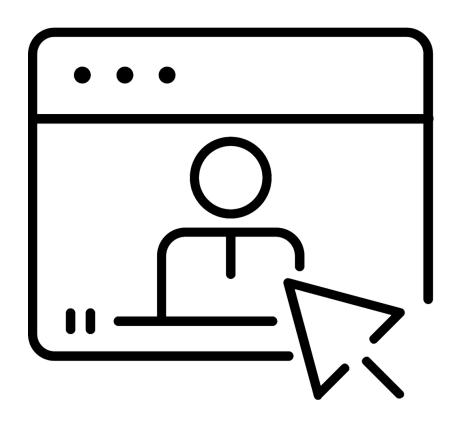
- Constant change in the developer space is a double-edged sword
- We empower a small group of highly motivated people at the cost of overwhelming others
- We don't find out about real problems as we don't ask people outside our bubble



Why are things "slow"?

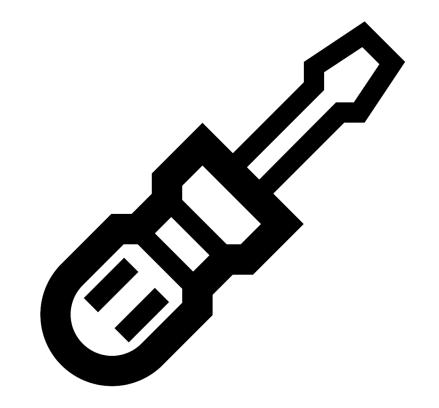
- Security
- Privacy
- Performance
- Maintainability
- Ownership
- Backwards compatibility

Browsers for developers



- Consumption and creation platform
- App platform (Progressive Web Apps, Electron...)
- Test platform (Automation with Puppeteer / Playwright)
- Preview of technology of the web to come (Beta, Canary, Developer builds, flags, origin trials)

Why do we need web standards?



- Predictability of code outcome
- Prevention of monopolies
- Quality control if your code validates the issue must be somewhere else
- Maintainability, backwards compatibility and future readiness.

Web standards are an agreement



- They used to be pretty academic
- Nowadays they are informed by use and needs of developers and users collected by browser makers and developers
- Discussions happen in the open and you are welcome to join

Usage gap

Useful, effective and pretty amazing things in devtools

What we use day to day...

Editor in the browser...

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Upgrading your dev experience...





- You can set breakpoints in the editor in the browser
- You can also set breakpoints in your text editor (f.e. Visual Studio Code)
- They are more work upfront than a console.log() but worth it.

Breakpoints > console.log()

- Your code execution is paused errors can't slip though
- You get an end-to-end picture of what is happening
- You are not likely to litter the web with yet another console message that end users should never see

DOM breakpoints!

Task:What do you need to do?Addbuy cookiesget cookie consent

DOM breakpoints?

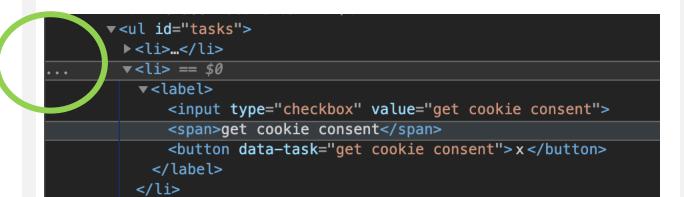
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DOM breakpoints!

Task: What do you need to do? Add buy cookies

get cookie consent



DOM breakpoints!

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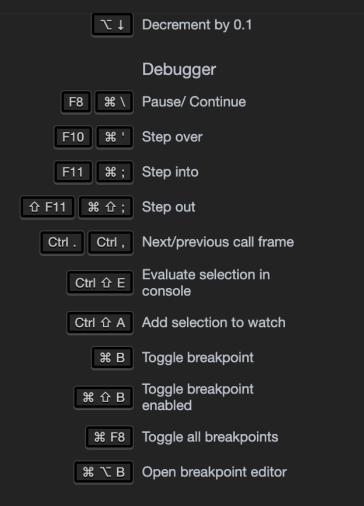
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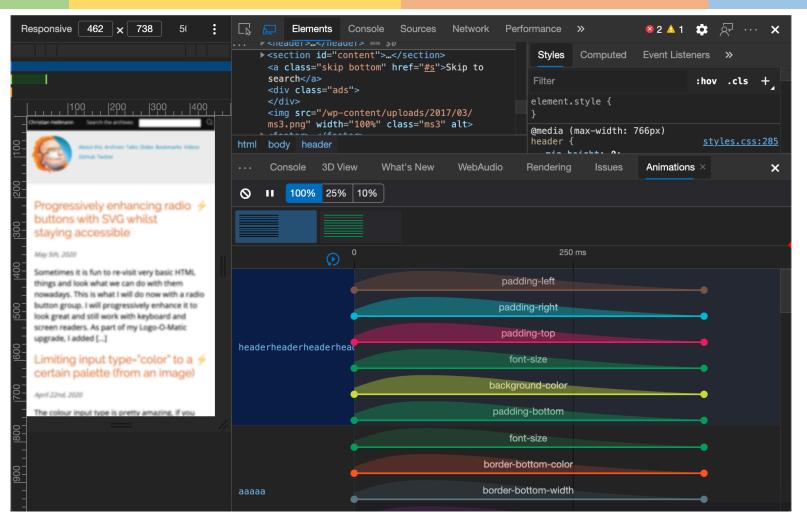
No need for a mouse!

Shortcuts

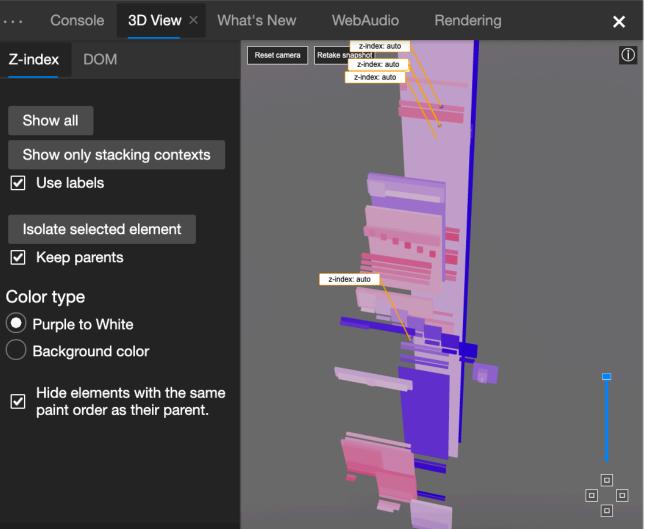


More visual tooling?

Animation Editor



3D View

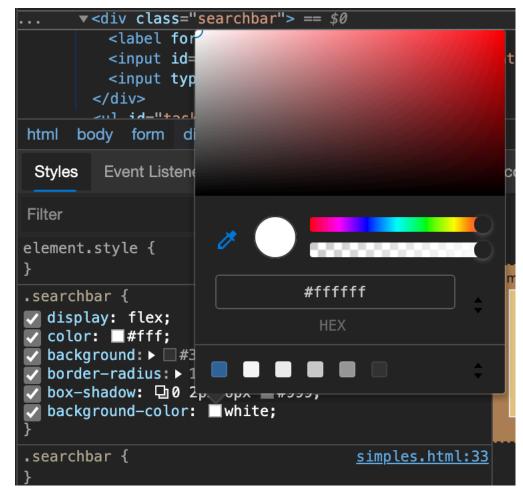


Easy to miss extra features...

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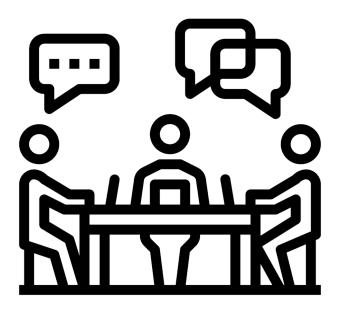
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Currently in production:

- CSS Grid tooling
- Font tooling
- Service Worker lifecycle visualization
- ??? (you decide)

Emulation

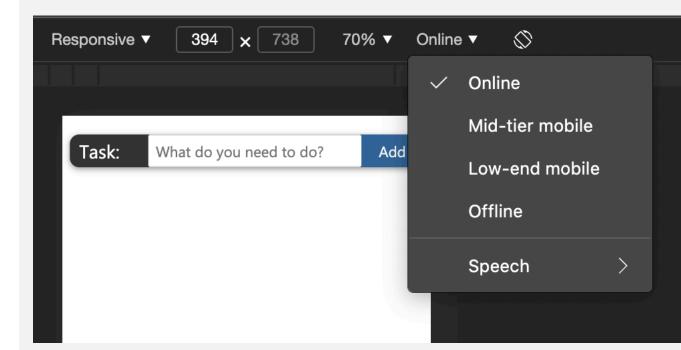


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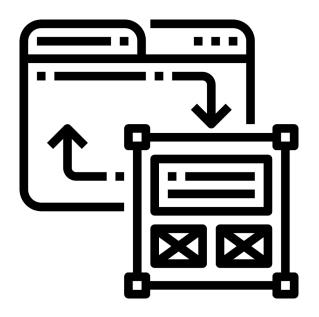
Device Mode





More features of Device Emulation

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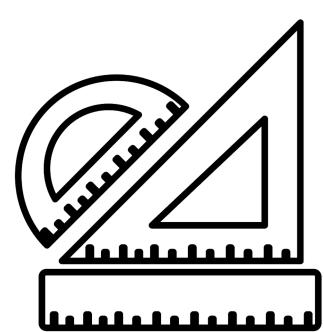
Christian Heilmann Search the archives:	
About this Archives Talks Slides Bookmarks Videos GitHub Twitter	
Progressively enhancing radio buttons with SVG whilst staying accessible	
May 5th, 2020	
Sometimes it is fun to re-visit very basic HTML things and look what we can do with them nowadays. This is what I will do now with a radio button group. I will progressively enhance it to look great and still work with keyboard and screen readers. As part of my Logo-O-Matic upgrade, I added []	
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April 22pd 2020	

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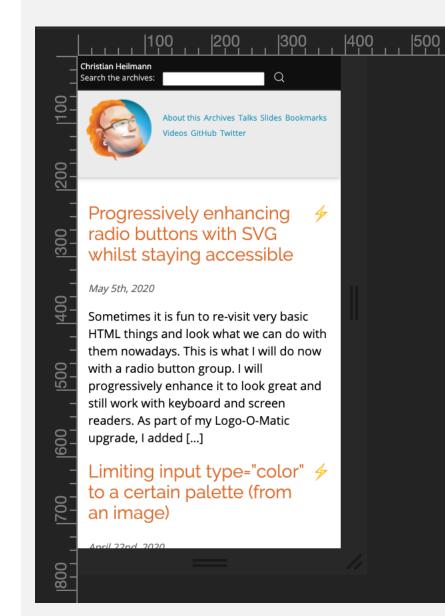
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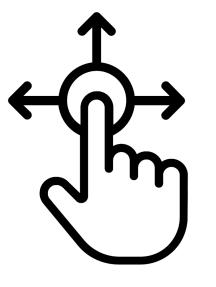
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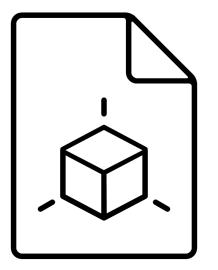
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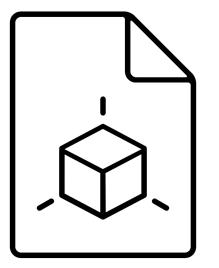
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Rendering menu

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Rendering menu

Paint flashing

Highlights areas of the page (green) that need to be repainted.
 May not be suitable for people prone to photosensitive epilepsy.

Layout Shift Regions

Highlights areas of the page (blue) that were shifted. May not be suitable for people prone to photosensitive epilepsy.

Layer borders

Shows layer borders (orange/olive) and tiles (cyan).

FPS meter

Plots frames per second, frame rate distribution, and GPU memory.

Scrolling performance issues

Highlights elements (teal) that can slow down scrolling, including touch & wheel event handlers and other main-thread scrolling situations.

Highlight ad frames

Highlights frames (red) detected to be ads.

Hit-test borders

Shows borders around hit-test regions.

Emulate CSS media type Forces media type for testing print and screen styles

No emulation

Emulate CSS media feature prefers-color-scheme

×

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Accessibility concerns



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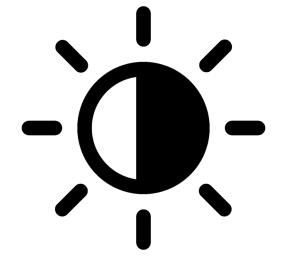
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Forces media type for testing print and screen styles

No emulation

Emulate CSS media feature prefers-color-scheme

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Emulate CSS media feature prefers-color-scheme Forces CSS prefers-color-scheme media feature

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prefers-color-scheme: light prefers-color-scheme: dark -reduced-motion

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Emulate CSS media feature prefers-reduced-motion Forces CSS prefers-reduced-motion media feature

✓ No emulation

prefers-reduced-motion: reduce

Paint flashing

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Emulate CSS media type

Forces media type for testing print and screen styles

No emulation

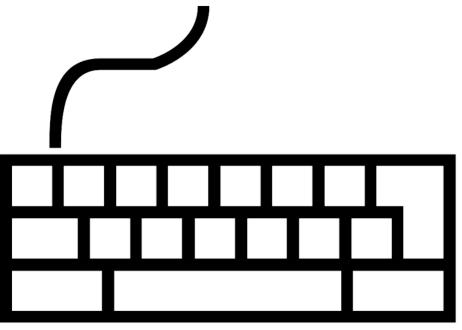
Emulate CSS media feature prefers-color-scheme

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Emulate vision deficiencies Forces vision deficiency emulation

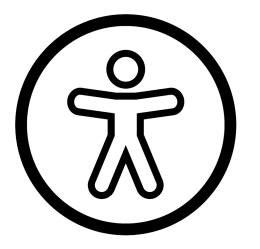
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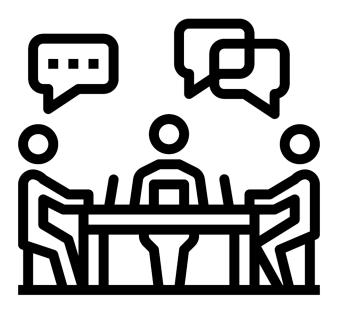
Pro tip: CMD+SHIFT+P

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Rendering Emulate CSS prefers-color-scheme: dark	
Debugger Deactivate breakpoints	
Debugger Do not capture async stack traces	
Sources Disable bracket matching	
Appearance Switch to system preferred color theme	
Appearance Switch to light theme (Chromium)	
Appearance Switch to light theme	



Already shipped:

- Developer tools are keyboard and screenreader accessible
- Developer tools work in high contrast mode



Currently in production:

- High Contrast simulation
- Simpler accessible interfaces
- Accessibility error reporting in context
- Dual Screen Emulation

Need for speed?

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Browser task manager!

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Hat tip: also in Firefox!

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How the sausage is made...

Innovation in the open...



https://github.com/MicrosoftEdge/MSEdgeExplainers

Welcome! This repo is home to "explainers" and related documents originating from the Microsoft Edge team.

Jump to section: Active Explainers | Alumni | DevTools | Other documents | Withdrawn

Introduction

Explainers are documents focused on describing a user/ developer/ customer problem (at a high level) and exploring potential solutions. These documents are starting points for engaging in discussion with you and other members of the community. Explainers should address their stated problems in clear and easy to understand language. Proposed solutions should be easy to follow and not too deep in technical details. When you read an explainer, we hope the stated problem is compelling and you can form an opinion for whether the proposed solution would address the problem.

Please provide feedback

We are looking for feedback! Are the stated problems relevant to you? How have they impacted your experience? Do the proposed solutions seem reasonable? Do they follow good web principles? Would they solve a problem you currently have? (We love to hear that; tell us more about your scenario!) Do you have related use-cases we hadn't considered?

Detailed developer tools explainers

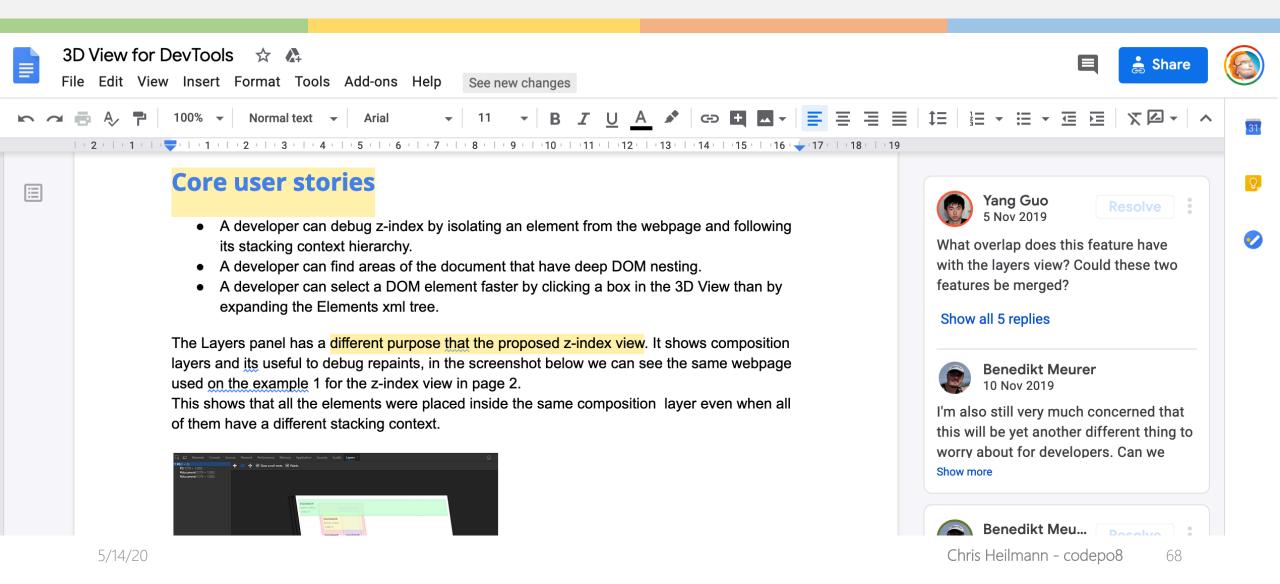


We love our developer tools! Checkout these cool innovations being designed for the developer tools:

- 3D View
- CSS Grid Tooling
- Customizable Keyboard Shortcuts
- Dual-screen Emulation
- High Contrast Simulation
- Infobar UI Refresh
- Localization
- Redux for State
- Service Worker Improvements
- Settings Discoverability and Telemetry
- Settings Search
- Stackable Overlays
- webhint

https://github.com/MicrosoftEdge/MSEdgeExplainers

Discussion amongst browser makers

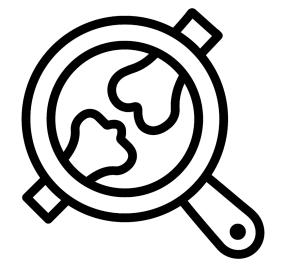


Others join, too!

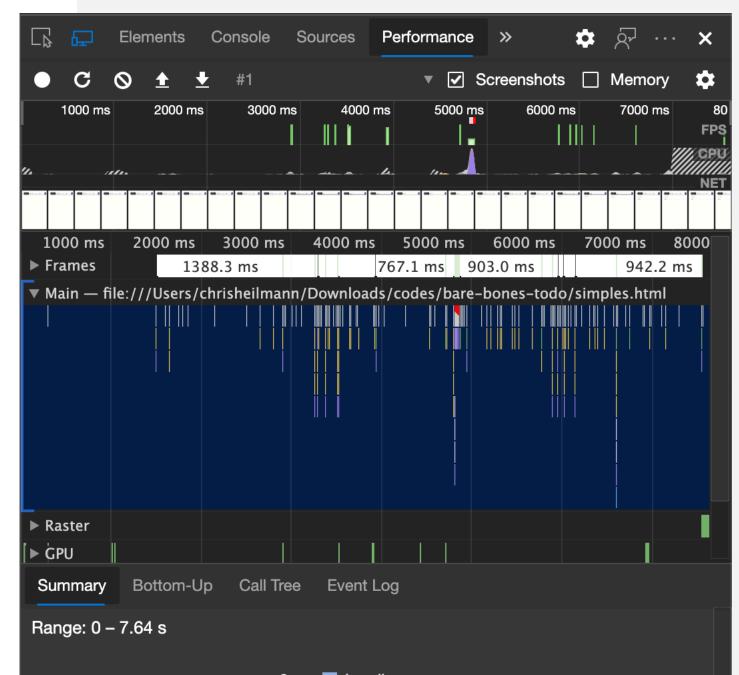
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https://github.com/WebKit/explainers

Popping the hood...



What are developer tools made of?



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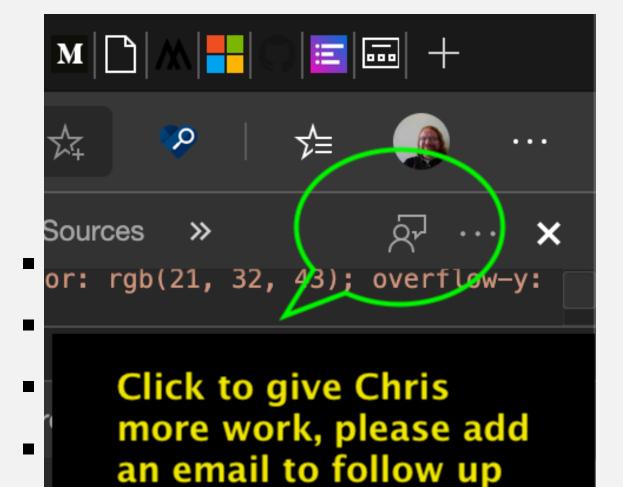
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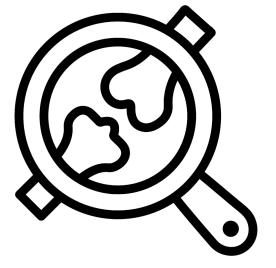




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What makes me happy?





What are developer tools made of?

- I like that we use web technology to build developer tools
- This makes them embeddable into other software (VS Code is an Electron shell with Monaco inside)
- It also allows us to build for the web on the web (CodePen, JSBin, Code Sandbox, Workspaces for GitHub)
- It is fun to work in them as you have a predictable environment – we can test upcoming web tech there.

Little touches that go a long way...

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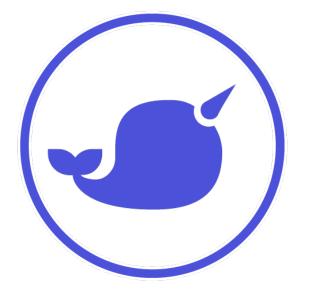
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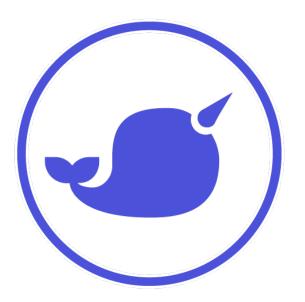
}; document.querySelector('form'). addEventListener('submit', doFormStuff);

};



Webhint: testing and best practices

- Testing tool to check web projects for:
 - Accessibility issues
 - Performance problems
 - App readiness
 - Compatibility with standards
 - Common pitfalls to avoid
 - Security issues
- Online service (webhint.io) or node package to integrate in other tools
- Highly customisable



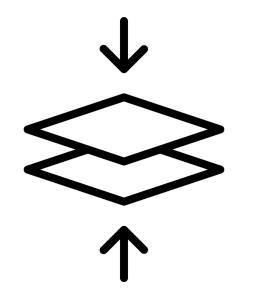
Webhint in VS Code

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index.html — logo-o-matic

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	90	<pre>viewBox="0 0 847 847" x="0px" y="0px" aria-labelledby="s</pre>
	91	<title id="savetitle">Save</title>
	92	<g></g>

84



Merging of tools

- VS Code is not only an editor, it also includes version control and a terminal
- This means I don't have to jump from one context to another to debug
- However... wouldn't it me cool to have Devtools in VS Code?

°°°° T T

Devtools for Code

- Edge/Chromium developer tools inside VS Code
- No need to switch to the browser to try a few things out
- No need to replicate the same functionality in both places



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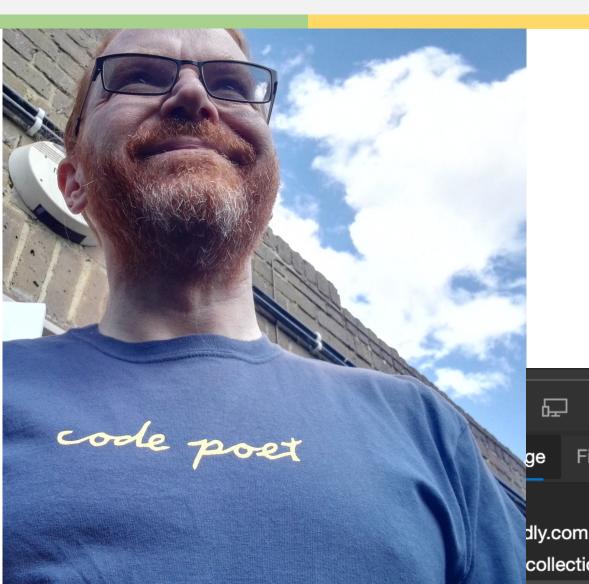
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Thanks – your voice matters!



Chris Heilmann @codepo8 @EdgeDevTools christianheilmann.com Click the feedback in Edge developer tools! 😣 16 🛕 987 🛛 🖓 Elements Console Sources Network >> Filesystem >> collection/content/user/137bddf2жP Open file