## !important

Chris Heilmann

@codepo8 March 2019



## Chris Heilmann @codepo8



- Principal Software Development Engineer
- Microsoft Edge and Developer Experience (VSCode, Devtools...)
- W3C Member WebML Discussion Group
- 20 years web developer
- eToys, Agilisys, Yahoo, Mozilla...
- Wrote 3 books, contributed to 10(?)...

## !important



## !important

- For a CSS developer: this is so important, it should override all other inherited settings
- For a CSS developer finding it in production: someone was here who shouldn't have been
- For a JavaScript developer writing CSS: that's how I get it to do what I want
- For a JavaScript developer not knowing CSS: not important



# Best practices need insight and context

- It is not HTML vs. CSS vs. JavaScript
- Each on their own are probably not enough to create a great product
- What was enough in the beginning of the web is probably not enough now that expectations changed
- Just because we can do everything with JavaScript, it may not be the most effective and performant way



We all crave importance and recognition

- Being visible is much easier these days than it used to be
- A lot more code is open and available in the public
- We could collaborate and build great things together
- But it is much easier to criticize the work of others, isn't it?

## Drop code, receive assumptions and well-intentioned advice...

Pretty wild how you can avoid loops these days in JavaScript "create a dropdown from the values of an object and remove all duplicates"

'e44': 'serif',
'e45': 'ligature',
'e46': 'beak',
'e47': 'spine',
'e48': 'head serif',
'e49': 'head serif'
<pre>const createdrop = () =&gt; {</pre>
<pre>let dropoptions = new Set(</pre>
Object.values(information)
);
<pre>let str = `<select></select></pre>
<pre><option>\${[dropoptions].sort().join('</option><option>')}</option></pre>
`;
return str;



# Probably not safe to assume clean data...



### Loïc Giraudel @l\_giraudel · Feb 11 Replying to @codepo8

I would rely on map to prevent an empty <option></option> when information object is empty.

V



## Not safe to assume performance with lots of data...



James Socol @jamessocol · Feb 11 Replying to @codepo8

Avoid \*writing loops. There are a bunch of (5ish?) list iterations in there, and depending on the workload may need more optimizing

 $\sim$ 



# Happy accidents can happen...



Michael Bruyninckx @modul8com · Feb 11

### Replying to @codepo8

how does this filter out duplicates ? this is only sorting, right ?

 $\bigcirc 2$ 17





Jim 🕷 🥗 Liu @jimcalliu · Feb 11

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Using Set allow you to store \_only\_ unique values. Learn more here

 $\square$ 

M



### Set

The Set object lets you store unique values of any type, whether primitive values or object references.

developer.mozilla.org

 $\bigcirc 1$ 



Brian Wynn @bwynn\_dev · Feb 11

17

11

Set is your friend, add it to your tool-belt!

 $\bigcirc 1$ 

 $Q_1$ 

+1

 $\square$ 



Michael Bruyninckx @modul8com · Feb 11 cool, didn't know that one yet. Thanks !

V

V

Things we say to each other without considering the context...







## THIS DOESN'T PErFORm WHEN YOU hAVE A LoT OF DATA!



# THIS COUID BE wrITten mUch SHORTER!







### Enter text, receive derp...

codepo8.github.io/not-that-important/derpify-js.html



### **Chris Heilmann**

@codepo8

function derpify(str) {
return str.toLowerCase().split('').map(
c => (Math.random() < 0.3) ? c :
c.toUpperCase()
).join('');</pre>

}; derpify('hello there') "HELLo TheRE"



 $\sim$ 

Replying to @codepo8

c.toUpperCase()) =]

Jonas Raoni Soares da Silva @jonasraoni · Feb 14

Less verbose: s.replace(/./g, c => Math.random() < .3 ? c.toLowerCase() :



Chris Heilmann @codepo8

### mOaR rEAdAble

function derpify(str) {

> return str.toLowerCase().split('').map(
> c => (Math.random() < 0.3) ? c : c.toUpperCase()
> ).join('');
};

### $\sim$



# Comfortable rebellion...





# Each of these is a sure-fire win...

- If you zoom out far enough, you can make accusations that can't be argued against
- This means you look clever and caring for the web
- It does, however, also mean that we discourage people
- And is it really the right place to argue for quality? When the product is done?

# As quality focused developers, we rightfully care about...



# Alas, the state of the web is **!good**



## Rampant accessibility failures...



Most common types of WCAG 2 failures

WCAG Failure Type	# of home pages	% of home pages
Low contrast text	852,868	85.3%
Missing alternative text for images	679,964	68%
Empty links	581,408	58.1%
Missing form input labels	528,482	52.8%
Missing document language	329,612	33.1%
Empty buttons	250,367	25%

https://majestic.com/reports/majestic-million https://webaim.org/projects/million/



# Huge and not optimised...



Katie Hempenius @katiehempenius

Page Weight Percentiles: overall & by resource type

If one of these categories is super high for a site, it's often an indicator that there's "low hanging fruit" performance wins to be had by optimizing that resource type.

(Data source: @HTTPArchive, Desktop Oct'18 data)

	Overall	Images	JS	Font	CSS	HTML
p90	5.8 MB	4 MB	1.2 MB	290 KB	200 KB	130 KB
p75	3 MB	1.8 MB	780 KB	170 KB	100 KB	60 KB
p50	1.5 MB	650 KB	420 KB	100 KB	50 KB	30 KB
p25	700 KB	180 KB	200 KB	50 KB	20 KB	10 KB
p10	280 KB	40 KB	90 KB	30 KB	10 KB	10 KB

Following

# How is that possible with all the insights we get?







### Audits

Identify and fix common problems that affect your site's performance, accessibility, and user experience. Learn more

	Device	<ul><li>Mobile</li><li>Desktop</li></ul>	
×≡	✓ Audits	<ul> <li>Performance</li> <li>Progressive Web App</li> <li>Best practices</li> <li>Accessibility</li> <li>SEO</li> </ul>	
We have audits in browser tools	🏚 Throttling	<ul> <li>Simulated Fast 3G, 4x CPU Slowdown</li> <li>Applied Fast 3G, 4x CPU Slowdown</li> <li>No throttling</li> </ul>	
		✓ Clear storage	

Run audits

# We have audits in browser tools...

🕞 🚹 📔 Elements	Console Source	s Network	Performance	Audits >	» 🛛 2 🔹 🗙
+ <u>↓</u>   10:45:20 PM	I - fwdays.com 🔻 🚫				
84	63	79	)	100	Pava
Performance	Accessibility	Best Prac	ctices	SEO	Progressive Web App
			Score scale	e: • 90-10	00 🛑 50-89 🛑 0-49
Performance					84
First Contentful Paint		1.5 s 🔮	First Meaningful	Paint	1.8 s 🔮
Speed Index		2.2 s 🔮 First CPU Idle			5.6 s 🕕
Time to Interactive		5.7 s 🕕	Estimated Input	Latency	30 ms 🥥
View Trace				Values are e	estimated and may vary.
Tealogen team Teal bigent team team of team of team team of team of team team of team of team team of team of team of team team of team of team of team of team of team of team team of team of t	ne conteneet likalos. Offeneres li Ukalos	The biggest tech		The biggest tech	Image: control description     maxweet     Second description     maxweet       The biggest lack control description     maxweet     The biggest lack control description     The biggest lack control description       The biggest lack control description     maxweet     The biggest lack control description     The biggest lack control description       The biggest lack control description     maxweet     The biggest lack control description       The biggest lack control description     maxweet     maxweet       The biggest lack control description     maxweet     maxweet
Opportunities These optimizations ca		load.			
	Opportunity			Estimated	Savings

	Opportunity	Estimated Savings
1	Serve images in next-gen formats	1.95 s 🗸
2	Properly size images	1.5 s ∨
3	Eliminate render-blocking resources	0.75 s 🗸
4	Preconnect to required origins	0.4 s 🗸
5	Defer unused CSS	💻 0.15 s 🗸



### Accessibility Insights for Web



Watch 3-minute video introduction

### Launch pad



### **FastPass**

Run two tests to find the most common accessibility issues in less than 5 minutes.

### Assessment

Walk through a guided process for assessing accessibility compliance.

### Ad hoc tools

Y

Get quick access to visualizations that help you identify accessibility issues.

https://accessibilityinsights.io/

### $\mapsto$ Export result $\bigcirc$ Start over

Dverview						
% Completed		This page contains a summary that indicates the progress of your assessment. An assessment is a manual experience in which you navigate through a set of tests that cover all WCAG 2.0 AA success criteria. Each test has one or more requirements that can be:				
Automated checks	Automated	is chiena. Each lest has one of more re	quirements that can be.		Getting started	
Keyboard	Assisted     Manual				How to comple	
Focus	Where possible, Accessibility Insights for Accessibility Insights for Accessibility Insights for Web also allow		nerating a list of instances to evaluate and	l highlighting them on the screen.	Ask a question	
andmarks						
Headings	Summary					
Repetitive content						
inks	<ul><li>✓ 0% Passed</li><li>● 100%</li></ul>	Incomplete		🗙 0% Failed		
Native widgets						
Custom widgets	Test details					
imed events	Automated checks	48	Page navigation	000		
rrors	Keyboard	00000	Parsing	0		
age navigation	Focus	00000	Images	0000		
arsing	Landmarks	000	Language	000		
mages	Headings	000	Sensory	0000		
anguage	Repetitive content	000	Text legibility	000		
ensory	Links	00	Audio / video	00		
ext legibility	Native widgets	0000	Multimedia	00000		
Audio / video	Custom widgets	000000	Live multimedia			

### Target page: Fwdays. IT tech conferences in U



2

Tab stops

Jkraine, Kyiv	
Automated checks	
Show failures On → Export result	
$\otimes$ 20 failures were detected. When the Automated Checks toggle is on, failure instances selected in	n this page are highlighted in the target page.
Path     Snippet	How to fix
color-contrast: Elements must have sufficient color contrast (8) 9) WCAG 1.4.3	
Frame-title: Frames must have title attribute (1) WCAG 2.4.1	
✓ > link-name: Links must have discernible text (⊗ 7) WCAG 2.4.4, WCAG 4.1.2	
meta-viewport: Zooming and scaling must not be disabled (8 1) WCAG 1.4.4	
unique-landmark: Landmarks must have a unique role or role/label combination (aria)	a-label OR aria-labelledby) ( <mark>8</mark> 2) WCAG 2.4.1
4	
Failure details	
Select a single failure instance from a group in the table above to see more details here.	

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🕑 webhint	SCANNER DOCUMENTATION	✓ ABOUT ✓ GITHUB			Search Documenta	tion	٩
SCANNING 100%	ó				S	CAN TIM	E: 03:00
HINTS	URL: https://fwdays.com/en/			DATE: 2019-03-13 22:46			
409	YOUR SCAN RESULT LINK: https	://webhint ?	∽c186276 盾	webł	nint version: 4.4.1	Configura	ation JSON
Security 🗞					ΙΤΥ	HINTS 1	PASSED 0/1
+ disown-oper	ner: 13 hints relative-urls: 3 hints			сомратіві	_ITY	HINTS 53	PASSED 4/7
(+) no-protocol- (+) sri: 22 hints	relative-uns. S mints			PWA PWA		HINTS 1	PASSED 3/4
🕂 strict-transpo	ort-security: 51 hints			PERFORMA	NCE	HINTS 216	PASSED 1/7
+ validate-set-	cookie-header: 7 hints						
+ x-content-ty	pe-options: 41 hints	webhir	nt io	PITFALLS		HINTS 0	PASSED 0/0
🕂 ssllabs: 1 hint	S					HINTS 138	PASSED 3/10

Well, all that is... **!important** 

## Learn once, repeat forever...

@codepo8



Sebastian McKenzie <

Following ~

This has been my debugging strategy for the past 10 years and I don't see it changing

console.log('hello'); const res: AnalyzeDeper filename, );

console.log('bye');

2:34 AM - 24 Mar 2019

252 Retweets 1,540 Likes



https://twitter.com/sebmck/status/1109644524995801088



## Web products stack









### Realities of web products stack...

Front-end: HTML/CSS/JS Back-end: CMS/Frameworks Servers/Cloud DevOps Legal Sales Shareholders Investors

# We're competing without knowing it...







Staying in budget (time + money)

First to Market (FTM) Continuous growth
## Budget = reckless re-use



Staying in budget (time + money)

## 

### Let's start with a framework...



1 You Retweeted

\$ cloc.

Dylan Beattie 🔘 @dylanbeattie · Feb 20 \$ create-react-app my-react-app \$ cd my-react-app

Before you even open a text editor, your project contains 1.5 million lines of code. Most of it contributed by volunteers and enthusiasts. No formal review or release process.

This is 'normal' in modern web development.

Language			comment	code
JavaScript	12193	204003	223944	1127134
Markdown	1755	71061	2	183288
JSON	1767	523	0	132948
TypeScript	1089	4499	24967	28653
HTML	55	108	30	8198
C/C++ Header	21	1148	347	5959
YAML	162	146	135	5121
XML	12	241	13	2271
CoffeeScript	27	591	51	1513
CSS	23	76	24	141
Bourne Shell	8	173	129	903
make	23	209	197	670
C++	10	100	54	47
Windows Module Definition	5	88	0	44:
Python	1	81	175	35
D	5	0	0	7:
Handlebars	2	10	0	5
Bourne Again Shell	2	11	1	43
TOML	1	2	0	39
Lisp	1	0	0	
DOS Batch	1	0	0	
SUM:	17163		250069	149955

### The web is assembled, not authored...



**Katie Hempenius** @katiehempenius · Feb 17 "27% of sites are 90-99% third party content"

### By @paulcalvano w/ @HTTPArchive data



 $\sim$ 

https://discuss.httparchive.org/t/what-is-the-distribution-of-1st-party-vs-3rd-party-resources/100/14



## First to market – get it out!



First to Market (FTM)

## FTM = FML for quality



First to Market (FTM)





Accessibility

Interoperability

Performance

Security

### MVP



First to Market (FTM)

## MVP=<u>Minimum Viable Product</u>



First to Market (FTM)

## MVP=<u>Most</u> <u>Validation</u> <u>Pending</u>



## Understandable throwaway culture...



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=65crLKNQR0E

## A series of quick wins...

. . .



## Alas, on the web...







Staying in budget (time + money) First to Market (FTM) Continuous growth

## Growth = stickiness+analytics



Continuous growth



## Third party slowness and cruft...





https://github.com/patrickhulce/third-party-web

## Reuse keeps budgets in check



## This is the moment when things happen...

### Let's hire some consultants to help us with...



## Because when it costs money, it is >important

!easy

- Fixing a non-performing, inaccessible, insecure product at this stage of the process is a lot of work
- There are ways to do it, but it involves changes in the process – and people hate change
- There's always a lot of blame going around, which doesn't help either
- Often, we pile on more products and processes, adding to the cruft



## Patches and "solutions"...

- AMP
- Safari limiting JavaScript
- Chrome's "Never Slow Mode"
- All kind of blockers



# The web is a platform ripe for abuse.

- The web is defined as forgiving to developer error
- Parsers and browsers need to swallow a lot of terrible code and still make something useful of it
- Years of competition in browsers and platforms created legacy nonstandard code that needs support
- This means not only cruft, but also security attack vectors
- We can't stop developers from being sloppy...



# 

### What can **we** do?

Front-end: HTML/CSS/JS Back-end CMS/Frameworks Servers/Cloud DevOps Legal Sales Shareholders Investors

### What can **we** do?

- Stop arguing amongst ourselves which technology is better
- Contribute to and clean up products that people use without thinking about them (CMS, build tools, frameworks...)
- Take our time to understand why people do things wrong before telling them off that they do
- Earn our seat at the table where stupid decisions are being made

### What can **we** do?

- Optimise our workflows to include required quality control as soon as possible
  - npmjs.com/package/hint
  - css-tricks.com/make-it-hard-to-screw-updriven-development/
- Brush up our knowledge of development tools and give feedback to them – we are their customers

## The way we work now is becoming less and less **important**

## Most of the **products** created now use **other people's code**...

### So, let's build accessible, secure and performant solutions for people to re-use!



## Power to the next generation!



Ben Lesh → ¥ = ७ @BenLesh · 4m This guy has an @angular + Tensorflow app that identifies handwritten numbers! ♥ Age 10!!!



♀ 1 1〕 2 ♡ 2 ♡

### Thanks! Chris Heilmann @codepo8

