

```
1  /**
2   * Main Speekr Admin styles.
3   *
4   * Includes: Metaboxes and Option Pages
5   */
6
7 :root{
8     --primary: #9768A7; /* 30aabc */
9     --primarylight: #D0BAD7;
10    --primarylighter: #EADAF0;
11    --primarydark: #5C4B62;
12    --lightgray: #E6E6E6;
13    --gray: #A59EA7;
14
15    --success: #84A768;
16    --successdark: #5B7F3D;
17    --successbg: #F0F3ED;
18    --error: #D56060;
19    --errordark: #A63333;
20    --errorbg: #F8ECEC;
21}
22
23 .speekr-settings ::-moz-selection,
24 [value="talks"] ~ #poststuff ::-moz-selection {
25     background: var(--primary);
26     color: #FFF;
```

# CSS Custom Properties

## Add Variables to Your CSS



---

# Geoffrey Crofte

UX/UI Web Designer at Maltem (Foyer)

 [@geoffrey\\_crofte](https://twitter.com/geoffrey_crofte)

 [geoffrey.crofte.fr](http://geoffrey.crofte.fr)

 [creativejuiz.fr](http://creativejuiz.fr)

in styles.

checkboxes and Option Pages

```
1      primary: #9768A7; /* 30aabc */
2      primarylight: #D0BAD7;
3      primarylighter: #EADAF0;
4      primarydark: #5C4B62;
5      lightgray: #E6E6E6;
6      gray: #A59EA7;
7
8      --success: #84A768;
9      --successdark: #5B7F3D;
10     --successbg: #F0F3ED;
11     --error: #D56060;
12     --errordark: #A63333;
13     --errorbg: #F8ECEC;
14 }
15
16 .speekr-settings ::-moz-selection,
17 [value="talks"] ~ #poststuff ::-moz-sel
18   background: var(--primary);
19   color: #FFF;
20 }
21
22
23 .speekr-settings ::-moz-selection,
24 [value="talks"] ~ #poststuff ::-moz-sel
25   background: var(--primary);
26   color: #FFF;
27 }
```

# Overview

- ★ What are Custom Properties?
- ★ Quick start with CSS Variables.
- ★ Why CSS C.P. instead of Sass variables?
- ★ Use cases & Demos
- ★ Takeaways



# What are Custom Properties?





# What are Custom Properties?

---

css variables

---

This not about...

\$color: #bada55;

@color: #bada55;

---

# This is more about...

```
div {  
  color: #8f00cb;  
  border: 6px doublecurrentColor;  
}  
div::before {  
  border-top: 1px solid currentColor;  
  border-bottom: 1px solid currentColor;  
}
```



CSS Rocks

<http://bit.ly/csscurrentcolor>

---

# This is more about...

```
div {  
  color: #e89200;  
  border: 6px doublecurrentColor;  
}  
div::before {  
  border-top: 1px solid currentColor;  
  border-bottom: 1px solid currentColor;  
}
```



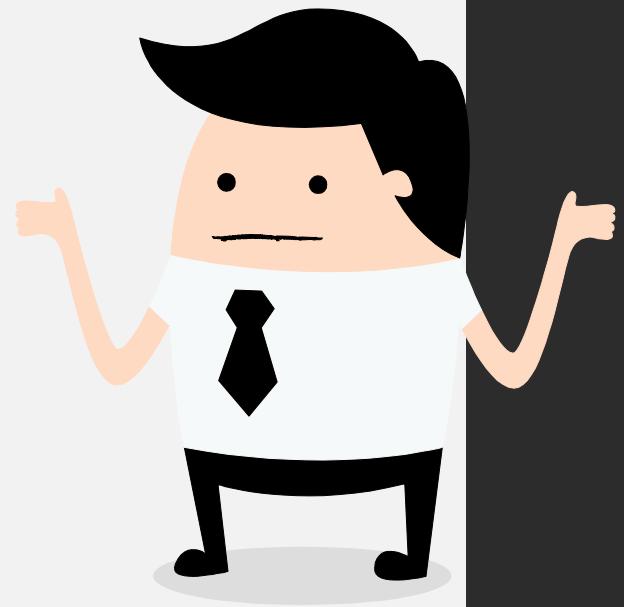
**CSS Rocks**

<http://bit.ly/csscurrentcolor>



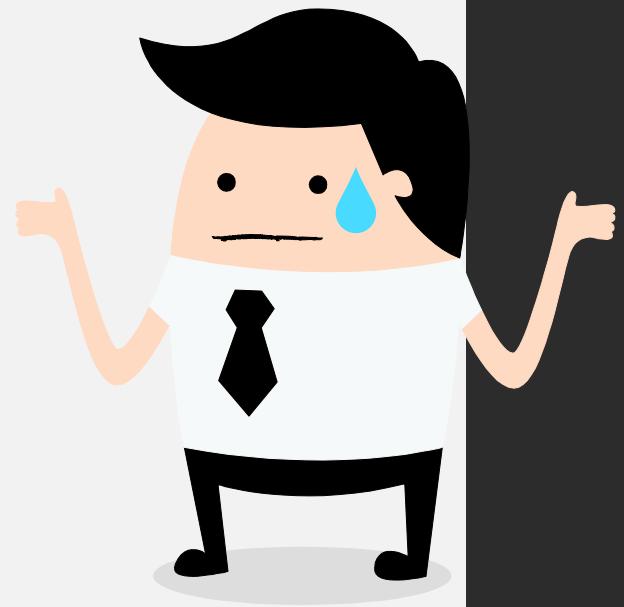
# But this is not about...

currentColor

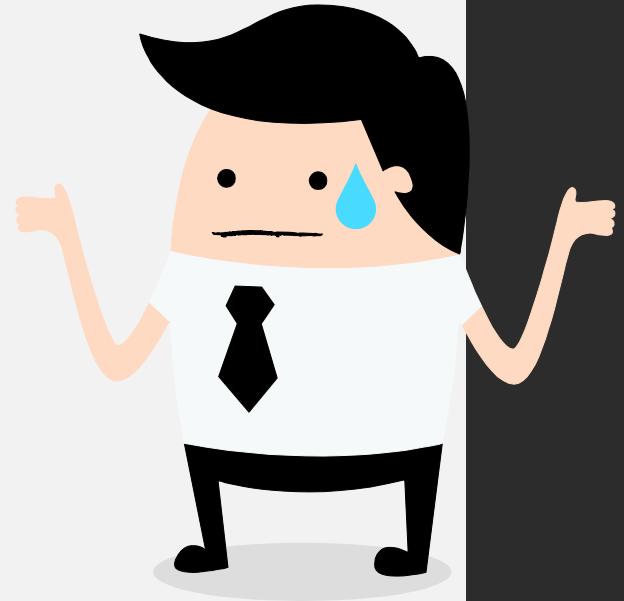


GG

A **custom property** is any  
property whose name starts  
with two dashes [...] like **--foo**



**Custom properties are solely for  
use by authors and users; CSS  
will never give them a meaning  
beyond what is presented here.**



GG

**Custom properties are solely for  
use by authors and users; CSS  
will never give them a meaning  
beyond what is presented here.**

## EXAMPLE 1

Custom properties define variables, referenced with the `'var()'` notation, which can be used for many purposes. For example, a page that consistently uses a small set of colors in its design can store the colors in custom properties and use them with variables:



---

## What the Spec says...

- ⌘ Custom properties define variables
- ⌘ Variables are referenced with the `var()` notation
- ⌘ They are Case-Sensitive
- ⌘ Their value is “extremely permissive”

---

In other words...

Do the fu%€  
you want with them.



# How to use CSS Variables?



---

# CSS Declaration

```
:root {  
  --variableName: value;  
}
```

---

# CSS Declaration

```
.element {  
    --variableName: value;  
}
```

---

## CSS Use

```
.element {  
  property: var(--variableName);  
}
```

---

## Quick Example of use

```
:root {  
    --link: purple;  
}  
a {  
    color: var(--link);  
}
```



# Why CSS instead of Sass Variables?





# Computation

The main issue with Sass (or LESS) variables:

**They have to be computed to get their value.**

# CSS Variables are alive

The screenshot shows a browser's developer tools with the CSS panel open. On the left, there is a preview window displaying a dark gray box with a white inner area containing the text "CSS Rocks". To the right of the preview is the CSS panel, which lists the following styles:

```
noframes, ol, p, pl
tfoot, th, thead, t
  unicode-bidi:
}

Inherited from body

html, body {
  font-family: "C
}

Inherited from html

:root {
  --size: 1px;
}

Filter output
```

A mouse cursor is hovering over the value "1px" in the `--size` declaration for the `:root` element. The value is highlighted with a pink selection bar, and a small black arrow points towards the cursor from the right side of the value.

# CSS Variables are alive

The screenshot shows a browser's developer tools with the CSS panel open. On the left, there is a preview window displaying a dark gray box with a white inner area containing the text "CSS Rocks". To the right of the preview is the CSS panel, which lists the following styles:

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noframes, ol, p, pl
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}

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html, body {
  font-family: "C
}

Inherited from html

:root {
  --size: 1px;
}

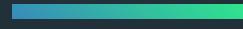
Filter output
```

A mouse cursor is hovering over the value "1px" in the `--size` declaration for the `:root` element. The CSS panel also includes a trash can icon and a "Filter output" input field.



# JavaScript can access them

```
e.target.style.setProperty('--x', x + 'px');  
e.target.style.setProperty('--y', y + 'px');
```



# Media Queries ❤ CSS Variables

```
$global-spacing: 15px;

.mod {
  margin: $global-spacing 0;
  padding: $global-spacing;
}
@media (min-width: 640px) {

  $global-spacing: 40px;

  .mod {
    margin: $global-spacing 0;
    padding: $global-spacing;
  }
}
```

# Media Queries ❤ CSS Variables

```
$global-spacing: 15px;  
  
.mod {  
  margin: $global-spacing 0;  
  padding: $global-spacing;  
}  
  
@media (min-width: 640px) {  
  
  $global-spacing: 40px;  
  
  .mod {  
    margin: $global-spacing 0;  
    padding: $global-spacing;  
  }  
}  
  
:root {  
  --global-spacing: 15px;  
}  
.mod {  
  margin: var(--global-spacing) 0;  
  padding: var(--global-spacing);  
}  
  
@media (min-width: 640px) {  
  :root {  
    --global-spacing: 40px;  
  }  
}
```

# CSS Variables are inherited

```
:root {  
  --link: purple;  
}
```

Simple Link

Nav Link

Second Nav Link

# CSS Variables are inherited

```
:root {  
  --link: purple;  
}  
  
a {  
  color: var(--link);  
}
```

Simple Link

Nav Link

Second Nav Link

# CSS Variables are inherited

```
:root {  
  --link: purple;  
}  
  
a {  
  color: var(--link);  
}
```

Simple Link

Nav Link

Second Nav Link

# CSS Variables are inherited

```
:root {  
  --link: purple;  
}  
  
a {  
  color: var(--link);  
}  
  
nav a {  
  --link: salmon;  
}
```

Simple Link

Nav Link

Second Nav Link

# CSS Variables are inherited

```
:root {  
  --link: purple;  
}  
  
a {  
  color: var(--link);  
}  
  
nav a {  
  --link: salmon;  
}
```

Simple Link

Nav Link

Second Nav Link

# CSS Variables are inherited

```
:root {  
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}  
  
a {  
  color: var(--link);  
}  
  
nav {  
  --link: salmon;  
}
```

Simple Link

Nav Link

Second Nav Link



# Demos & Use Cases



My last works

---

They trusted me

---

Another link for fun

---

**<http://bit.ly/cssvargradient>**

My last works

---

They trusted me

---

Another link for fun

---

**<http://bit.ly/cssvargradient>**

# Mouse position

```
document.querySelector('.link').addEventListener('mousemove', (e)=>{  
  
  const x = e.pageX - e.target.offsetLeft;  
  const y = e.pageY - e.target.offsetTop;  
  
  e.target.style.setProperty( '--x', x + 'px' );  
  e.target.style.setProperty( '--y', y + 'px' );  
});
```

---

# CSS Transformation

```
.link::before {  
    --original-size: 400px;  
    --size: 0;  
  
    content: '';  
    position: absolute;  
    left: calc( -1 * var(--original-size) / 2 );  
    top: calc( -1 * var(--original-size) / 2 );  
    width: var(--size);  
    height: var(--size);  
    background: radial-gradient(circle closest-side, rgba(255,255,255,.2), transparent);  
    transform: translate( var(--x), var(--y) );  
    transition: width .375s ease, height .375s ease, top .375s ease, left .375s ease;  
}
```

# CSS Transformation

```
.link::before {  
  <img alt="play button icon" data-bbox="41 298 88 358" style="vertical-align: middle; margin-right: 10px;"/>  
  --original-size: 400px;  
  --size: 0;  
  
  content: '';  
  position: absolute;  
  left: calc( -1 * var(--original-size) / 2 );  
  top: calc( -1 * var(--original-size) / 2 );  
  width: var(--size);  
  height: var(--size);  
  background: radial-gradient(circle closest-side, rgba(255,255,255,.2), transparent);  
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}
```

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  width: var(--size);  
  height: var(--size);  
  background: radial-gradient(circle closest-side, rgba(255,255,255,.2), transparent);  
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  transition: width .375s ease, height .375s ease, top .375s ease, left .375s ease;  
}  
  
```

# CSS Transformation

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  background: radial-gradient(circle closest-side, rgba(255,255,255,.2), transparent);  
  transform: translate( var(--x), var(--y) );  
  transition: width .375s ease, height .375s ease, top .375s ease, left .375s ease;  
}
```

---

# CSS Transformation

```
.link:hover::before,  
.link:focus::before {  
    width: 400px;  
    height: 400px;  
}
```

# CSS Transformation

```
.link:hover::before,  
.link:focus::before {  
  width: 400px;  
  height: 400px;  
}
```

```
.link:hover::before,  
.link:focus::before {  
  --size: var(--original-size);  
}
```

# CSS Transformation

```
.link:hover::before,  
.link:focus::before {  
  width: 400px;  
  height: 400px;  
}
```

```
.link:hover::before,  
.link:focus::before {  
  --size: var(--original-size);  
}
```

```
width: var(--size);  
height: var(--size);
```

---

## **Now you're wondering...**

Why not pushing transformations directly in JavaScript?

---

## Now you're wondering...

Why not pushing transformations directly in JavaScript?

```
el.style.setProperty('transform',
  'translate(' + x + 'px,' + y + 'px)');
```

---

# Now you're wondering...

Why not pushing transformations directly in JavaScript?

```
el.style.setProperty('transform',
  'translate(' + x + 'px,' + y + 'px)');
```

- ✳ **Maintainability / Portability**  
`style="transform..."` is dirty. Period.

---

# Now you're wondering...

Why not pushing transformations directly in JavaScript?

```
el.style.setProperty('transform',
  'translate(' + x + 'px,' + y + 'px)');
```

- ✳ **Maintainability / Portability**  
**style="transform..."** is dirty. Period.
- ✳ **Inheritance**  
**style="transform..."** do not make --x and  
--y inherited.

---

# Now you're wondering...

Why not pushing transformations directly in JavaScript?

```
el.style.setProperty('transform',
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- ✳ **Maintainability / Portability**  
`style="transform..."` is dirty. Period.
- ✳ **Inheritance**  
`style="transform..."` do not make --x and  
--y inherited.

- ✳ **It's a philosophy**  
CSS is for styling. JS is not.

---

# Now you're wondering...

Why not pushing transformations directly in JavaScript?

```
el.style.setProperty('transform',
  'translate(' + x + 'px,' + y + 'px)');
```

- ✳ **Maintainability / Portability**  
`style="transform..."` is dirty. Period.
- ✳ **Inheritance**  
`style="transform..."` do not make --x and --y inherited.

- ✳ **It's a philosophy**  
CSS is for styling. JS is not.
- ✳ **Futur proof**  
Let the CSS engine handle that part.

Be less curious  
about people and  
more curious about  
ideas.

---

<http://bit.ly/cssvargradient2>

---

Be less curious  
about people and  
more curious about  
ideas.

---

<http://bit.ly/cssvargradient2>

---

# CSS Transformation

```
background-image: linear-gradient(45deg, #fff070 0%, #fff070  
calc(var(--x) * .1 * 1%), #00c9d3 calc(var(--x) * .4 * 1%), #00c9d3  
calc(var(--x) * .7 * 1%));  
-webkit-text-fill-color: transparent;  
-webkit-background-clip: text;
```

---

# Themable interfaces

# Themable interfaces

## Main settings

Choose the page that will list your talks,  
choose the best layout for your website.

[Go to Settings Page](#)

## Write your first talk

Follow the path of being more visible and  
spread your first talk with Speekr.

[Write my first talk](#)

## Share your love

Speekr fit with your needs and you're  
guessing it could satisfy people around you?

[Spread the word](#)

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## Main settings

Choose the page that will list your talks,  
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## Write your first talk

Follow the path of being more visible and  
spread your first talk with Speekr.

[Write my first talk](#)

## Share your love

Speekr fit with your needs and you're  
guessing it could satisfy people around you?

[Spread the word](#)

```
h2, .h2-like {  
    color: purple;  
}  
p, li {  
    color: #444;  
}  
button, .button {  
    background: purple;  
    color: #FFF;  
}  
/* Theme */  
.container-dark h2,  
.container-dark .h2-like {  
    color: #F6ECFA;  
}  
.container-dark p,  
.container-dark li {  
    color: #F3F3F3;  
}  
.container-dark button,  
.container-dark .button {  
    background: #F6ECFA;  
    color: #666;  
}
```

# Themable interfaces

```
h2, .h2-like {  
    color: purple;  
}  
p, li {  
    color: #444;  
}  
button, .button {  
    background: purple;  
    color: #FFF;  
}  
/* Theme */  
.container-dark h2,  
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    color: #F6ECFA;  
}  
.container-dark p,  
.container-dark li {  
    color: #F3F3F3;  
}  
.container-dark button,  
.container-dark .button {  
    background: #F6ECFA;  
    color: #666;  
}
```

# Themable interfaces

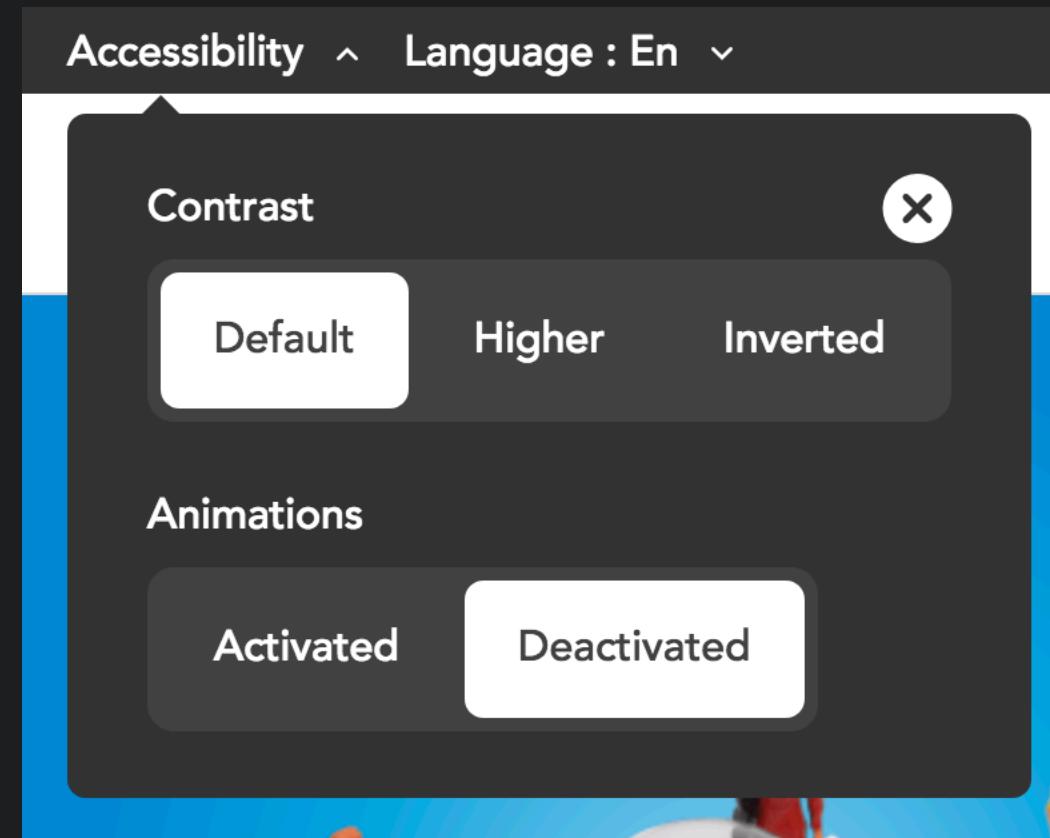
```
:root {  
    --text: #444;  
    --primary: purple;  
    --btn-color: #FFF;  
}  
h2, .h2-like {  
    color: var(--primary);  
}  
p, li {  
    color: var(--text);  
}  
button, .button {  
    background: var(--primary);  
    color: var(--btn-color);  
}  
.container-dark {  
    --text: #F3F3F3;  
    --primary: #F6ECFA;  
    --btn-color: #666;  
}
```

```
h2, .h2-like {  
    color: purple;  
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.container-dark h2,  
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}  
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.container-dark li {  
    color: #F3F3F3;  
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# Themable interfaces

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:root {  
    --text: #444;  
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    --btn-color: #FFF;  
}  
h2, .h2-like {  
    color: var(--primary);  
}  
p, li {  
    color: var(--text);  
}  
button, .button {  
    background: var(--primary);  
    color: var(--btn-color);  
}  
.container-dark {  
    --text: #F3F3F3;  
    --primary: #F6ECFA;  
    --btn-color: #666;  
}
```

# Accessibility Example



---

# Accessibility Example

```
html.a11y {  
    --text-size: 1.1em;  
    --text: #444;  
    --background: #F2F2F2;  
    --btn-bg: #552F62;  
    --section-dark: #444;  
    --section-dark-text: #F2F2F2;  
    /* ... */  
}
```

# Responsive

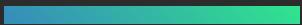
```
:root {  
    --global-spacing: 15px;  
}  
.mod {  
    margin: var(--global-spacing) 0;  
    padding: var(--global-spacing);  
}  
@media (min-width: 640px) {  
    :root {  
        --global-spacing: 40px;  
    }  
}
```

# Responsive

```
:root {  
    --global-spacing: 15px;  
}  
.mod {  
    margin: var(--global-spacing) 0;  
    padding: var(--global-spacing);  
}  
@media (min-width: 640px) {  
    :root {  
        --global-spacing: 40px;  
    }  
}
```



# Further Takeaways



---

# CSS Variables are CSS properties

```
:root {  
  --variableName: value !important;  
}
```

---

## (kind of) Silent error

```
:root {  
  --variableName: lolilol;  
}
```



## You can't “build up” values.

```
:root {  
  --spacing: 20;  
}  
  
:root {  
  margin: var(--spacing)px;  
}
```

---

## You can't “build up” values.

```
:root {  
  --spacing: 20;  
}  
  
:root {  
  margin: var(--spacing)px;  Doesn't work  
}
```

---

## Strange behaviour

```
:root {  
  --spacing;; Invalid
```

```
:root {  
  --spacing: ; Valid
```

*Yeah, that's a space character.*

---

## Fallback value

```
var(--variableName, default);
```



# Fallback value

```
button {  
  background: purple;  
  background: var(--bgColor, salmon);  
}
```

# Fallback value

```
button {  
  background: purple;  
  background: var(--bgColor, salmon);  
}
```

Doesn't support var()

# Fallback value

```
button {  
  background: purple;  
  background: var(--bgColor, salmon);  
}
```

Doesn't support var()

Fallback is there

# Fallback value

```
:root {  
  --bgColor: #30E28E;  
}  
  
button {  
  background: purple;  
  background: var(--bgColor, salmon);  
}
```

Doesn't support var()

Fallback is there

# Fallback value

```
:root {  
  --bgColor: #30E28E;  
}  
  
button {  
  background: purple;  
  background: var(--bgColor, salmon);  
}
```

Doesn't support var()

Fallback is there

--bgColor Value

# Fallback value

```
:root {  
  --bgColor: 5deg;  
}  
  
button {  
  background: purple;  
  background: var(--bgColor, salmon);  
}
```

Doesn't support var()

Fallback is there

--bgColor Value

# Fallback value

```
:root {  
  --bgColor: 5deg;  
}  
  
button {  
  background: purple;  
  background: var(--bgColor, salmon);  
}
```

Doesn't support var()

Fallback is there

--bgColor Value

Transparent

---

## Variable as Fallback

```
var(--var1, var(--var2, default));
```

---

## Variable as Fallback

```
var(--var1, var(--var2, var(--var3,  
var(--var4, var(--var5,  
default)))));
```

---

# You can't cycle with variables

```
.element {  
  --size: 200px;  
  height: var(--size);  
}  
.element.modifier {  
  --size: calc(var(--size) + 50px);  
}
```

---

# You can't cycle with variables

```
.element {  
  --size: 200px;  
  height: var(--size);  
}  
.element.modifier {  
  --size: calc(var(--size) + 50px);  
}
```

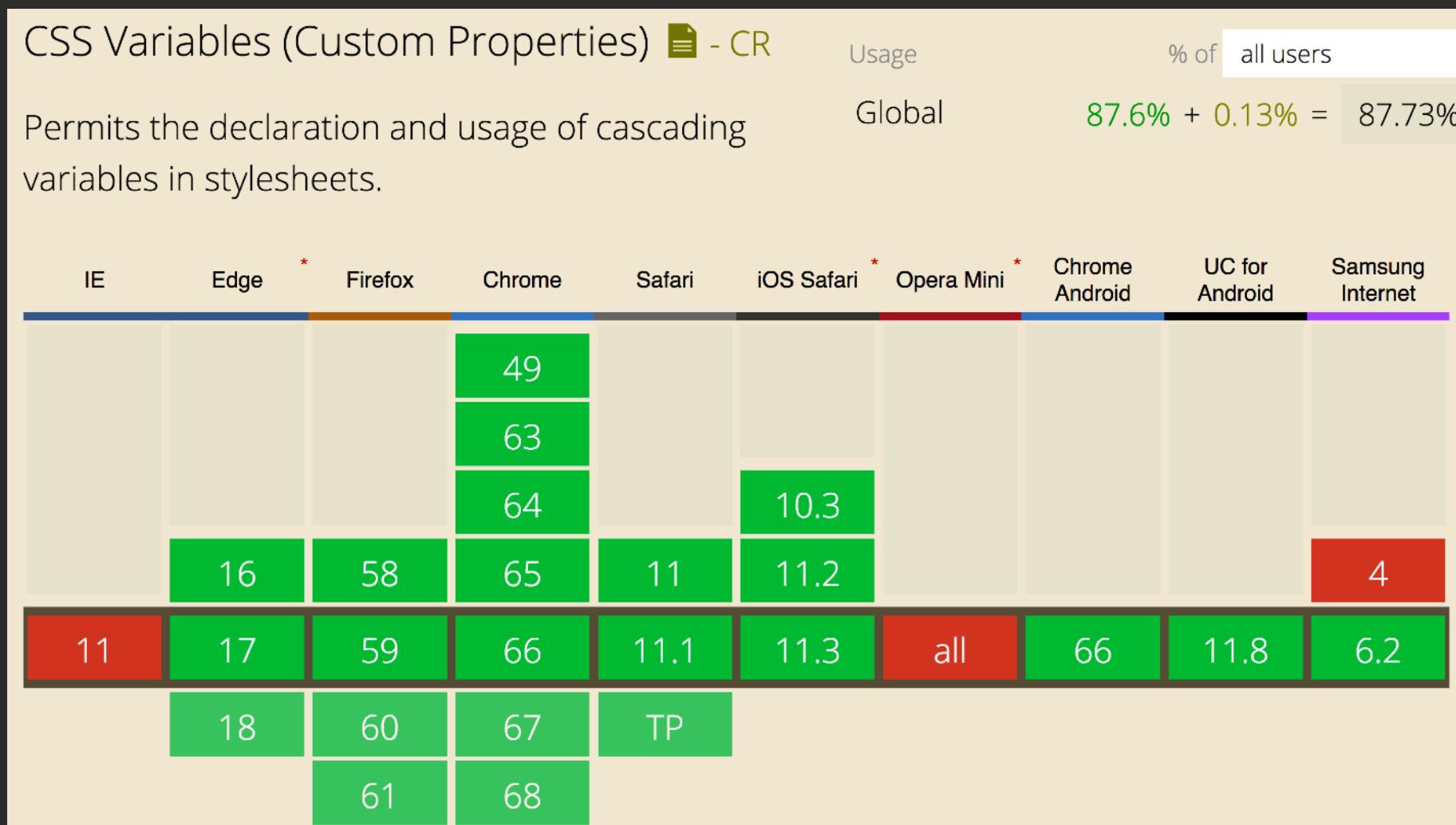
```
.element {  
  --size: 200px;  
  height: var(--size);  
}  
.element.modifier {  
  height: calc(var(--size) + 50px);  
}
```

---

# Support Testing

```
@supports (color: var(--)) {  
  ...  
}
```

# Compatibility



---

# Polyfills

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<https://github.com/aaronbarker/css-variables-polyfill>

---

---

# Some resources

- \* **CSS Variable Secrets** (Lea Verou Smashing Conf. 2017)
- \* **CSS Custom Properties** (CCSWG W3C documentation)
- \* **CSS Mouse Tracking Gradient** (Gradient on Text demonstration)
- \* **CSS Variable Tutorials** (A series of 4 short videos about CSS Variables)

**Thanks!**



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# Geoffrey Crofte

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