13 Golden Rules for Typography on the Web

Richard Rutter, Clearleft



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WEB DESIGN IS 95% TYPOGRAPHY

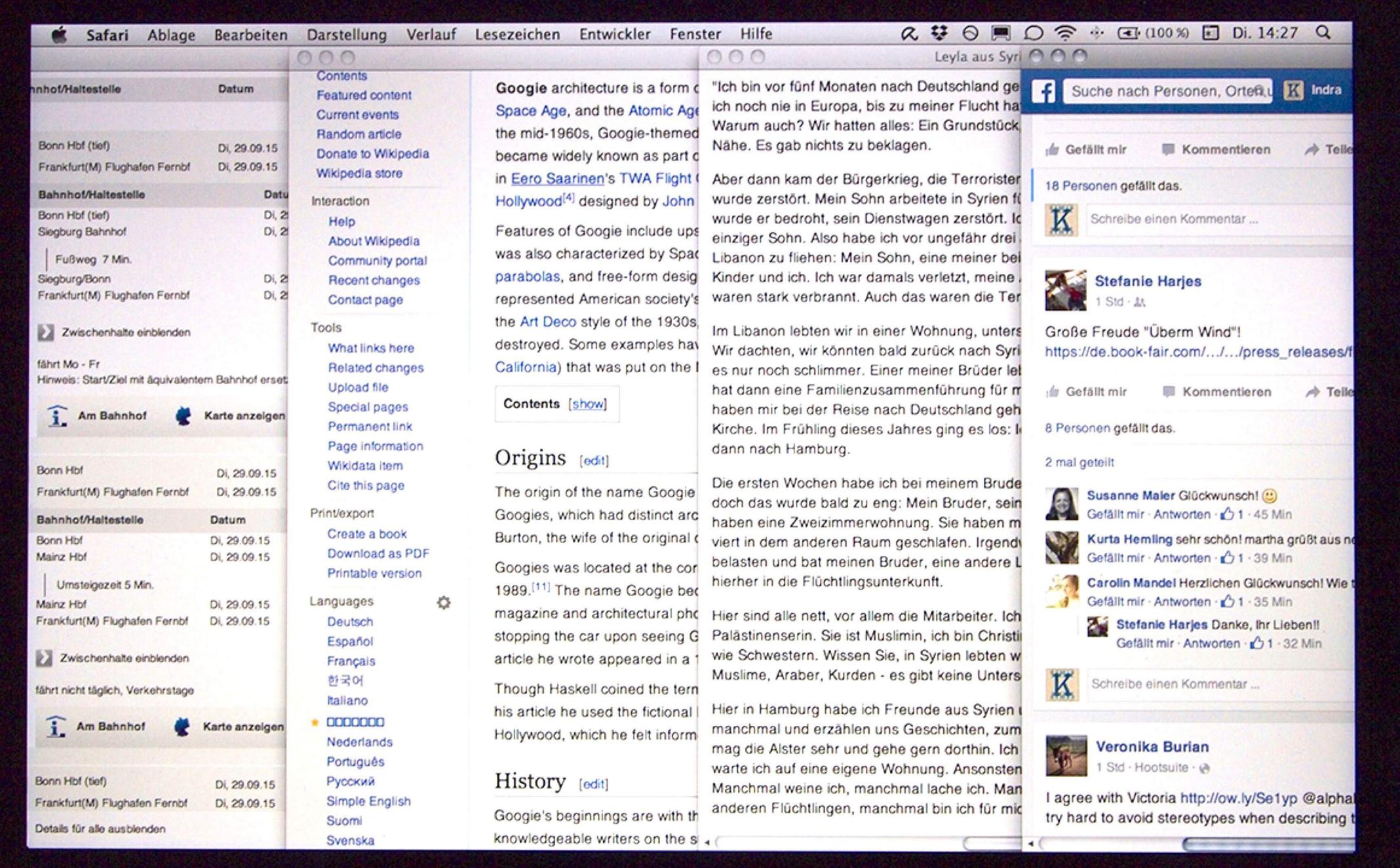
19 October 2006

95% of the information on the web is written language. It is only logical to say that a web designer should get good training in the main discipline of shaping written information, in other words: Typography.

Back in 1969 Fmil Ruder, a famous Swiss typographer, wrote on behalf of his

"It is only logical to say that a web designer should get good training in typography."

Oliver Reichenstein, Web Design is 95% Typography https://ia.net/know-how/the-web-is-all-about-typography-period



The Aesthetics of Reading

Kevin Larson (Microsoft) & Rosalind Picard (MIT)

Dr. Kevin Larson
Microsoft Advanced Reading Technologies
1 Microsoft Way
Redmond, WA
Phone: (425) 936-7329

"There are important differences between good or poor typography that appear to have little effect on reading speed and comprehension."

Dr. Kevin Larson (Microsoft) and Dr. Rosalind W. Picard (MIT)

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"Good quality typography is responsible for greater engagement during reading."

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"Good typography induces a good mood."

Dr. Kevin Larson (Microsoft) and Dr. Rosalind W. Picard (MIT)

Good typography

induces a

good moods

No1 Learn to relinquish control



ALIGIATAK

A Dao of Web Design

by John Allsopp · April 07, 2000

Published in CSS, Layout & Grids, Typography & Web Fonts, Accessibility

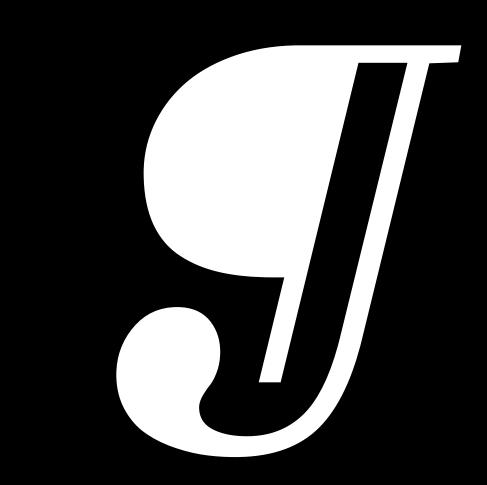


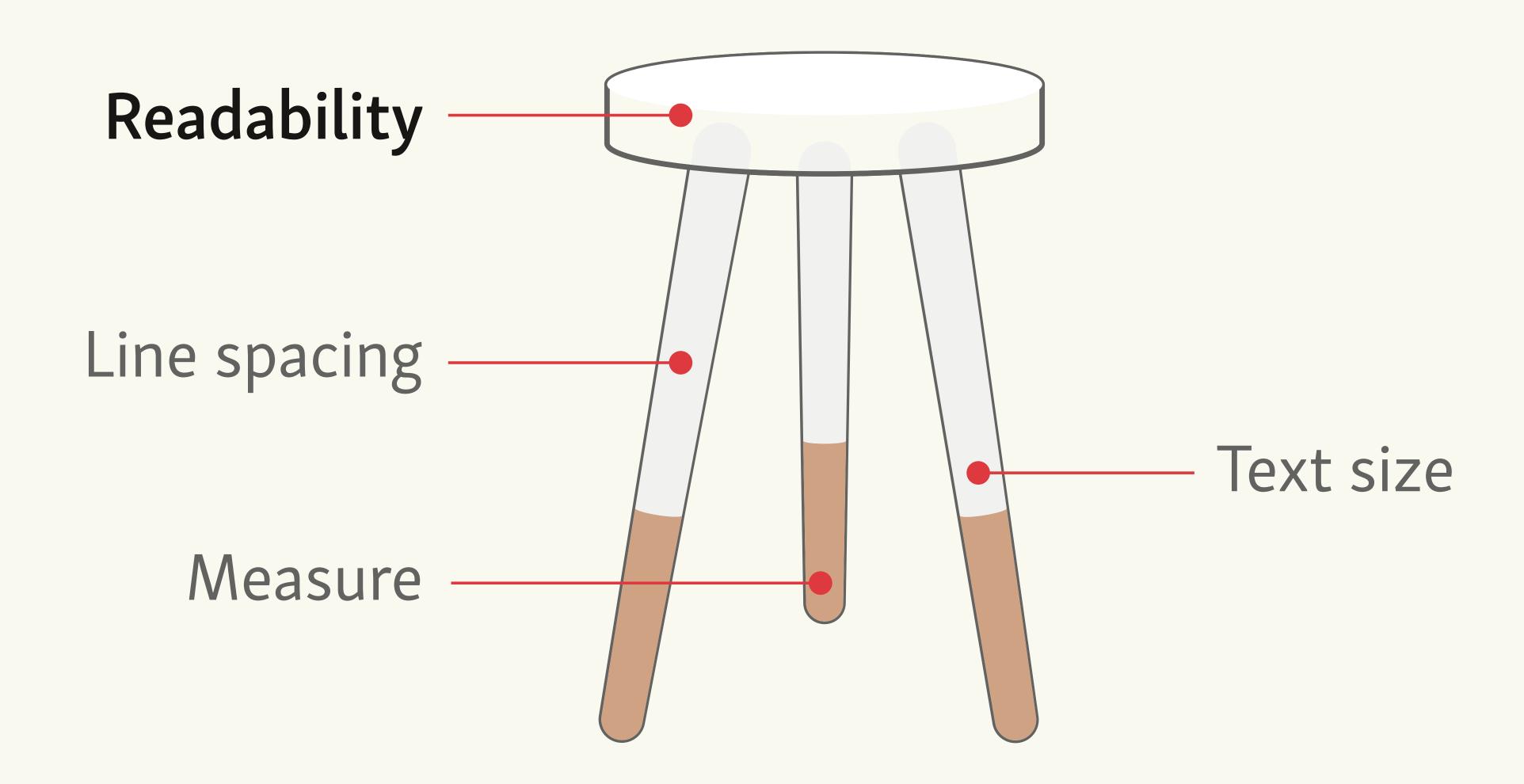
What Zen was to the 70's (most famously with motorcycle maintenance), the Tao Te Ching was to the 90's. From Piglet and Pooh to Physics and back, many have sought sense in applying the Tao Te Ching to something (the Tao of Physics), or something to the Tao Te Ching (the Tao of Pooh). It can be a cheap trick, but lately it has struck me that there is more than a little to be understood about web design by looking through the prism of the

"The sage ... accepts the ebb and flow of things, Nurtures them, but does not own them."

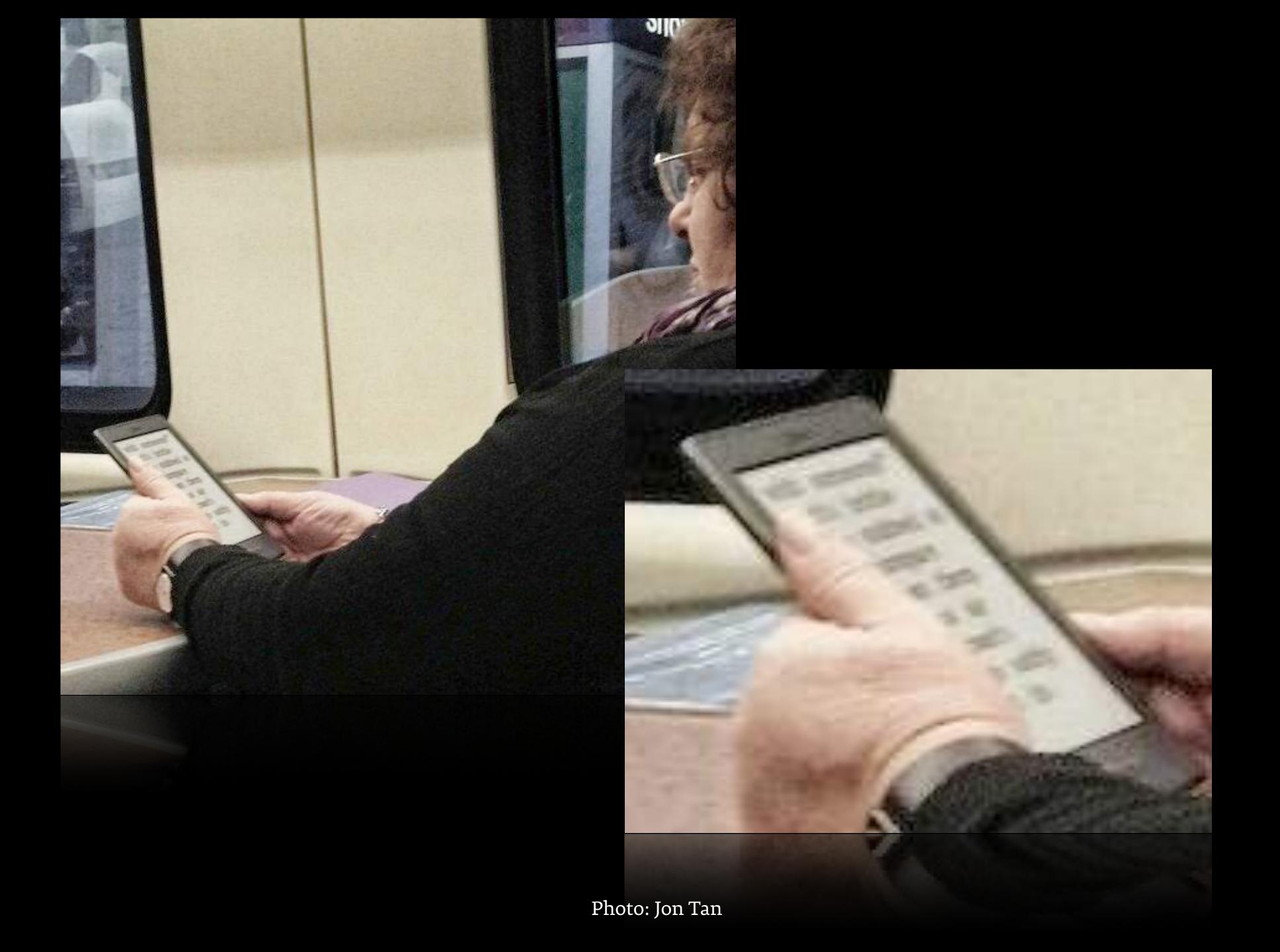
John Allsop, A Dao of Web Design https://alistapart.com/article/dao

No2 Don't trust computers





No3 Use the default font size for paragraph text



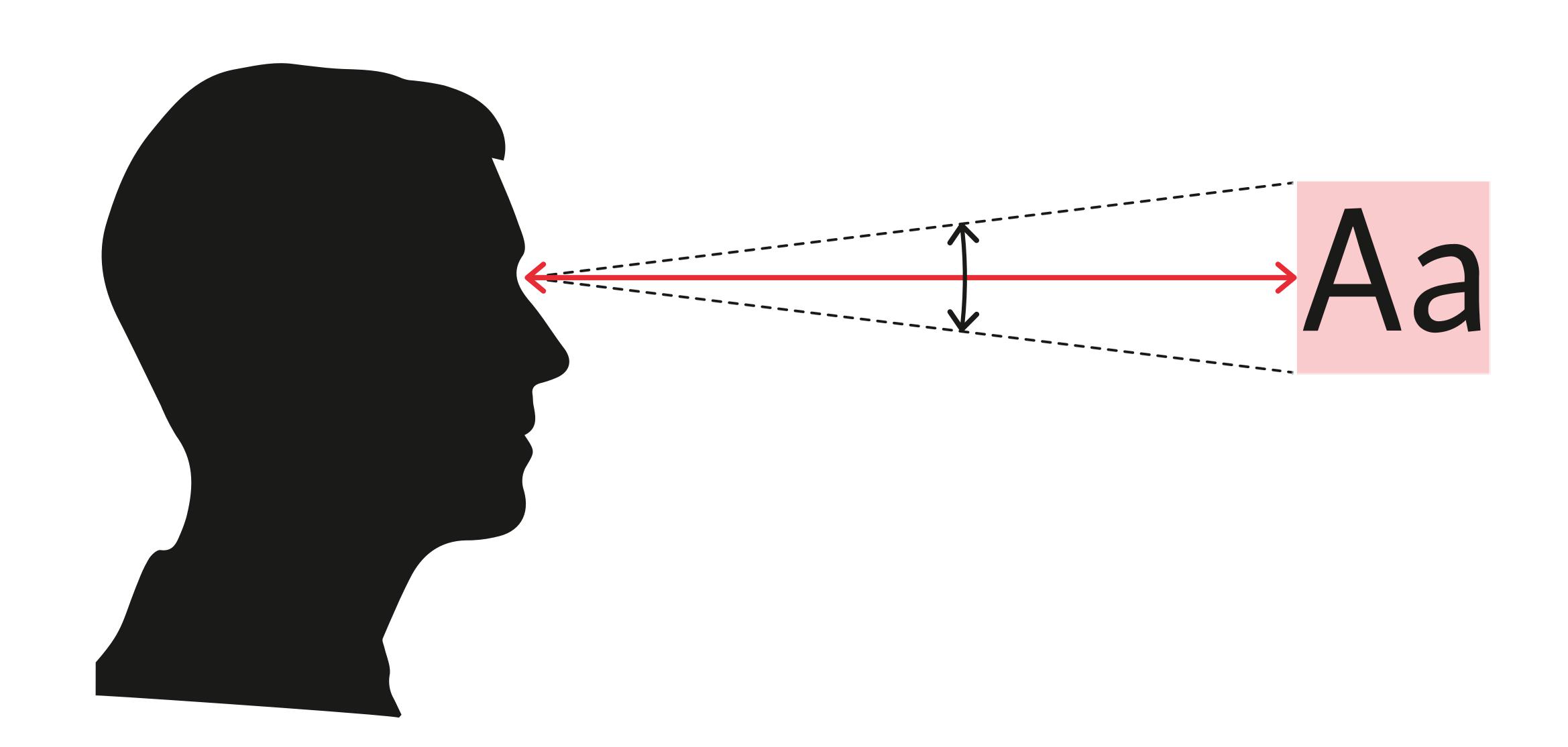
No4 Adjust type size according to reading distance

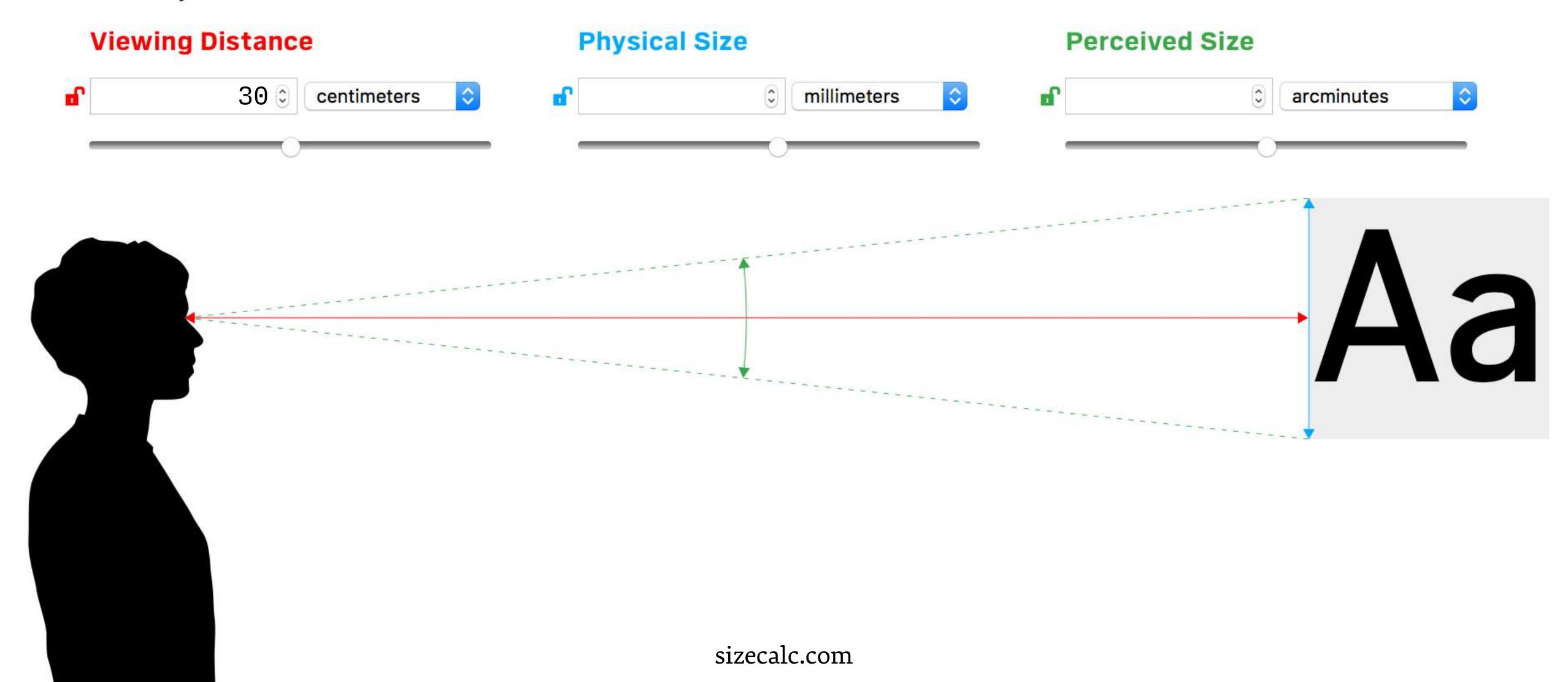


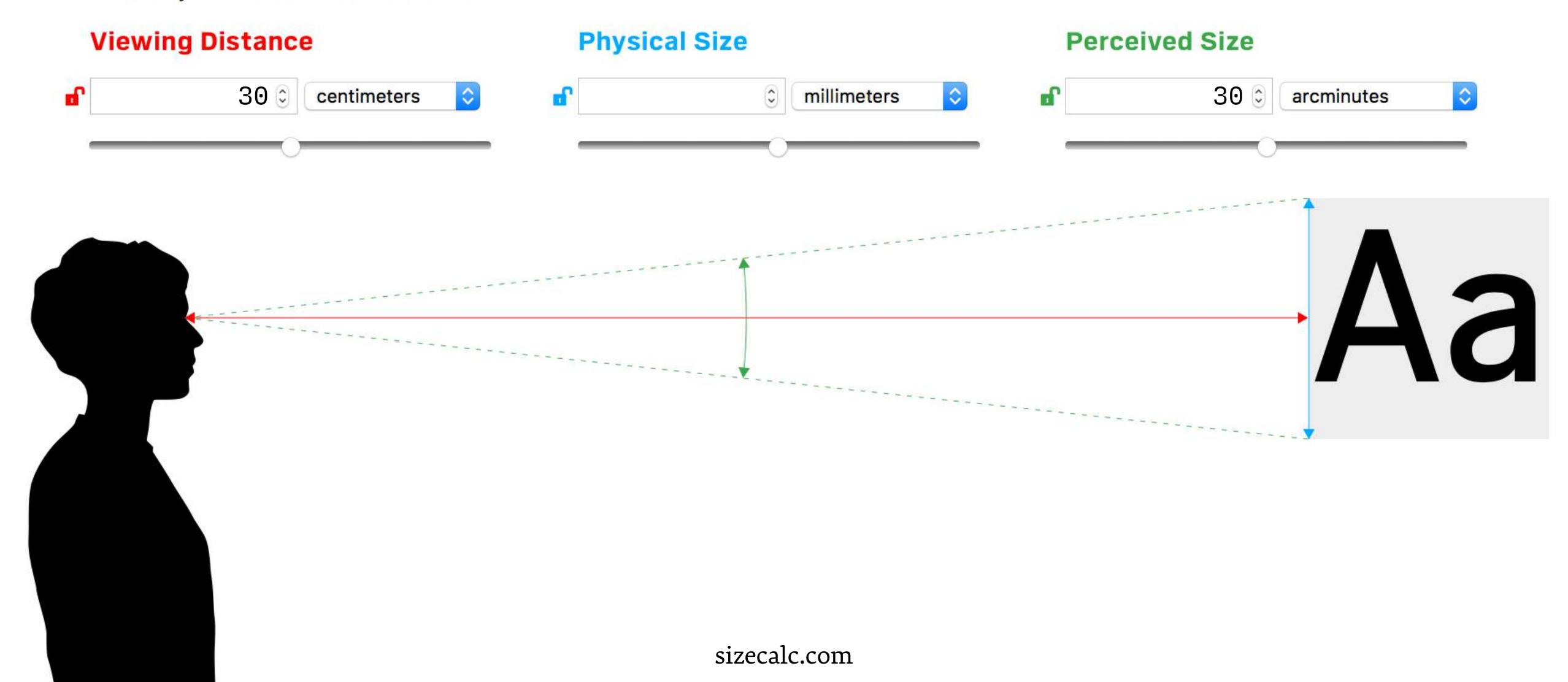
channel4.com/programmes/father-ted/

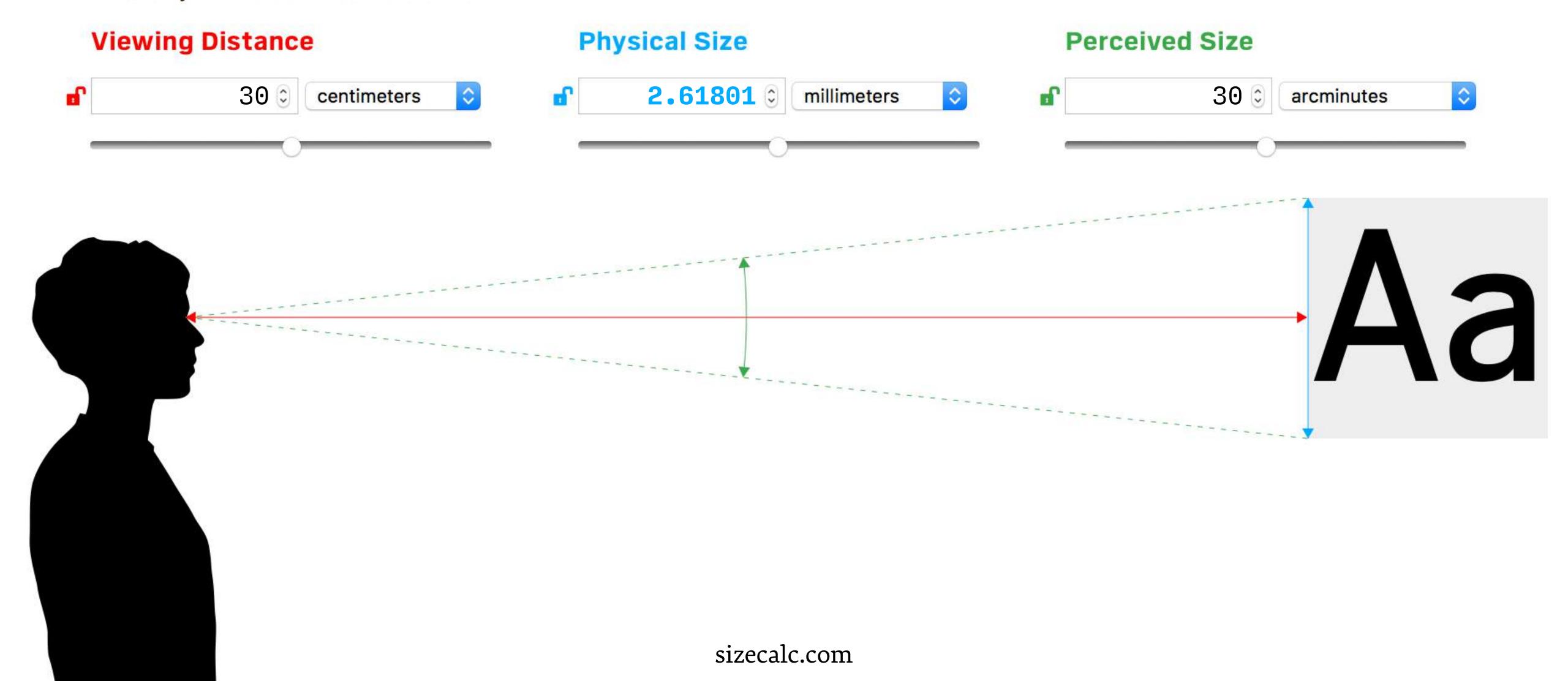


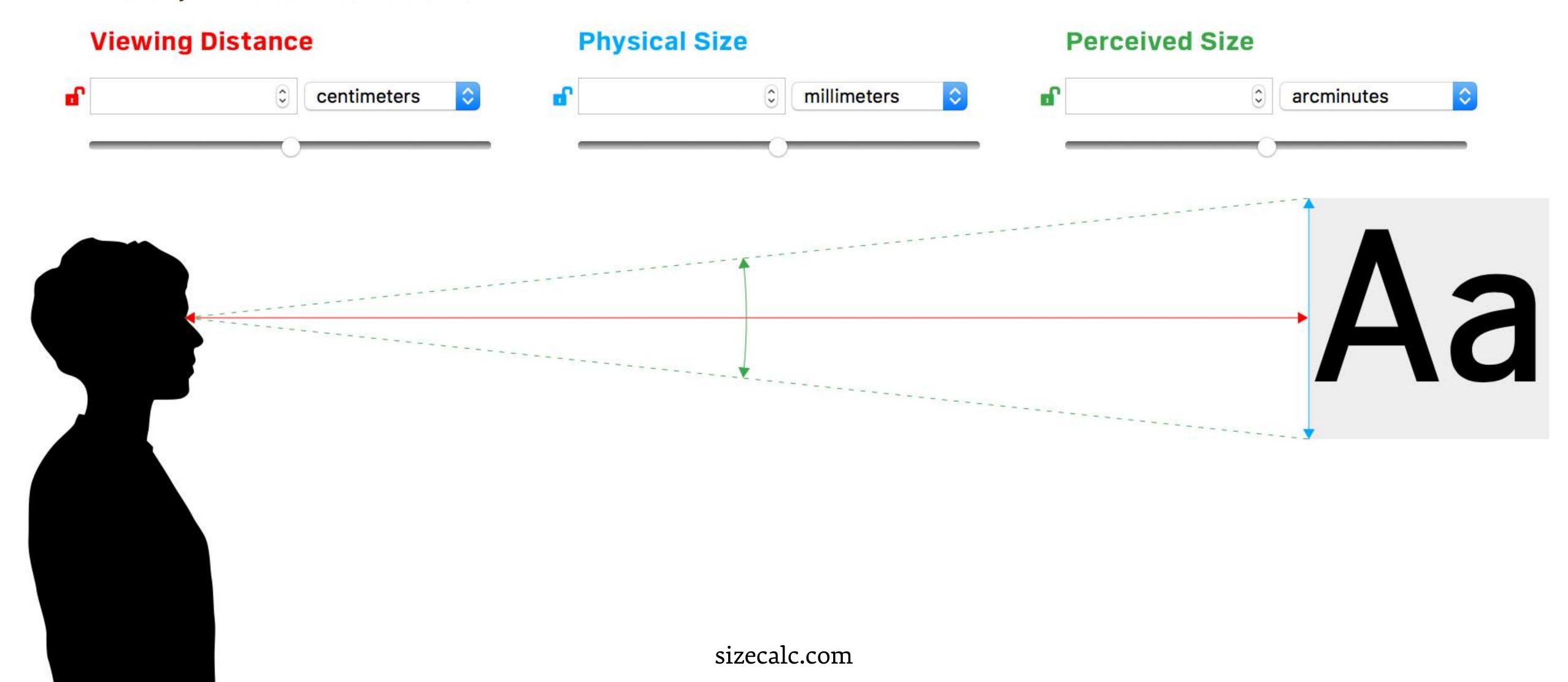
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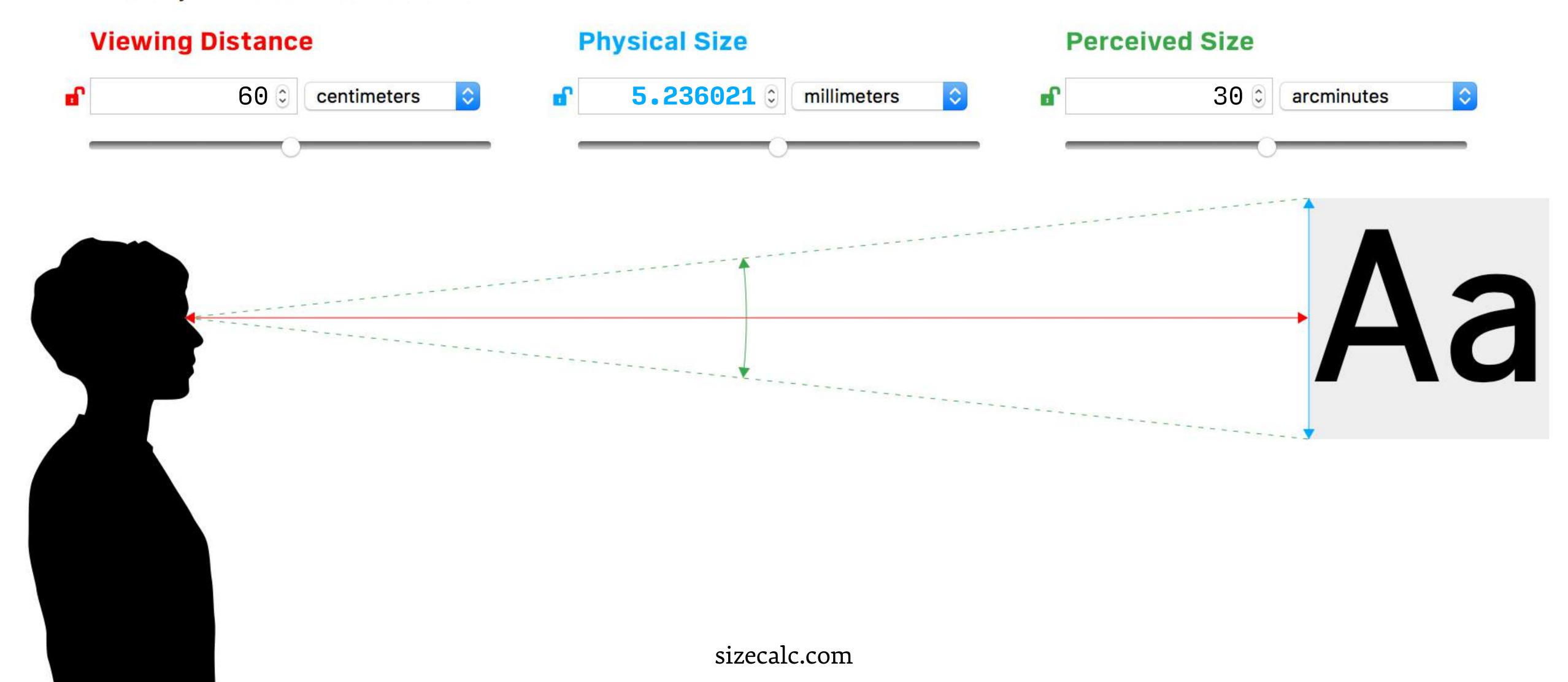


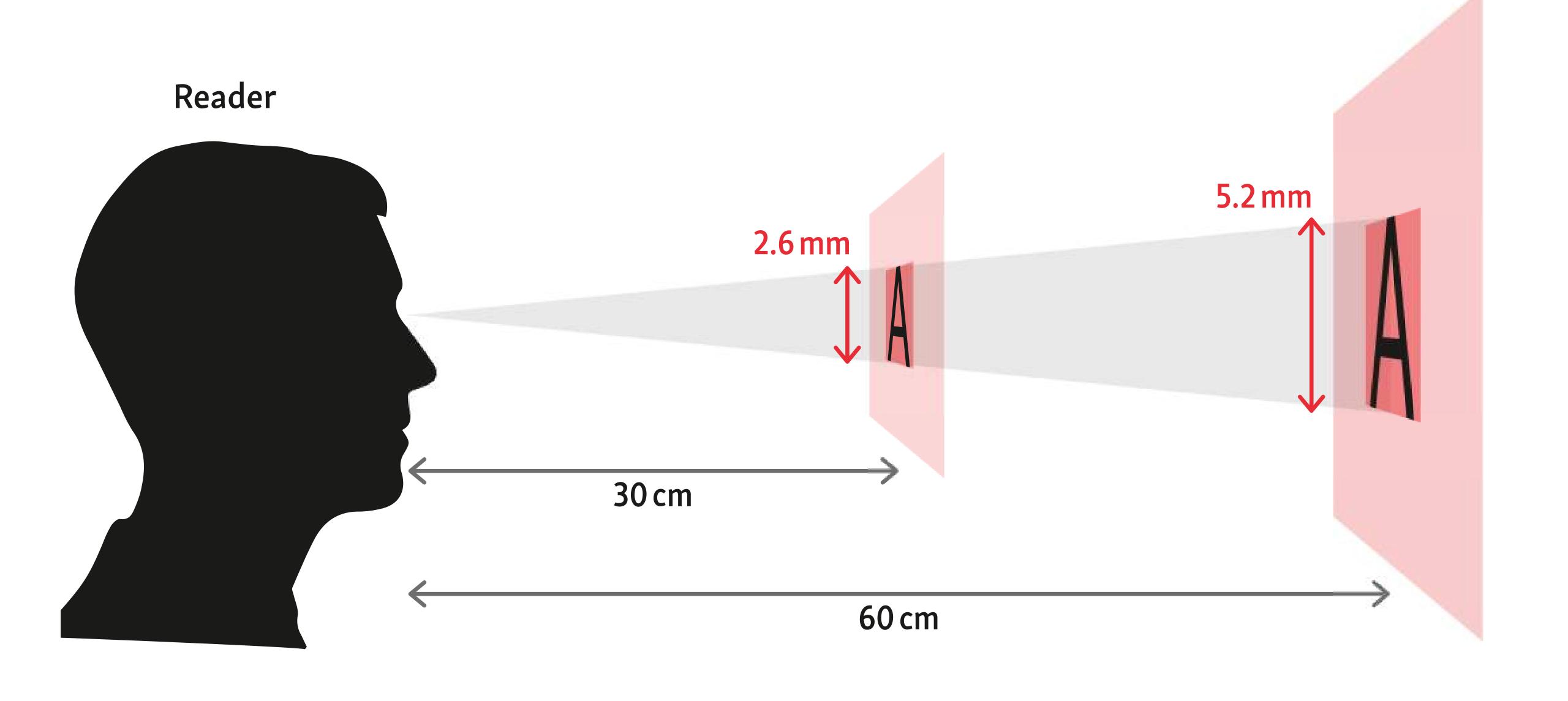


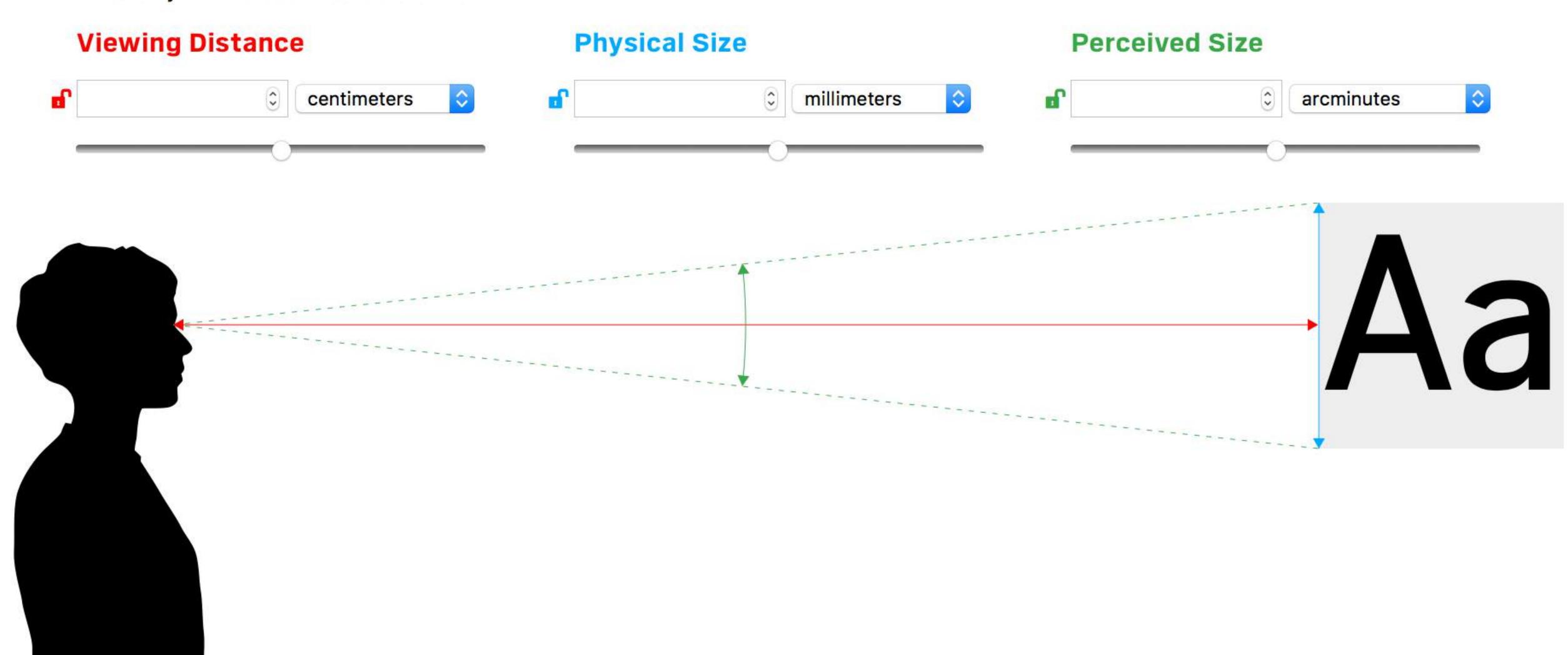


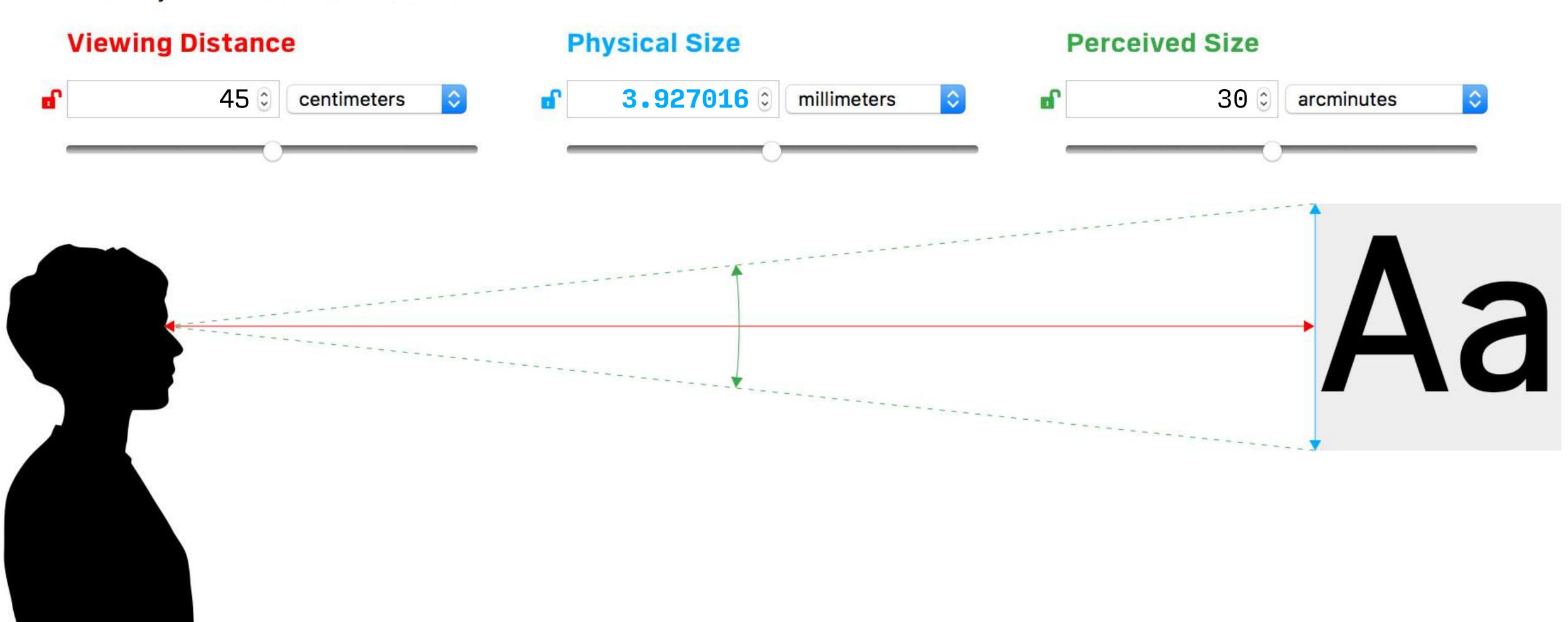












```
p { font-size: 16px; }
```

```
p { font-size: 16px; }
@media screen and (min-width: 60em) {
    p { font-size: 18px; }
}
```

```
p { font-size: 16px; }
@media screen and (min-width: 60em) {
    p { font-size: 18px; }
@media screen and (min-width: 120em) {
    p { font-size: 22px; }
```

ALISI ATAK



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HACK REACTOR: Now Online or Onsite. Take our 12-week immersive JavaScript program from home with Hack Reactor Online.

hackreactor.com



NICK SHERMAN on TYPOGRAPHY

Responsive Typography is a Physical Discipline, But Your Computer Doesn't Know It (Yet)

"When it comes to typography, on screens or otherwise, size matters. Physical size affects optical issues that change how the eye and brain process typographic images."

Nick Sherman, Responsive Typography is a Physical Discipline http://alistapart.com/column/responsive-typography-is-a-physical-discipline

No5 Adjust the font size if the typeface requires it

Excerpt Excerpt Excerpt

Altis Helvetica Futura Lato

Helvetica 16px

One more attribute the modern typographer must have: the capacity for taking great pains with seemingly unimportant detail. To them, one typographical point must be as important as one inch, and they must harden their heart against the accusation of being too fussy.

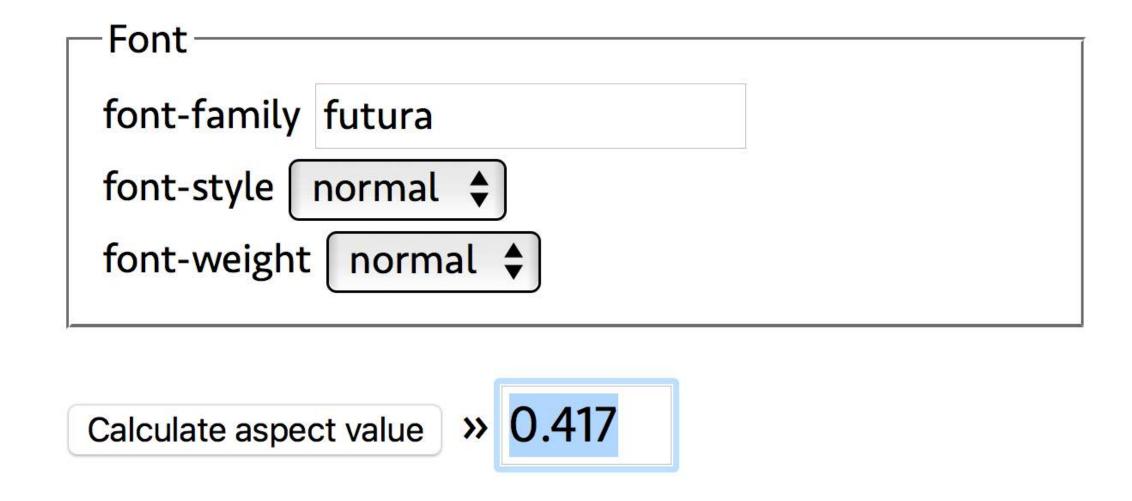
Futura 20px

One more attribute the modern typographer must have: the capacity for taking great pains with seemingly unimportant detail. To them, one typographical point must be as important as one inch, and they must harden their heart against the accusation of being too fussy.

Aspect value calculator

The font-size-adjust CSS3 property allows you to specify the aspect value for a font. Browsers that support this property will adjust the x-height of a fallback font to match that of your desired font. By using this property you can ensure that font metrics are more consistent throughout a font-stack.

This tool calculates the **aspect value** for any font installed on your machine. Use this value as your font-size-adjust number.





Typeface Aspect Ratio

Helvetica 0.521

Lato 0.507

Futura 0.417

Altis 0.542

Adjusting for aspect ratio:

font size × Helvetica ÷ Typeface = adjusted size

So equivalent size for **Lato** is:

$$16 \times 0.521 \div 0.507 = 16.5px$$

Futura:

$$16 \times 0.521 \div 0.417 = 20.1px$$

Altis:

 $16 \times 0.521 \div 0.542 = 15.2px$

Altis 15.2px

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Lato 16.5px

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Helvetica 16px

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Futura 20px

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Nº6 Set tables to be read

asymmetric twomby

"Tabular matter need no longer be a rather unpleasant job to design: on the contrary, it can become a really charming and artistic exercise."

Jan Tschichold, Asymmetric Typography

Country	Area	Population	GDP	Capital
Austria	83,858	8,169,929	339	Vienna
Belgium	30,528	11,007,000	410	Brussels
Denmark	43,094	5,564,219	271	Copenhagen
France	547,030	66,104,000	2,181	Paris
Germany	357,021	80,716,000	3,032	Berlin
Greece	131,957	11,123,034	176	Athens
Ireland	70,280	4,234,925	255	Dublin
Italy	301,230	60,655,464	1,642	Rome
Luxembourg	2,586	448,569	51	Luxembourg
Netherlands	41,526	16,902,103	676	Amsterdam
Portugal	91,568	10,409,995	179	Lisbon
Spain	504,851	47,059,533	1,075	Madrid
Sweden	449,964	9,090,113	447	Stockholm
United Kingdom	244,820	65,110,000	2,727	London

```
Call charge
     $1.30
     $2.50
    $10.80
   $111.01
    $85.
    N/A
      $.05
      $.06
```

Video standard	Resolution	Pixels	Aspect
QQVGA	160×120	19k	4:3
HQVGA	240×160	38k	3:2
QVGA	320×240	76k	4:3
WQVGA	480×272	130k	16:9
VGA	640×480	307k	4:3
SVGA	800×600	480k	4:3
XGA	1024×768	786k	4:3
HD	1260×768	967k	16:9
WXGA	1280×800	1,024k	16:10
SXGA	1280×1024	1,310k	5:4
UXGA	1600×1200	1,920k	4:3
FHD	1920×1080	2,073k	16:9
DCI 2K	2048×1080	2,211k	19:10
WQXGA	2560×1600	4,096k	16:10
4K UHD	3840×2160	8,294k	16:9

```
td { text-align: "x" center; }
```

	To convert	into	multiply by
Length	inches	millimetres (mm)	25.4
	feet	centimetres (cm)	30.48
	yards	metres (m)	0.91444
	miles	kilometres (km)	1.61
Area	square inches	sq. millimetres (mm²)	645
	square feet	square metres (m²)	0.0929
	square yards	square metres (m²)	0.836
	acres	hectares	2.47
Volume	cubic inches	millitres (ml)	16.4
	cubic feet	litres	28.3
	imperial gallons	litres	4.55
	us barrels	cubic metres (m³)	0.159

Imperial to metric conversion factors
Values are given to three significant figures unless exact

Director	Film	Released	Budget	Gross	Rating
John Ford	The Informer	May 1935	\$243,000	\$950,000	8.3/10
John Ford	The Grapes of Wrath	Jan 1940	\$800,000	\$2,500,000	9/10
John Ford	How Green Was My Valley	Oct 1941	\$800,000	\$2,800,000	7.9/10
John Ford	The Quiet Man	Jul 1952	\$1,750,000	\$3,200,000	8/10
William Wyler	Mrs Miniver	Jun 1942	\$1,340,000	\$8,878,000	7.8/10
William Wyler	The Best Years of Our Lives	Nov 1946	\$2,100,000	\$23,700,000	8.6/10
William Wyler	Ben-Hur	Nov 1959	\$15,200,000	\$146,900,000	7.9/10
Frank Capra	It Happened One Night	Feb 1934	\$325,000	\$2,500,000	8.9/10
Frank Capra	Mr Deeds Goes to Town	Apr 1936	\$845,710	\$1,000,000	8.4/10
Frank Capra	You Can't Take It With You	Aug 1938	\$1,644,736	\$5,295,526	7.6/10
Billy Wilder	The Lost Weekend	Nov 1945	\$1,250,000	\$11,000,000	8.2/10
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	The Grapes of Wrath	Jan 1940	800,000	2,500,000	9.0
	How Green Was My Valley	Oct 1941	800,000	2,800,000	7.9
	The Quiet Man	Jul 1952	1,750,000	3,200,000	8.0
William Wyler	Mrs Miniver	Jun 1942	1,340,000	8,880,000	7.8
	The Best Years of Our Lives	Nov 1946	2,100,000	23,700,000	8.6
	Ben-Hur	Nov 1959	15,200,000	147,000,000	7.9
Frank Capra	It Happened One Night	Feb 1934	325,000	2,500,000	8.9
	Mr Deeds Goes to Town	Apr 1936	846,000	1,000,000	8.4
	You Can't Take It With You	Aug 1938	1,640,000	5,300,000	7.6
Billy Wilder	The Lost Weekend	Nov 1945	1,250,000	11,000,000	8.2
	The Apartment	Jun 1960	3,000,000	24,600,000	8.5
David Lean	The Bridge on the River Kwai	Oct 1957	2,800,000	30,600,000	9.2
	Lawrence of Arabia	Dec 1962	15,000,000	70,000,000	9.0
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	Saving Private Ryan	Jul 1998	70,000,000	482,000,000	8.6
Fred Zinnemann	From Here to Eternity	Aug 1953	2,500,000	30,500,000	8.2
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Billy Wilder	The Lost Weekend	Nov 1945	1,250,000	11,000,000	8.2
	The Apartment	Jun 1960	3,000,000	24,600,000	8.5
David Lean	The Bridge on the River Kwai	Oct 1957	2,800,000	30,600,000	9.2
	Lawrence of Arabia	Dec 1962	15,000,000	70,000,000	9.0
Steven Spielberg	Schindler's List	Nov 1993	22,000,000	321,000,000	9.0
	Saving Private Ryan	Jul 1998	70,000,000	482,000,000	8.6
Fred Zinnemann	From Here to Eternity	Aug 1953	2,500,000	30,500,000	8.2
	A Man for All Seasons	Dec 1966	2,000,000	28,400,000	7.8

How to make a table readable

- 1. Remove stretch and size columns to data
- 2. Remove fills, gridlines, border and bolding.
- 3. Left-align text, right-align numbers and align headings with data.
- 4. Put white space to work to group and separate.
- 5. Use tabular lining numerals, consistent precision, and remove repetition.

No7 Set text at display sizes, even on small screens











Interview by Tammi Heneveld November 10, 2015

Photo by Fred DiMeglio

Mary Kate McDevitt

ILLUSTRATOR/LETTERER

Mary Kate McDevitt is a freelance illustrator and letterer

The Pelican Story

In 1936, Allen Lane, the founder of <u>Penguin</u>, overheard a woman at a bookstall in King's Cross station asking for 'one of those Pelican books'. Presumably she meant a Penguin, but Lane, concerned that his competitors might snatch up bird names, decided to launch a new flock of non-fiction books. The Pelican imprint was born.

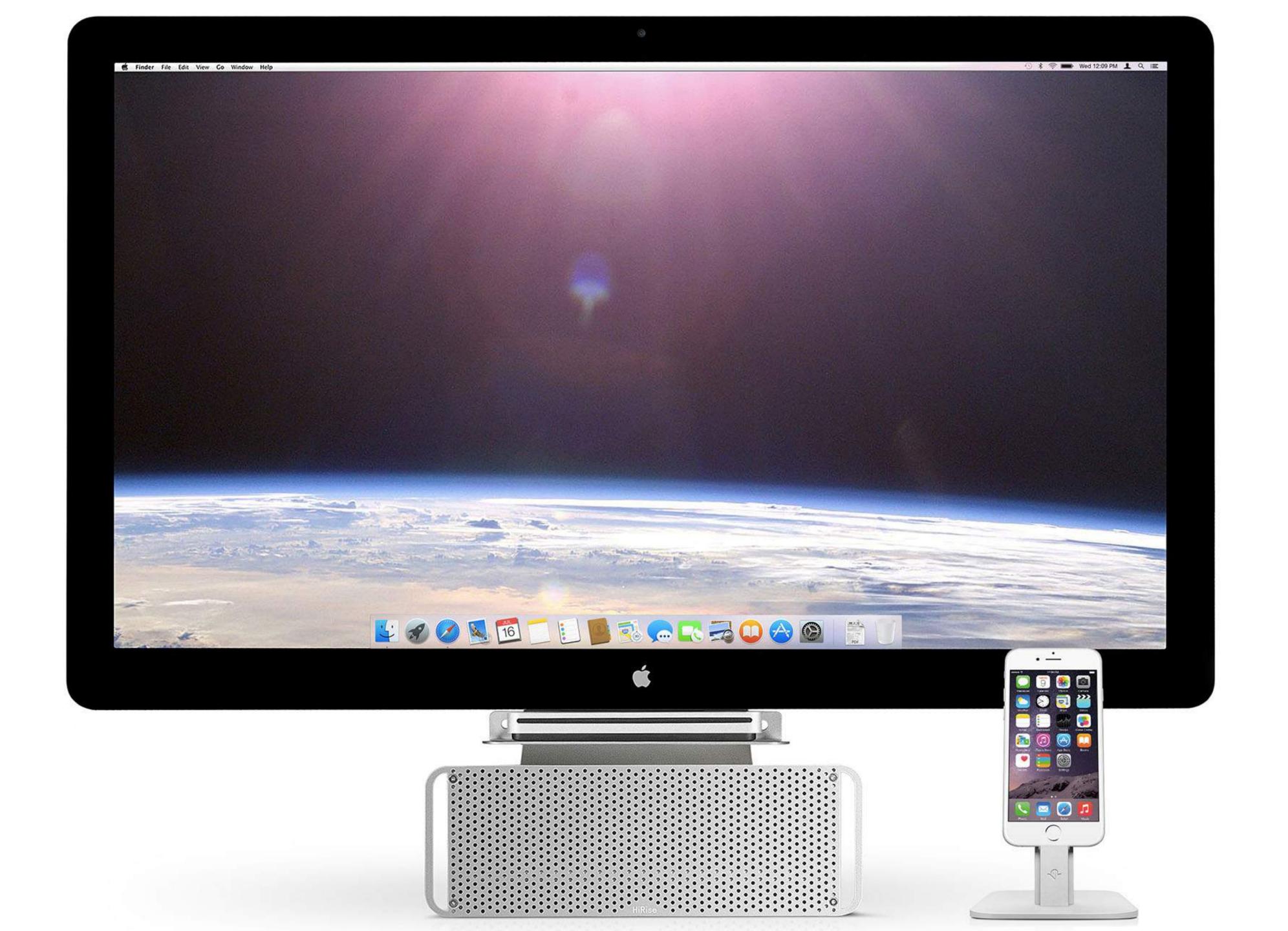
The Pelican Story

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E

CHAPTER 1

What We Have to Explain





Interview by Tina Essmaker on February 27, 2015

Photography by Angela and Ithyle

Styling by Sissy Sainte-Marie Assisted by Iillian Cainghug

> Hair by Brooke Rodgers Makeup by Gia Harris

Alison Sudol

ACTRESS/MUSICIAN

Alison Sudol is an LA-based musician, actress, and author. Previously known by her stage name, A Fine Frenzy, Alison's debut, One Cell in the Sea, was released in 2007 followed by several successful albums, international tours, and music features in films, TV, and others campaigns. In 2014, Alison expanded her repertoire to include acting and made her debut with a recurring role in Amazon's breakout hit, Transparent, and a starring role in USA Network's Dig, a show from the creators of Homeland and Heroes. Although no longer performing as A Fine Frenzy, Alison remains a prolific songwriter and musician and is currently collaborating with fellow artists and producers on a new musical project.

alisonsudol.com



Interview by Tammi Heneveld November 10, 2015

Photo by Fred DiMeglio

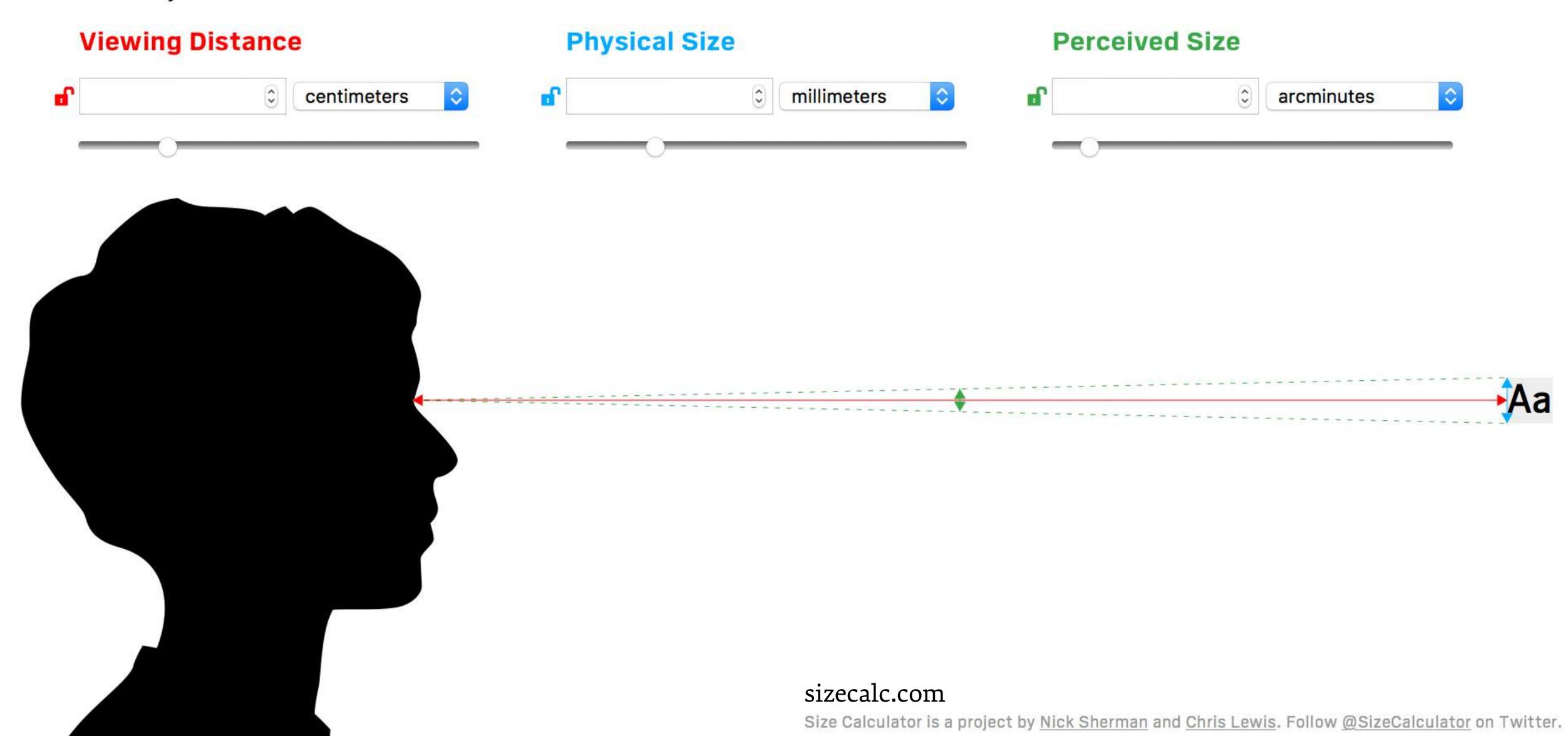
Mary Kate McDevitt

ILLUSTRATOR/LETTERER

Mary Kate McDevitt is a freelance illustrator and letterer

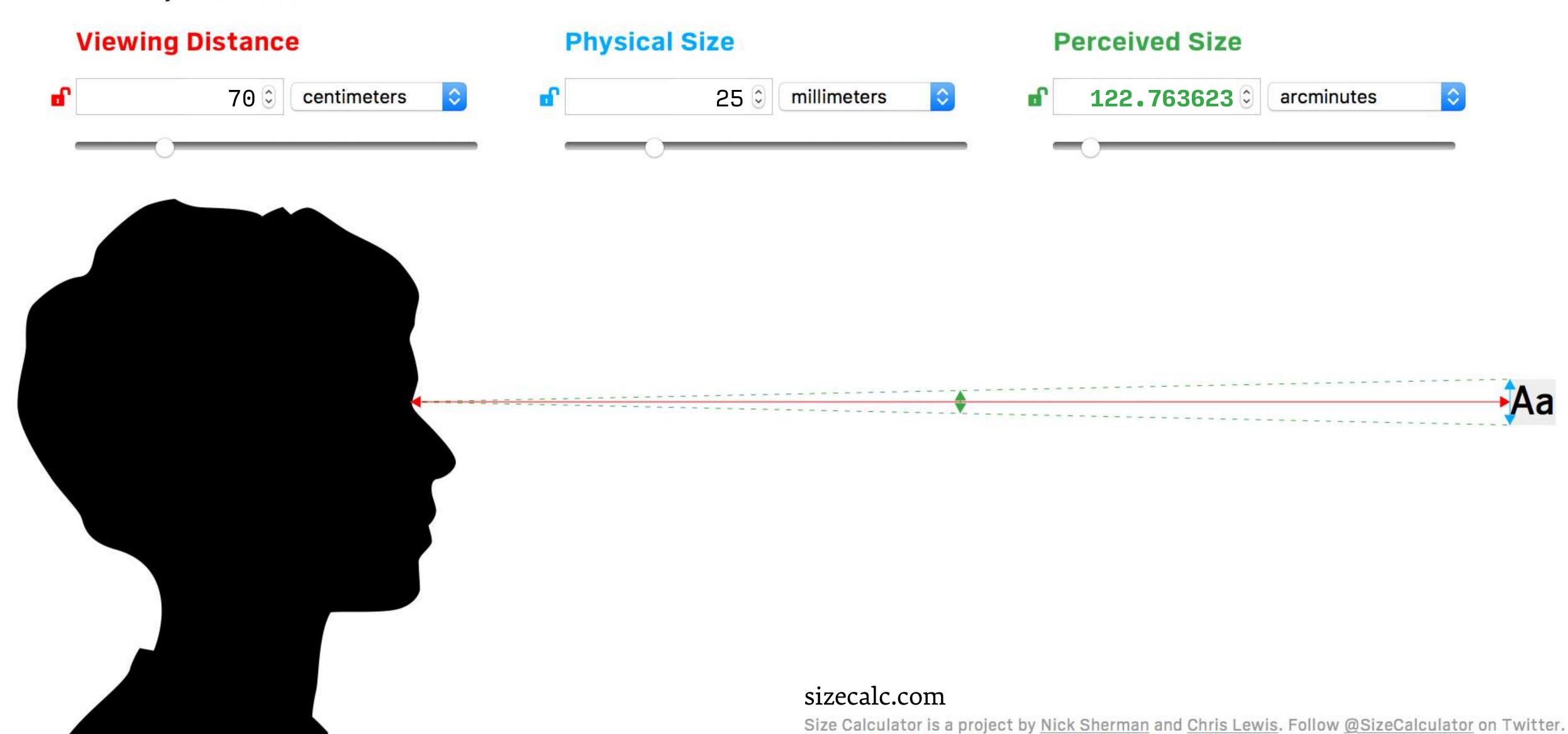
Size Calculator

Enter any two values to calculate the third.



Size Calculator

Enter any two values to calculate the third.

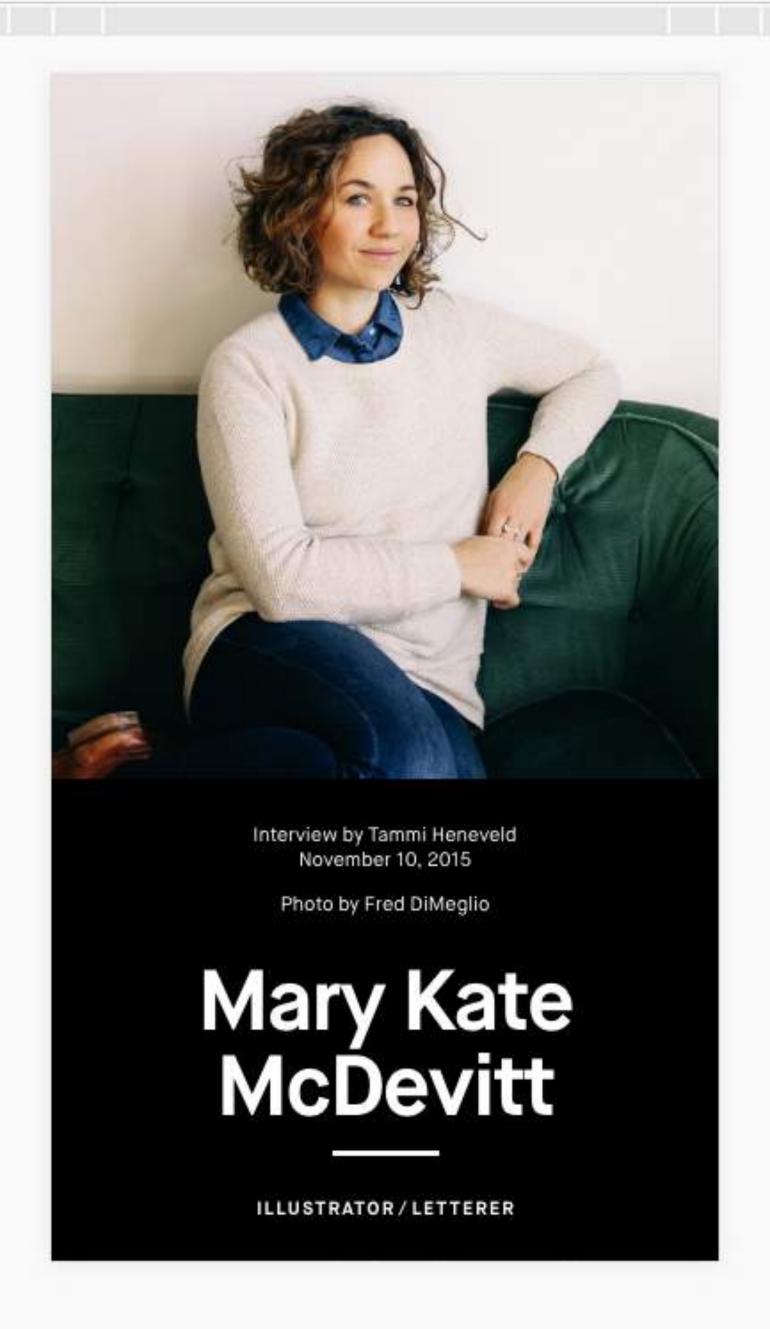






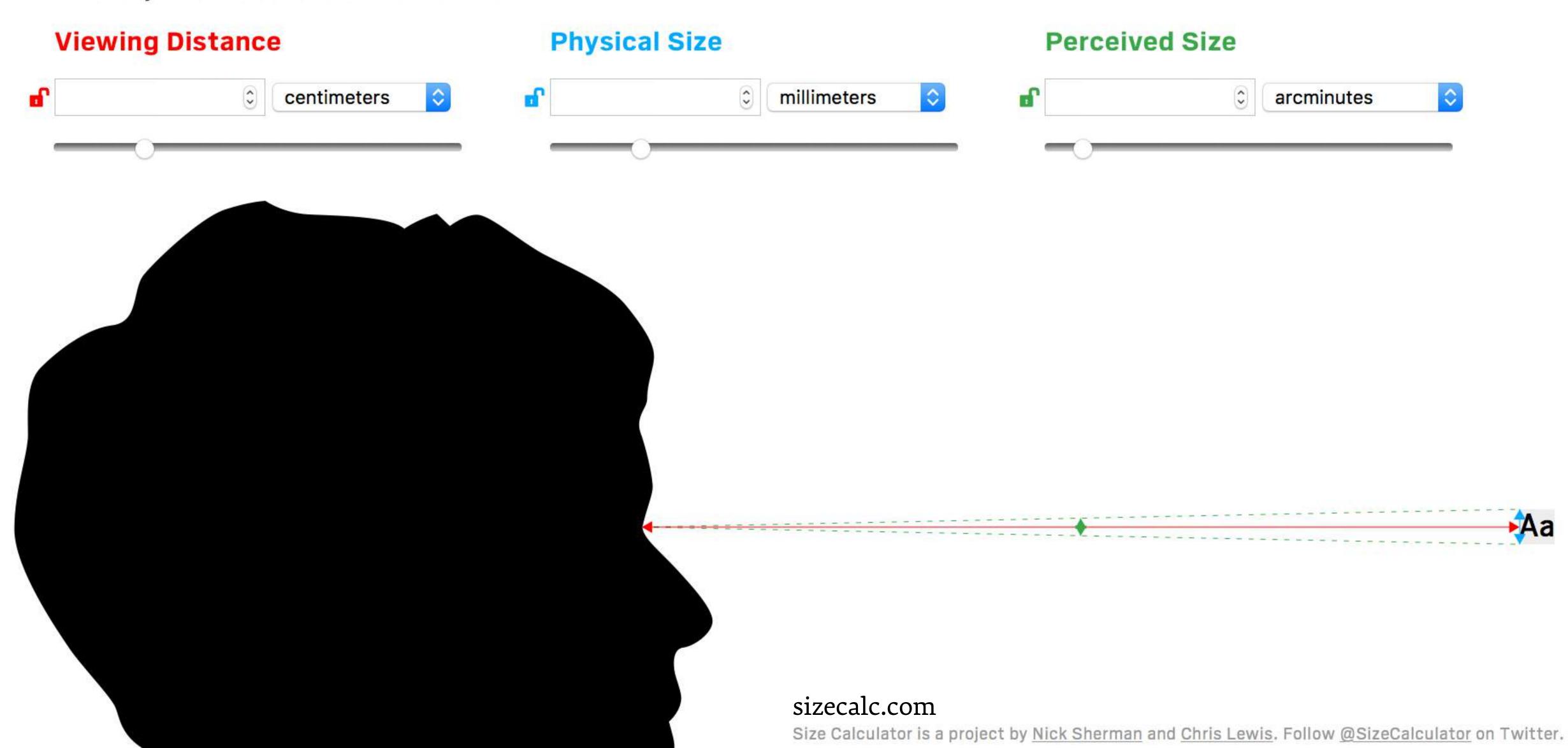






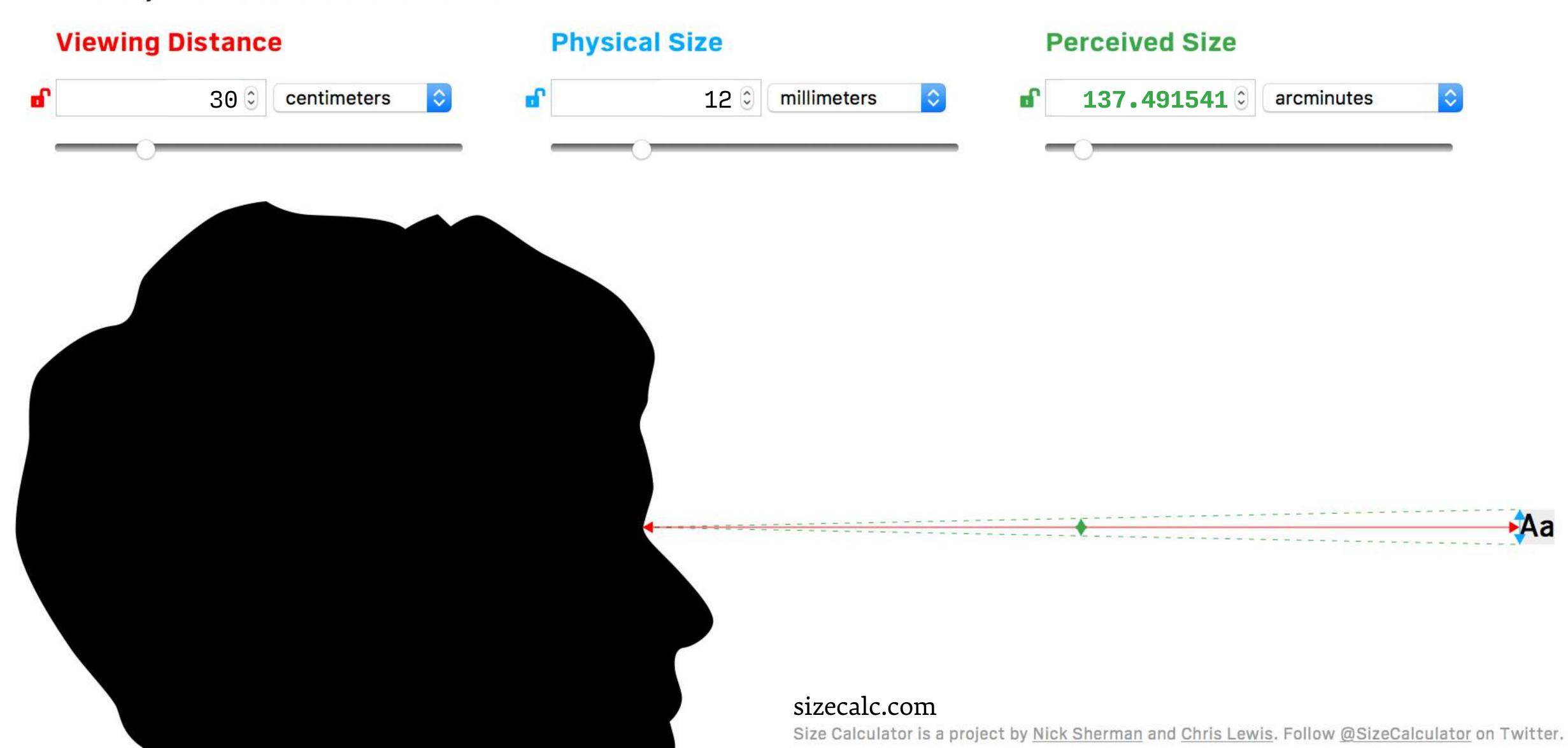
Size Calculator

Enter any two values to calculate the third.



Size Calculator

Enter any two values to calculate the third.



Getting Ready

Taking picture - smile!



Getting Ready

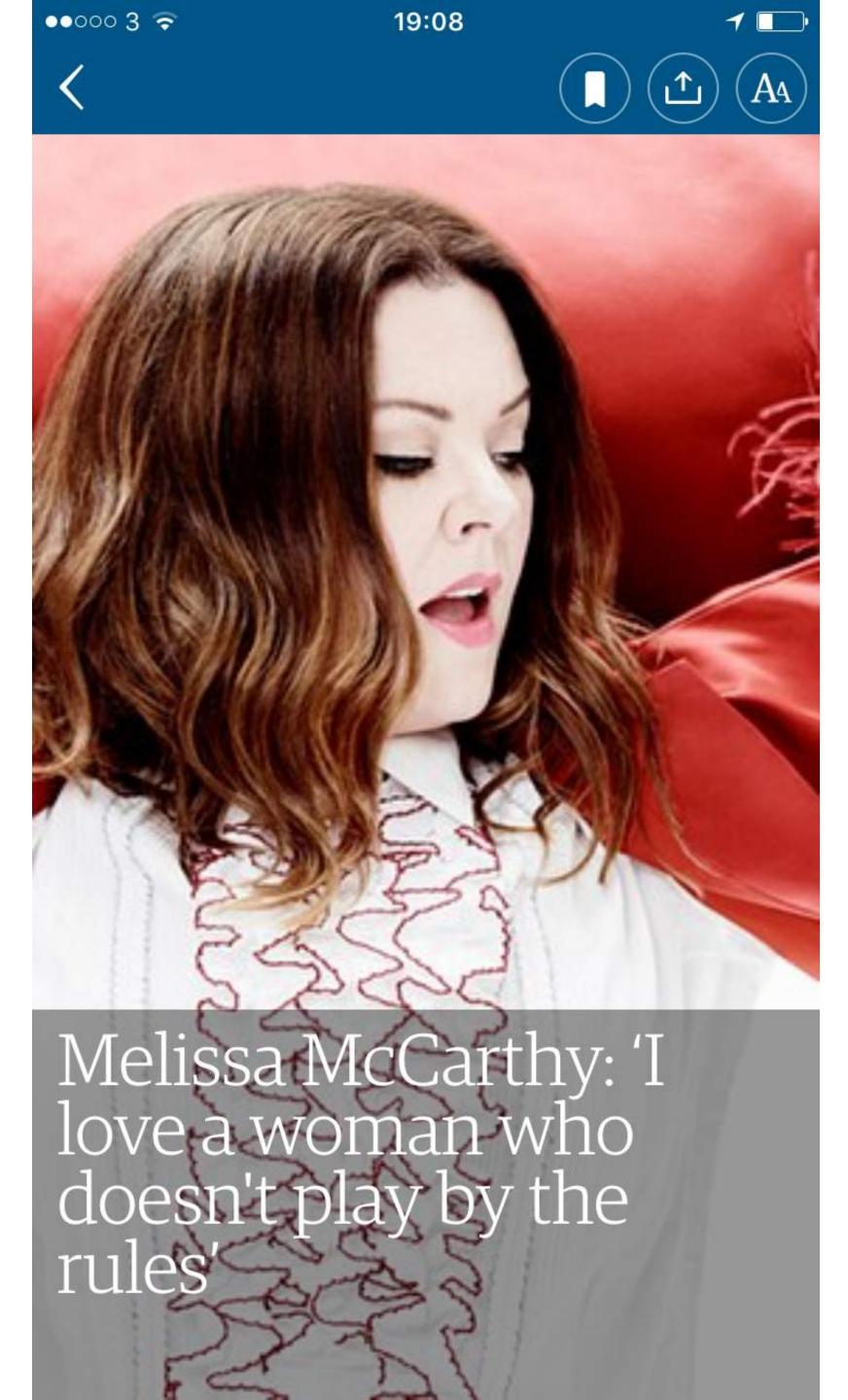
Taking picture - smile!





"Good design is about firstly making people want to read, then about telling stories."

Mark Porter, former Creative Director at the Guardian

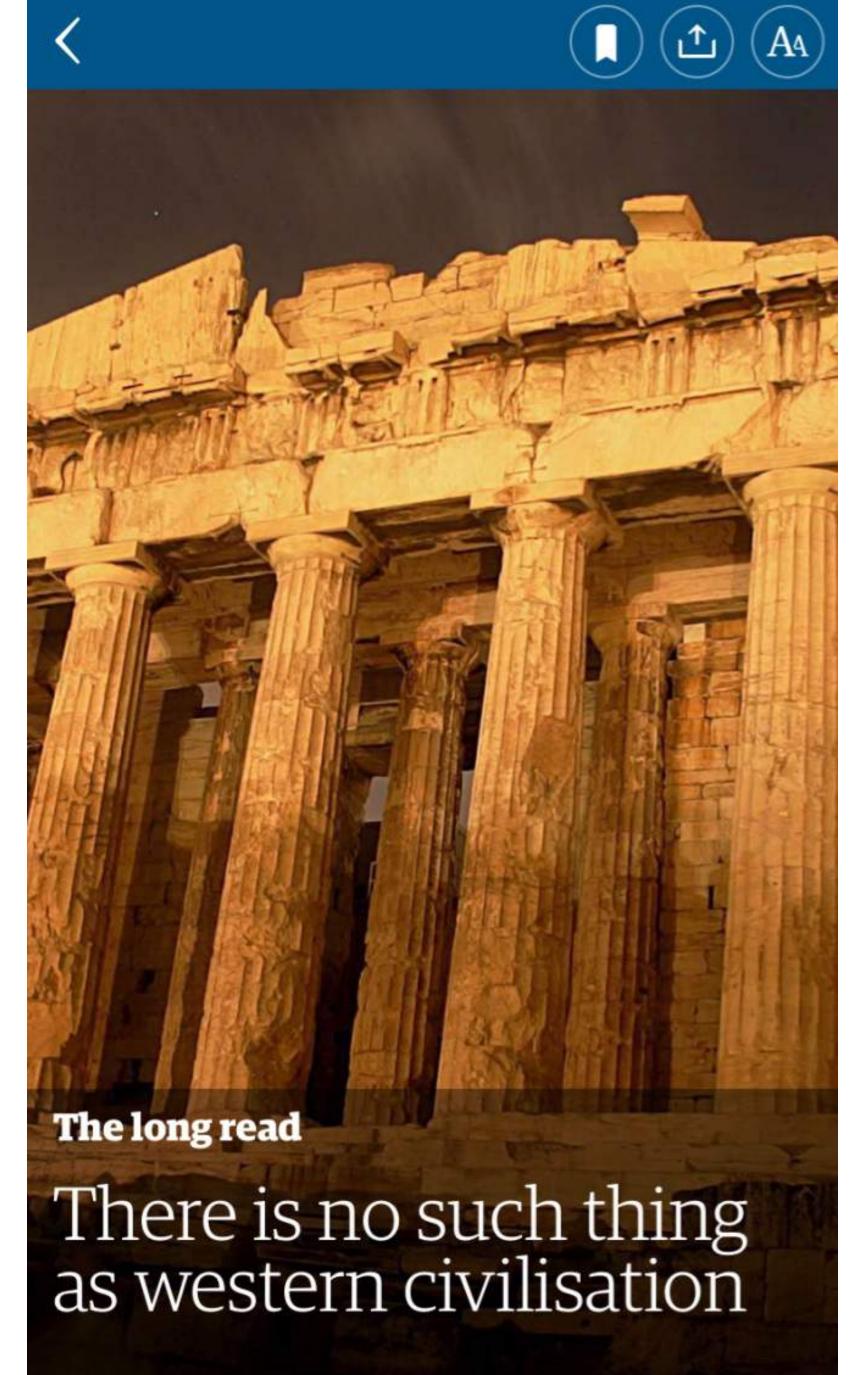




19:08

••000 3 🕏

The expected timings of results, all you need to know about the key battleground states, plus drinks, eats and tunes to get you through what could be a long night



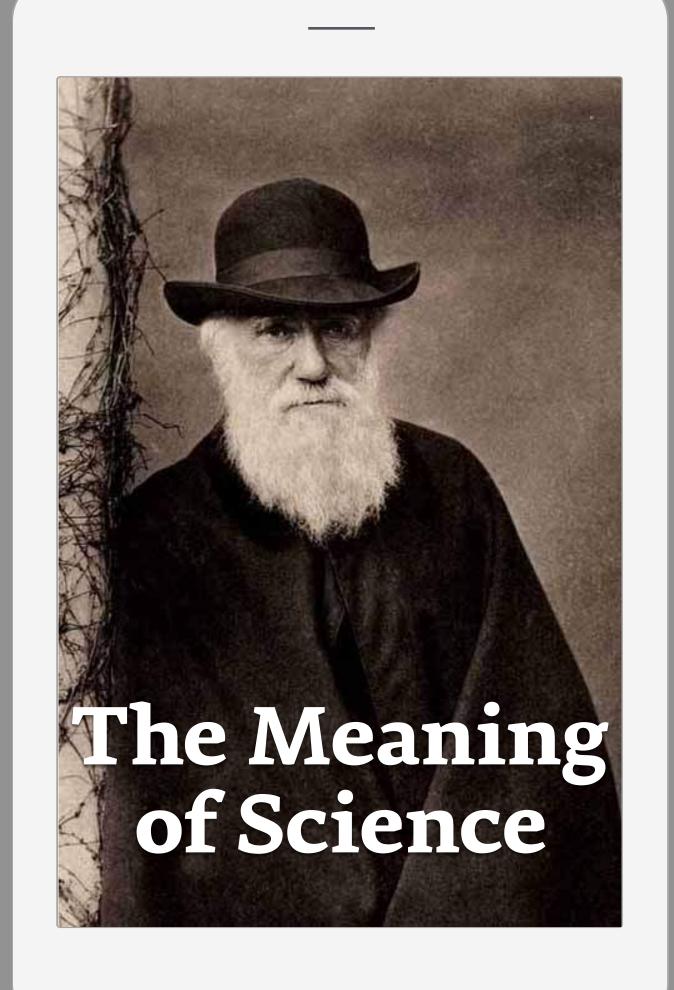
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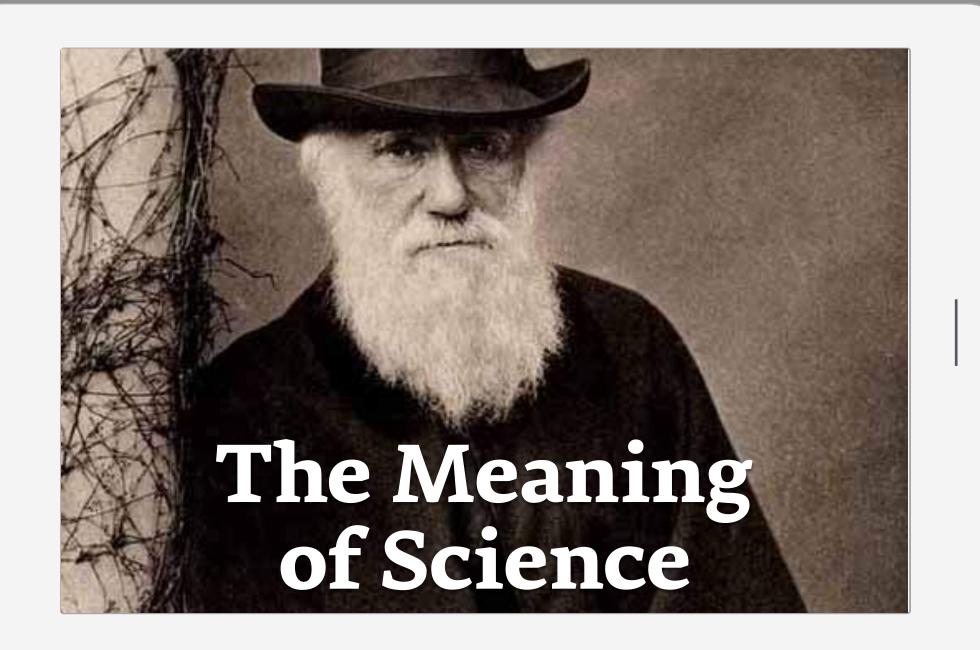
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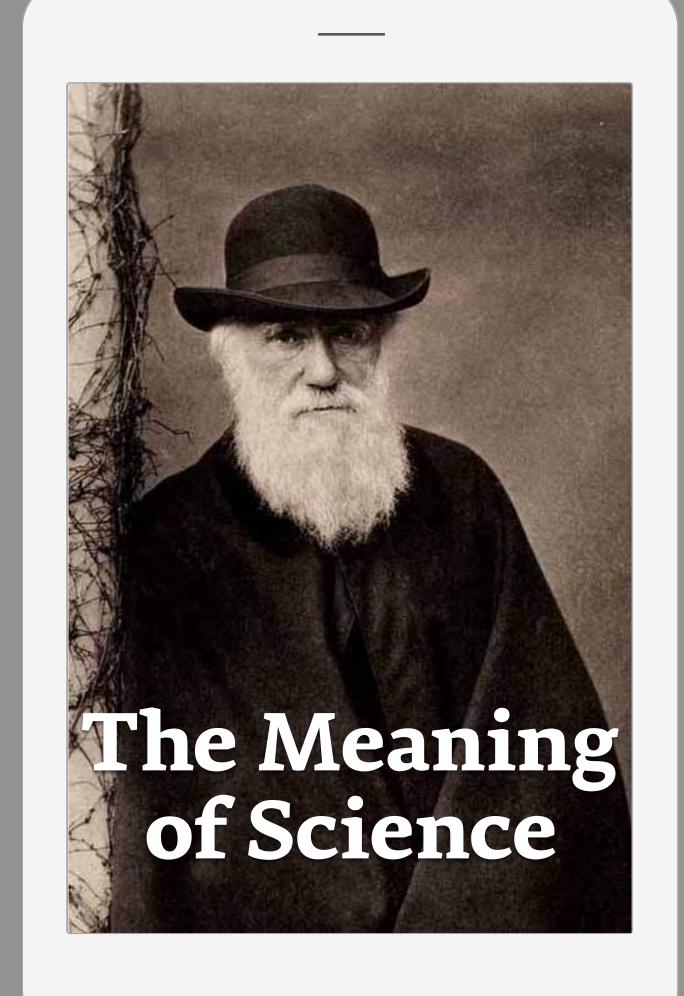
Nº8 Resize display text as you would an image

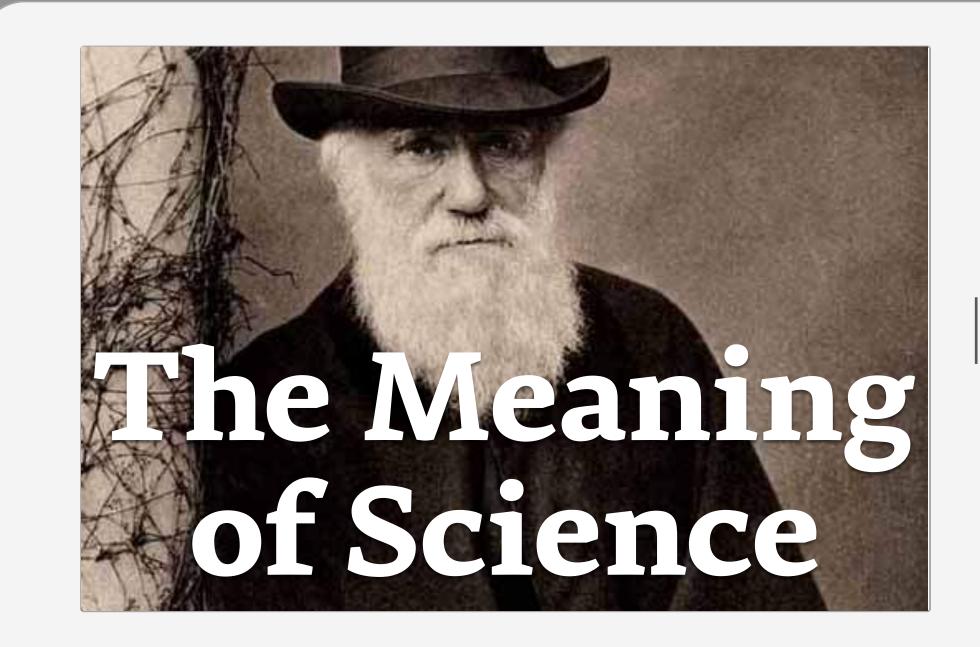
```
h1 {
   font-size: 13vw;
   /* 1vw = 1% viewport width */
}
```

```
h1 {
   font-size: 13vmin;
/* 1vmin = 1% viewport width or
   height, whichever is smaller */
}
```









Influence the way people feel through type



"Even if people are not consciously aware of the type they're reading, they'll certainly be affected by it."

Tobias Frere-Jones, Helvetica (dir. Gary Huswitt, 2007).







You can influence the way people feel

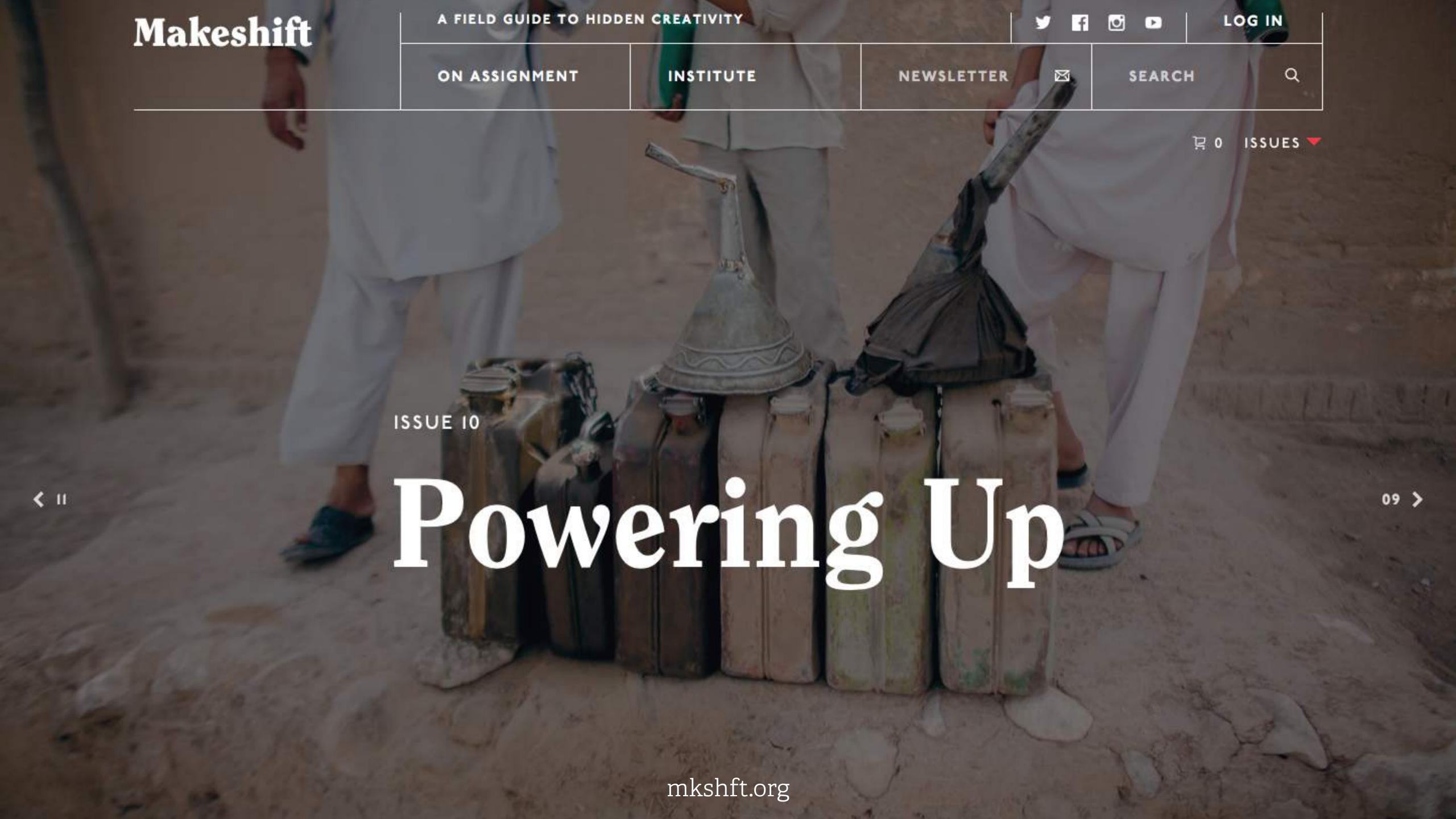




Movement feels easier because lung capacity and blood circulation has **improved**.

When you quit smoking, blood circulation in the vertebrae and back muscles increases, thus reducing the risk of back problems. The skin looks healthier, as blood flows more efficiently.







LOCATION

MARINA

SHIPYARD

CONTACT



SHOWREEL



2012 Olympics Games AaBhCcDdEeFfGgHhliJjKkLlMm NnOoPpQqRrSsTtUuVvWwXxYyZz 1234567890 8fiffffffffff ÀÁÂÂÄÄÄÇÈÉÊÏÍÏÏŁÑÒÓÔŐÖØ ŠÙÚÛŰŰŰŽÐÞÆŒ àáâãäåæçèéêëìíîïŧñøòóôô öšùúûüýÿžðþæœ



Walk in the Olympic Park

mathematics

I love little fluffy leittens

This is a stury about sumenne min livet in Happiland. His name mas mr Happy and Ite was fat and runni, and happy. One day the Happy went fur a malk in the monds.

No10 Don't be reverential, dogmatic or ordinary





"People who love ideas must have a love of words. They will take a vivid interest in the clothes that words wear."

Beatrice Warde, The Crystal Goblet



Correspondent

24 december 2013

We tend to think that simply giving people money makes them lazy. Yet a wealth of scientific research proves the contrary: free money helps. It is time for a radical reform of the welfare state.

Why we should give free money to everyone





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Why we should give free money to everyone





Noll Reduce your payload

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- Introduction
 - 1.1. Notational Conventions
- 2. General Requirements
- Overall file structure and basic data types
- 3.1. Data types
- 3.2. WOFF2 Header
- 4. Font directory
 - 4.1. Table directory format
 - 4.2. Collection directory format
- Compressed data format
- 5.1. Transformed glyf table format
- 5.2. Decoding of variable-length X and Y coordi-

nates



WOFF File Format 2.0

W3C Candidate Recommendation 15 March 2016

This version:

http://www.w3.org/TR/2016/CR-WOFF2-20160315/

Latest version:

http://www.w3.org/TR/WOFF2/

Previous Version:

http://www.w3.org/TR/2015/WD-WOFF2-20150414/

Latest editors draft:

"WOFF2 provides improved compression and thus lower use of network bandwidth, while still allowing fast decompression even on mobile devices."

WOFF File Format 2.0, W3C Candidate Recommendation

```
@font-face {
  font-family: "Open Sans";
  font-weight: 400;
  font-style: normal;
  src: url("OpenSans.woff2") format("woff2"),
      url("OpenSans.woff") format("woff");
}
```







Nº12 Optimise page render timing





Explore the Red Sea

Learn to dive with our amazing scuba experiences and PADI courses. For top quality tuition in warm crystal clear seas, come to us – Renegade Divers.

Renegade Divers has been operating since 1998. We offer a range of liveaboard PADI registered diving holidays. Our main destination for PADI training is the Red Sea. We also offer the best Maldives liveaboards and other leading dive vessels in the Indian Ocean, Indonesia and the Galapagos Islands.

Learn to dive with our "Discover Scube Diving" holidays and experience the thrill of seeing



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Learn to dive with our "Discover Scube Diving" holidays and experience the thrill of seeing





`font-display` for the Masses



<EDITOR_INTRO>

The following is a guest post by Jeremy Wagner, a web developer, author, and speaker living in the Twin Cities. He's got a new book on web performance. Here we're going to dig into a brand new CSS feature, that once it percolates through the browser ecosystem, will be great for performance.



>_ job board

Easygo Gaming Solutions is hiring a React/Redux developer w/ experience in animations (CSS/Canvas)

Snakk Media Pty Limited is hiring a Creative Developer - Sydney, AUS

codeBOX, LLC is hiring a Fun Compassionate
Battle Hardened Senior Web Developer

See More Jobs

Post a Job

C/EDITOR INTRO>

css-tricks.com/iont-display-masses/

browser ecosystem, witt be great for performance.

font-display values

swap

fallback text is shown immediately until the webfont loads

fallback

text invisible for <100ms then shown with fallback font until webfont loads (provided that happens within 3 seconds)

optional

like fallback but browser decides whether a webfont should be used at all (depends on connection speed)

block

Block rendering while downloading the webfont for up to three seconds. After three seconds the fallback font will be shown. If the webfont loads afterwards, show the webfont.

auto

browser default (usually block)

font-display values

swap

fallback text is shown immediately until the webfont loads

fallback

text invisible for <100ms then shown with fallback font until webfont loads (provided that happens within 3 seconds)

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Block rendering while downloading the webfont for up to three seconds. After three seconds the fallback font will be shown. If the webfont loads afterwards, show the webfont.

auto

browser default (usually block)

```
@font-face {
  font-family: "Open Sans";
  font-weight: 400;
  font-style: normal;
  src: url("OpenSans.woff2") format("woff2"),
      url("OpenSans.woff") format("woff");
  font-display: fallback;
}
```

Preload the critical font



Font Loading Revisited with Font Events

Posted by Scott on 02/16/2015

Last month we wrote about an approach we'd been using to load web fonts in a more responsible manner than browsers tend to do by default. The purpose of the

"One way we can regain control over the loading behavior is to use font load events."

Filament Group, Font Loading Revisted with Font Events www.filamentgroup.com/lab/font-events.html

No13 Learn to use variable fonts

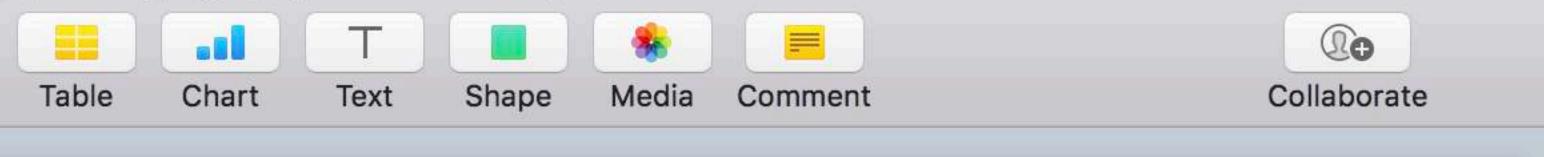
GGGGGG GGGGG

GGGGGG GGGGG

GGGGGG GGGGGG HEE CE

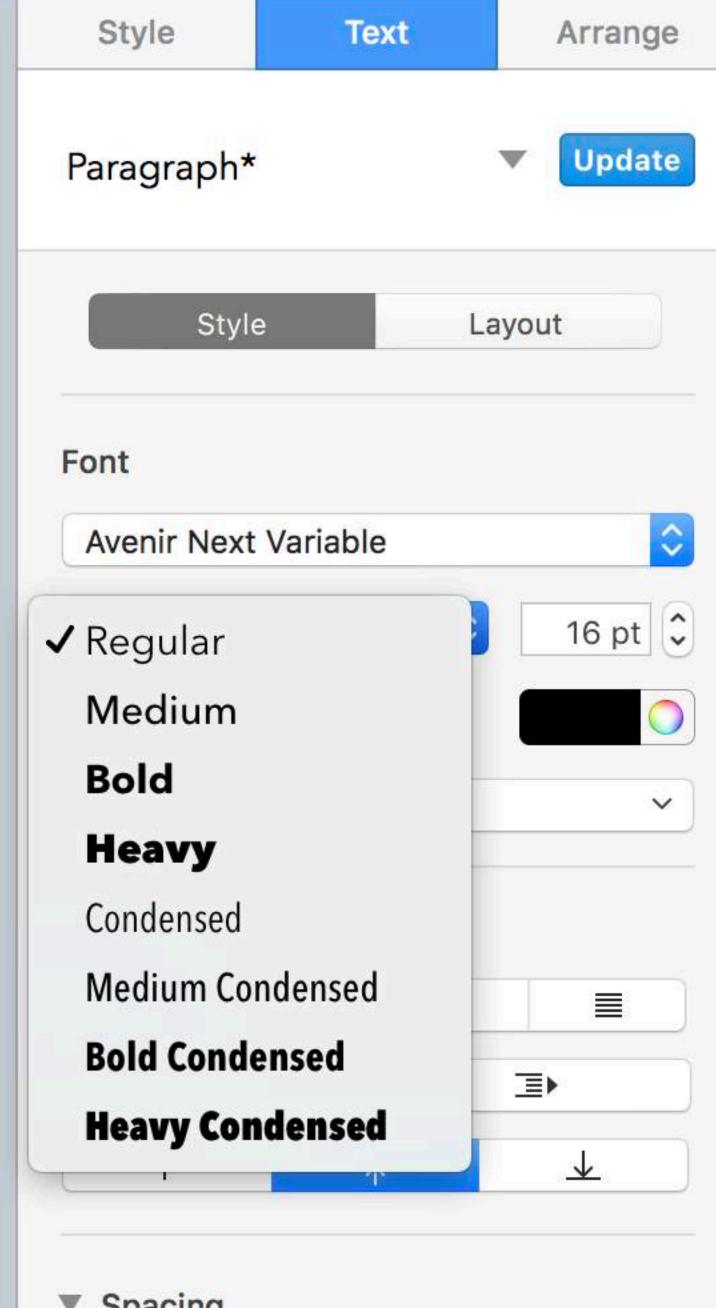
GGGGGG GGGGG GGGGGG

GGGGGG GGGGG GGGGGG



Avenir Next Variable Medium Condensed instance





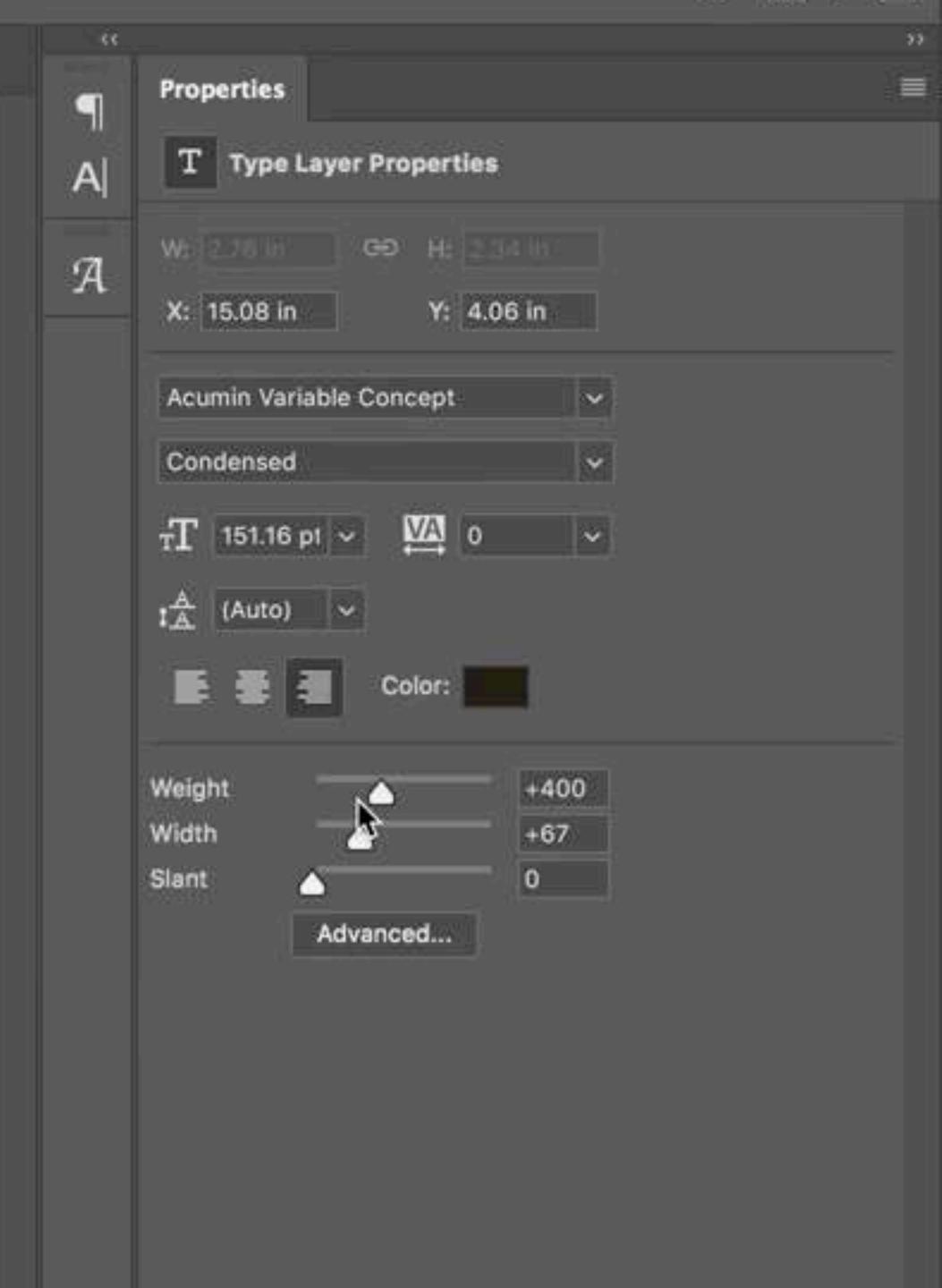
Format Animate Document











weight

width

italic

slant

optical size

weight wght

width wdth

italic ital

slant slnt

optical size opsz

weight wght

font-weight

width wdth

font-stretch

italic ital

font-style

slant slnt

font-style

optical size

opsz

font-optical-sizing

weight wght font-weight any integer from 1–999

width wdth font-stretch 100% is predefined as normal

50% as ultra-condensed

200% as ultra-expanded

italic ital font-style italic

slant slnt font-style angle value

oblique -90deg to

oblique 90deg

optical size opsz font-optical-sizing auto

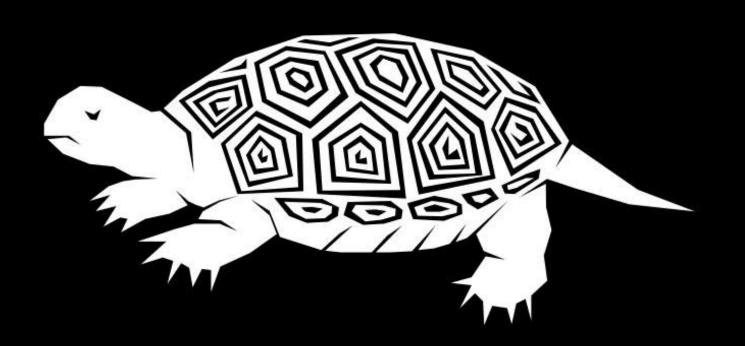
Explore the Ocean

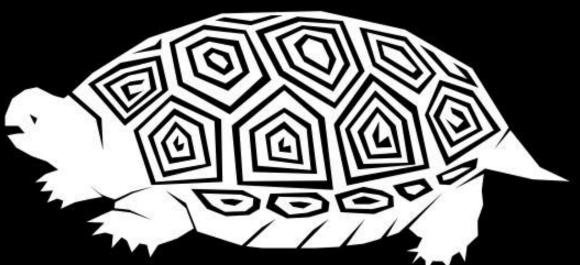
Renegade Divers has been operating since 1998. We offer a range of liveaboard PADI registered diving holidays. Our main destination for PADI training is the Red Sea. We also offer the best Maldives liveaboards and other leading dive vessels in the Indian Ocean, Indonesia and the Galapagos Islands.

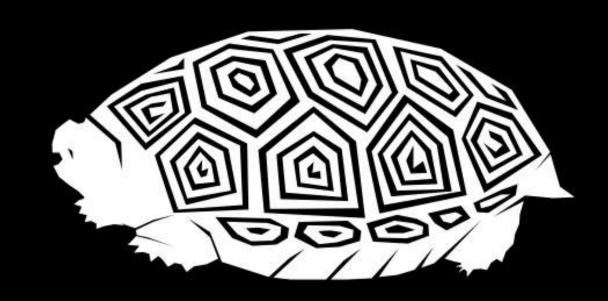
Explore the Ocean

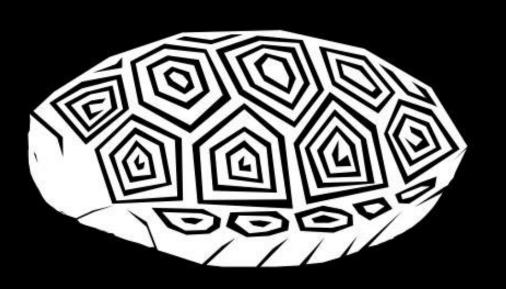
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AnAnAnAnAn









font-variation-settings

font-variation-settings: 'ytse' 24

font-variation-settings

```
font-variation-settings: 'ytse' 24
```

```
font-variation-settings: 'wght' 100, 'wdth' 400, 'opsz' 20
```

```
@font-face {
    font-family: 'Nicefont';
    src: url('nicefont_var.woff2') format('woff-variations'),
        url('nicefont_regular.woff2') format('woff2');
    font-weight: normal;
    font-style: normal;
}
```

```
@font-face {
    font-family: 'Nicefont';
    src: url('nicefont var.woff2') format('woff-variations'),
         url('nicefont regular.woff2') format('woff2');
    font-weight: normal;
    font-style: normal;
@font-face {
    font-family: 'Nicefont';
    src: url('nicefont var.woff2') format('woff-variations'),
         url('nicefont black.woff2') format('woff2');
    font-weight: 800;
    font-style: normal;
```



Introduction

MY SPECIMENS

Old Default

SPECIMENS

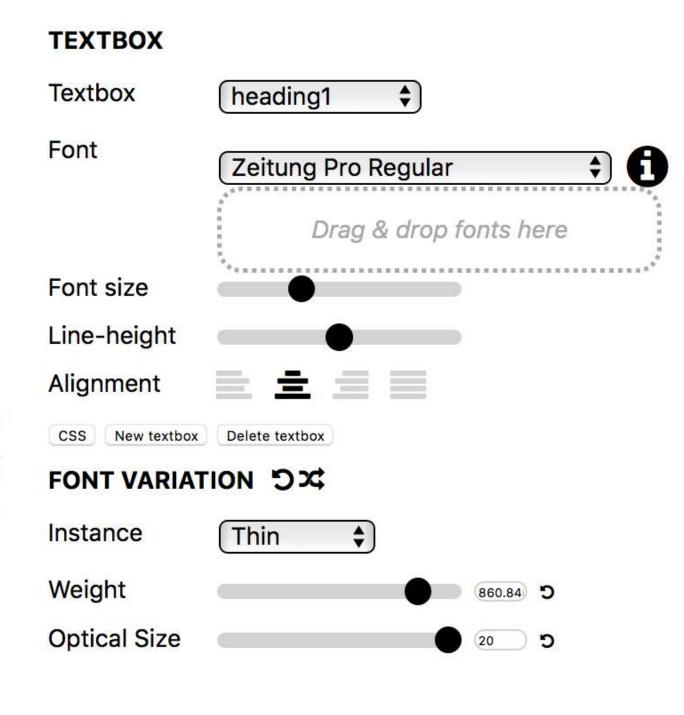
文鼎晶熙黑 晶熙ゴシック体 Amstelvar **Avenir Next** BitCount Buffalo Gal Decovar **DIN 2014** Dunbar Fit Gingham Grade Jam

Axis-Praxis is a website for playing with OpenType Variable Fonts

Discover 30+ variable fonts. Experiment with the typographic controls in the right panel on this default layout, or choose a typeface specimen from the left column. Every textbox is fully editable: change font, font size, alignment, linespacing as well as the variation sliders. And type your own text, of course.



Font makers can try out their own variable fonts. Just drag any variable TTF to the right panel, the current textbox gets set to that font, and its axes show up right away in the Font Variation section.

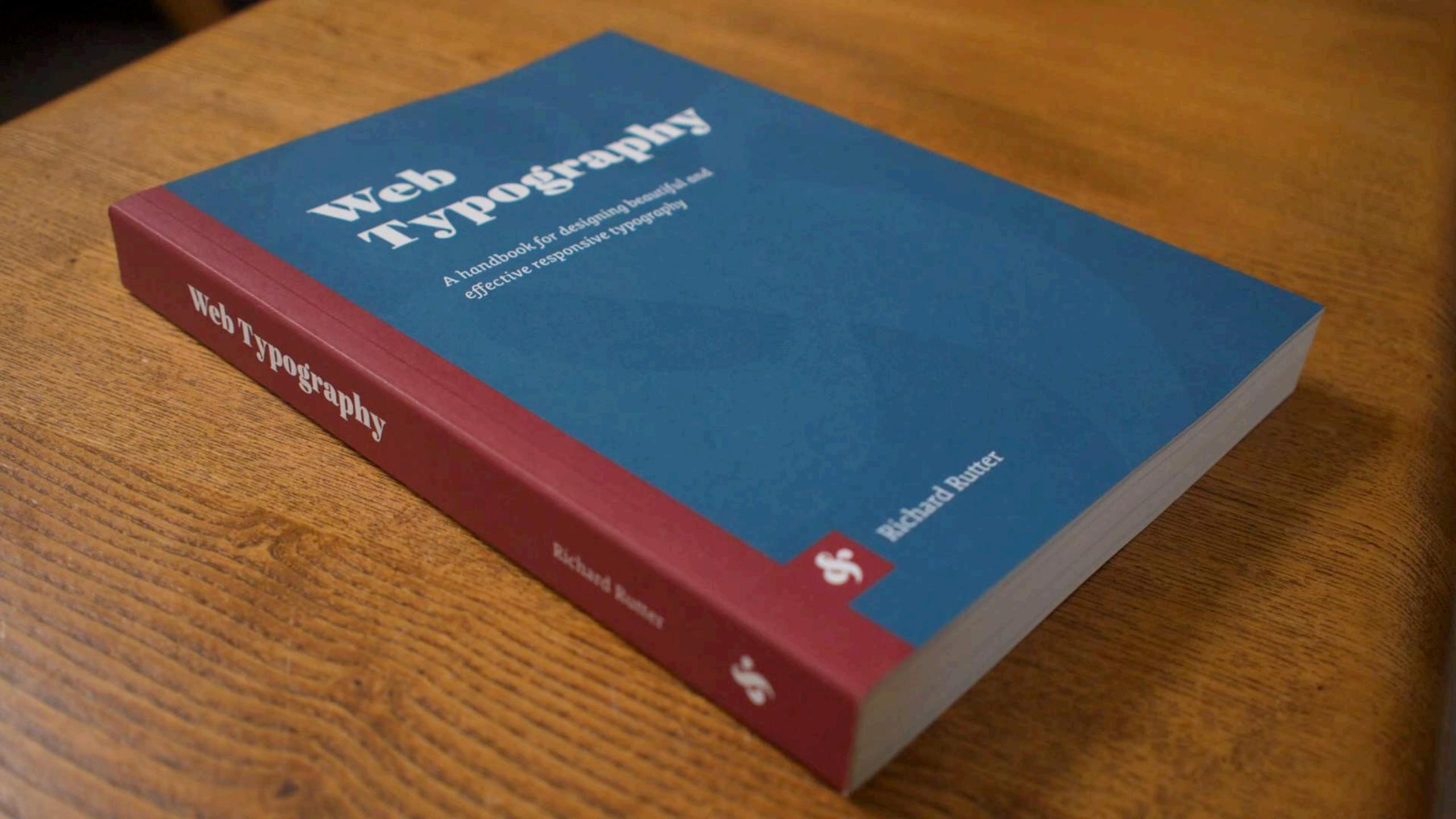


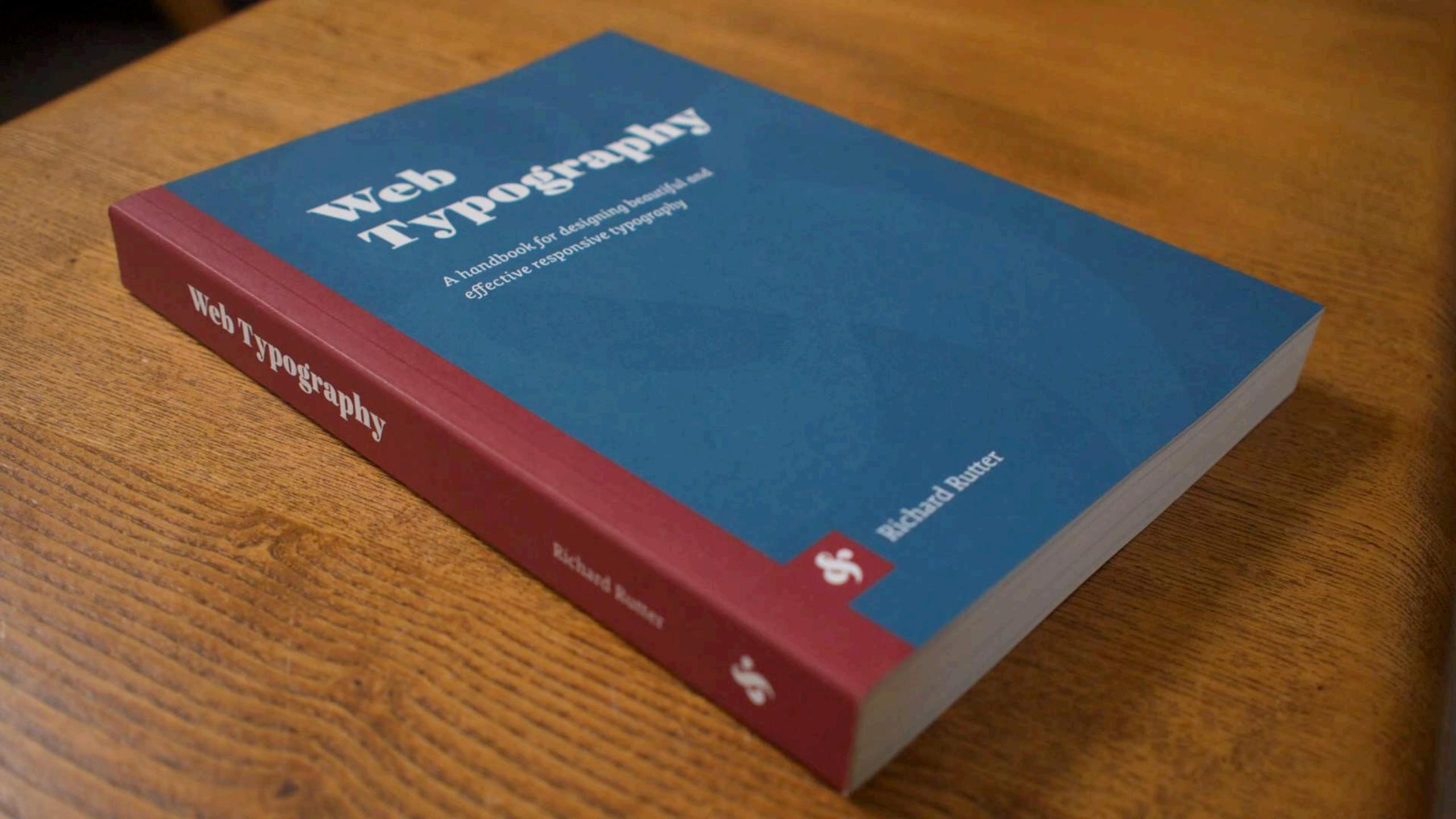
COLOUR

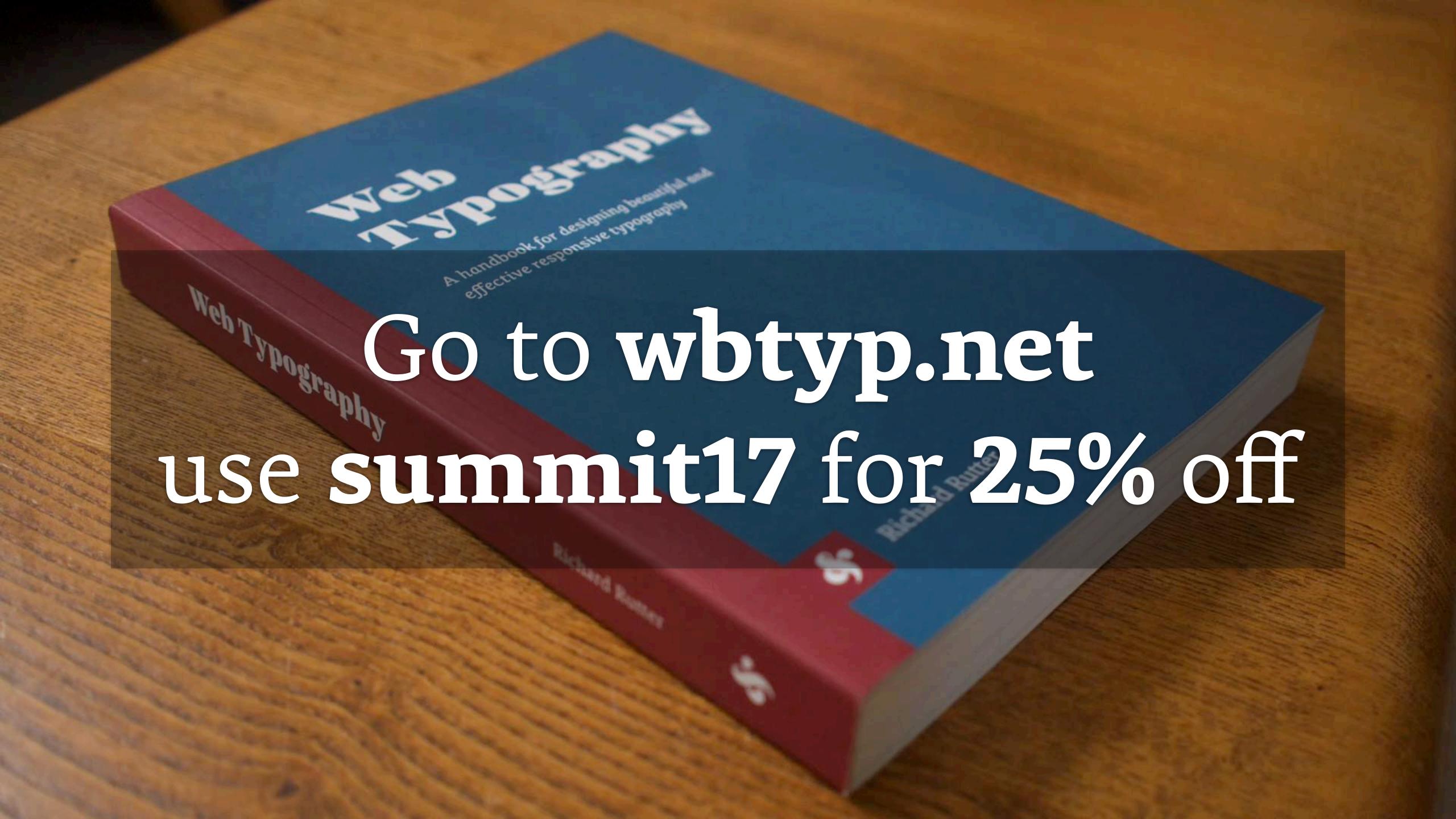
13 Golden Rules for Typography on the Web

- 1. Learn to relinquish control
- 2. Don't trust computers
- 3. Use the default font size for paragraph text
- 4. Adjust type size according to reading distance
- 5. Adjust the font size if the typeface requires it
- 6. Set tables to be read

- 7. Set text at display sizes, even on small screens
- 8. Resize display text as you would an image
- 9. Influence the way people feel through type
- 10. Don't be reverential, dogmatic or ordinary
- 11. Reduce your payload
- 12. Optimise page render timing
- 13. Learn to Use Variable Fonts









Richard Rutter, Clearlest

- @clagnut
- @webtypography