

STYLING SELECTS? YOU'VE GOT OPTIONS!

*Hidde de Vries
CSS Day <--> CSS Café
Amsterdam, 11 June 2022*

HI, I'M HIDDE AND I LOVE CSS.

developer relations +
accessibility specialist

sanity.io
hidde.blog
@hdv



WORLD WIDE WEB

The WorldWideWeb (W3) is a wide-area hypermedia[1] information retrieval initiative aiming to give universal access to a large universe of documents.

Everything there is online about W3 is linked directly or indirectly to this document, including an executive summary[2] of the project, Mailing lists[3] , Policy[4] , November's W3 news[5] , Frequently Asked Questions[6] .

What's out there?[7]Pointers to the world's online information,
subjects[8] , W3 servers[9], etc.

Help[10] on the browser you are using

Software A list of W3 project components and their current
Products[11] state. (e.g. Line Mode[12] ,X11 Viola[13] ,
NeXTStep[14] , Servers[15] , Tools[16] , Mail
robot[17] , Library[18])

Technical[19] Details of protocols, formats, program internals

The early web was (*obviously*) a game changer, but with CSS it could reach an even wider audience

E-LEARNING

DOCTOR

BANKING

SHOPPING

TRAVEL

PHOTOSHOP

LOCALGHOST

blog ♥ speaking

Hi, I'm Sophie.

I'm a senior web engineer and Web Discipline lead at [Monzo](#).

I care about web accessibility, keeping the web fun, and lowering the barrier to entry for people learning web development.

I build web things by day, but by night I make music with [SHE Choir London](#).

Find me on [Twitter](#) or send me an email: sophie@localghost.dev.

Chen Hui Jing

The chronicles of a self-taught designer and developer.

AboutWorkTalksBlog

May 25, 2020

On fixed elements and backgrounds

I thought this was going to be a short-ish note on fixed positioning and jank, but as with almost everything I write, it grew into ...

css

May 24, 2020

Revisiting Drupal 8 After 2 Years

The last time I wrote about Drupal was 2017, when I built the company website for my friend's husband. It was a proper paid ...

drupal8 , site-building

May 14, 2020

Broadcast Video Chat with Javascript and Vonage

This article was originally published on [The Nexmo Blog](#).

This series of tutorials will explore the Vonage Video API (formerly TokBox OpenTok) and what you can build with it. The Video API

I'm Eric, a Boston-based designer working at [thoughtbot](#).

I help create straightforward solutions that address a person's practical, physical, cognitive, and emotional needs using accessible, performant, device-agnostic technology.

Hi, I'm Michelle

I make websites.

personalsit.es

cassie

writing speaking workshop playing

Hi, I'm cassie

I like making fun, interactive things with code. I also talk & write about those things

@hdv

> [Danny de Vries](#)

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Hi! I'm Danny de Vries [[@dandevri](#)], which you've probably already guessed from the header above. I'm an Indie Maker building digital products for the web and lecture about web technology at the Amsterdam University of Applied Sciences.

Speaking

I give talks and guest lecture at conferences, universities or offices. You should totally ask me to speak.

Let's talk about speaking

Teaching

You'll usually find me in front of a classroom at CMD Amsterdam but I also give workshops and create online courses.

View all courses

Projects

Sometimes I tinker with code or create DIY projects. Most of them are just fun side projects that have no meaning at all.

See all projects

Latest writing:

My typical day: How my daily routine stacks up.

What's new?

Working on a new venture called 'out-of-office' to help you make time to focus on

JESIMMONS

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LAYOUT
LABS
TALKS
TWITTER

Hi. I'm Jen Simmons.

I'm a Designer and Developer Advocate at Mozilla and a member of the CSS Working Group. I'm especially interested in the coming revolution in GRAPHIC DESIGN ON THE WEB.

I SPEAK AT CONFERENCES and MAKE VIDEOS. From 2011–2015, I was the host and executive producer of THE WEB AHEAD.

VASILIS VAN GEMERT

EXCLUSIVE DESIGN

PODCASTS

NERD

PHOTOS

RANDOM

BOOKS

BOTS

MONSTERS

LOVE NONSENSE

FOOD

RSS

MASTODON

ABOUT

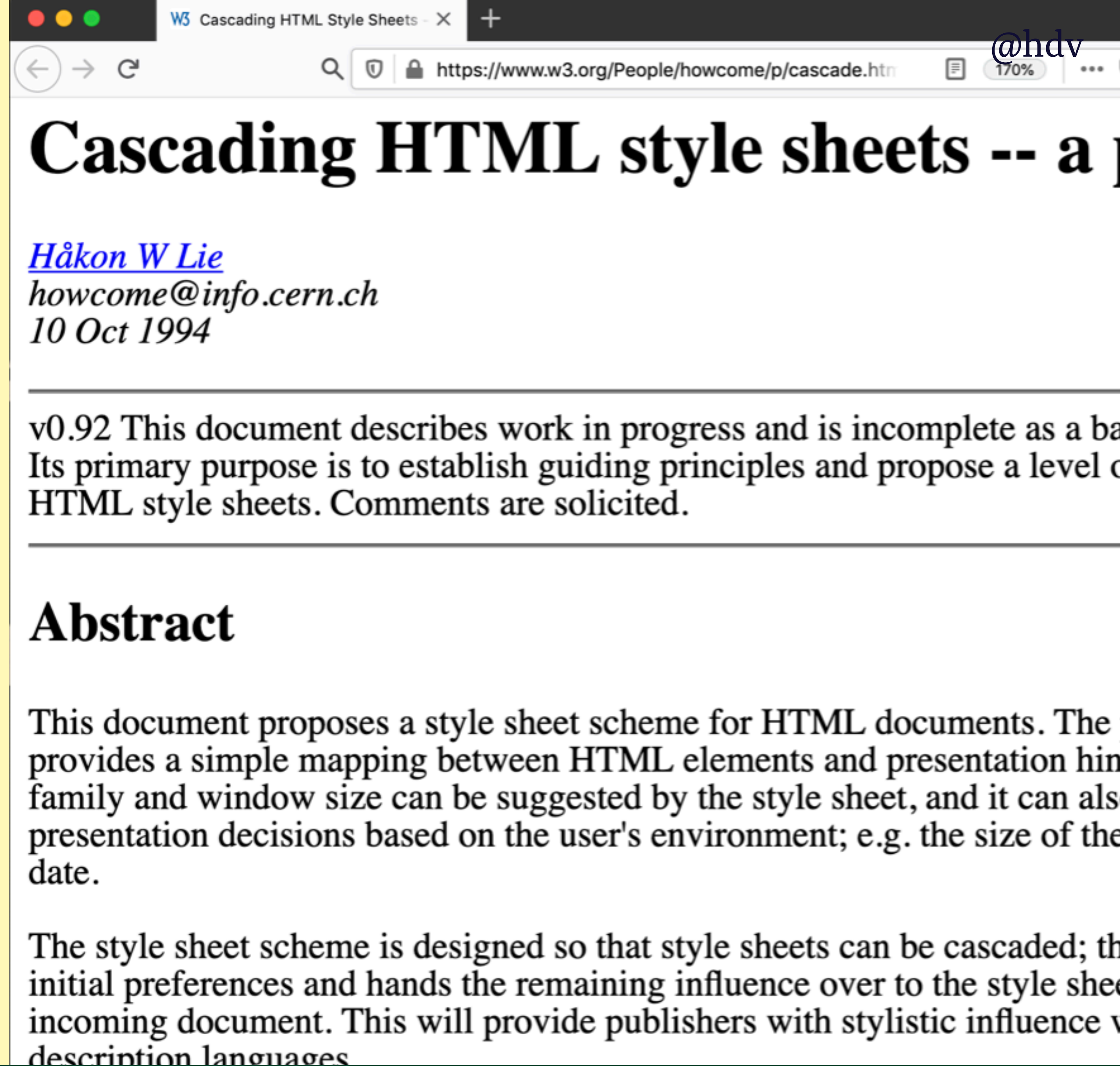
STYLES ARE HINTS

Browser, developer, user

STYLES ARE HINTS

Browser, developer, user

October, 1994



STYLES ARE HINTS

Browser, developer, user

October, 1994

30%

`h1.font.family = times`

40%

`font.family = times`

`h1.font.family = helvetica 100%`

“I'm intrigued by the effects of the cascading effects. (...) As I'm experimenting I noticed that by mixing different stylesheets, it's very easy to have the styles clashing in a bad way.”

— Pei Wei, in response to proposal;

SOMETIMES THE BROWSER KNOWS BETTER



SOMETIMES THE BROWSER DOESN'T HAVE THE UI WE WANT

Waar wilt u met de nachttrein (NJ, EN) naartoe reizen?

Amstetten NÖ Bahnhof

St.Anton am Arlberg Bahnhof

1 aansluiting gevonden

Start van de reis

Datum: DI, 31. MAI 2022

NJ 446

Amstetten NÖ Bahnhof - St.Anton am Arlberg Bahnhof

Voertuigtraject

ÖBB Nightjet

eerdere aansluitingen

Er zijn geen verbindingen voor de geselecteerde dag. De volgende verbindingen zijn:

morgen, WO 00:07

vanaf € 49,90
Sparschiene

vanaf € 74,90
Sparschiene

vanaf € 99,00

DO, 2. Jun 00:07

vanaf € 59,00

vanaf € 69,90
Sparschiene

Helaas niet beschikbaar

VR, 3. Jun 00:07

vanaf € 54,90
Sparschiene

vanaf € 69,90
Sparschiene

Helaas niet beschikbaar

HEUTE

Kaartje boeken >

EXPLORE THOSE NEIGHBOURHOODS WHERE ENGLISH IS BARELY SPOKEN

BOOK YOUR NEXT TRIP

DEPARTURE STATION
Amsterdam Centraal

DEPARTURE DATE
Tuesday May 31

Arrival station

ADULT (26-59)
1 Adult

KID (4-11)
0 Kid

YOUTH (12-25)
0 Youth

SENIOR (60+)
0 Senior

☐ Thalys Pass

☐ My Thalys W

SEARCH

31 MAY TUE

1 JUN WED

1 Room, 1 Guest

Special Rates

Find a Hotel

May 2022

SUN MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT

1 2 3 4 5 6 7

8 9 10 11 12 13 14

15 16 17 18 19 20 21

22 23 24 25 26 27 28

29 30 31

June 2022

SUN MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT

5 6 7 8 9 10 11

12 13 14 15 16 17 18

19 20 21 22 23 24 25

26 27 28 29 30

☐ My Dates are Flexible

Close

“We hope to make it unnecessary
to reinvent built-in UI controls”

– OpenUI homepage



Open UI

Standardised controls can be a
huge opportunity for accessibility



Nicole Sullivan
@stubbornella



@hdv

Replying to [@sarah_edo](#) [@film_girl](#) and 3 others

A goal of APIs like toggle, selectmenu, and popup is design systems and component libs can use them to make components interactive and they'll handle a11y for common use cases. I'm calling it "implied accessibility semantics". It's hard to get right, but if we do

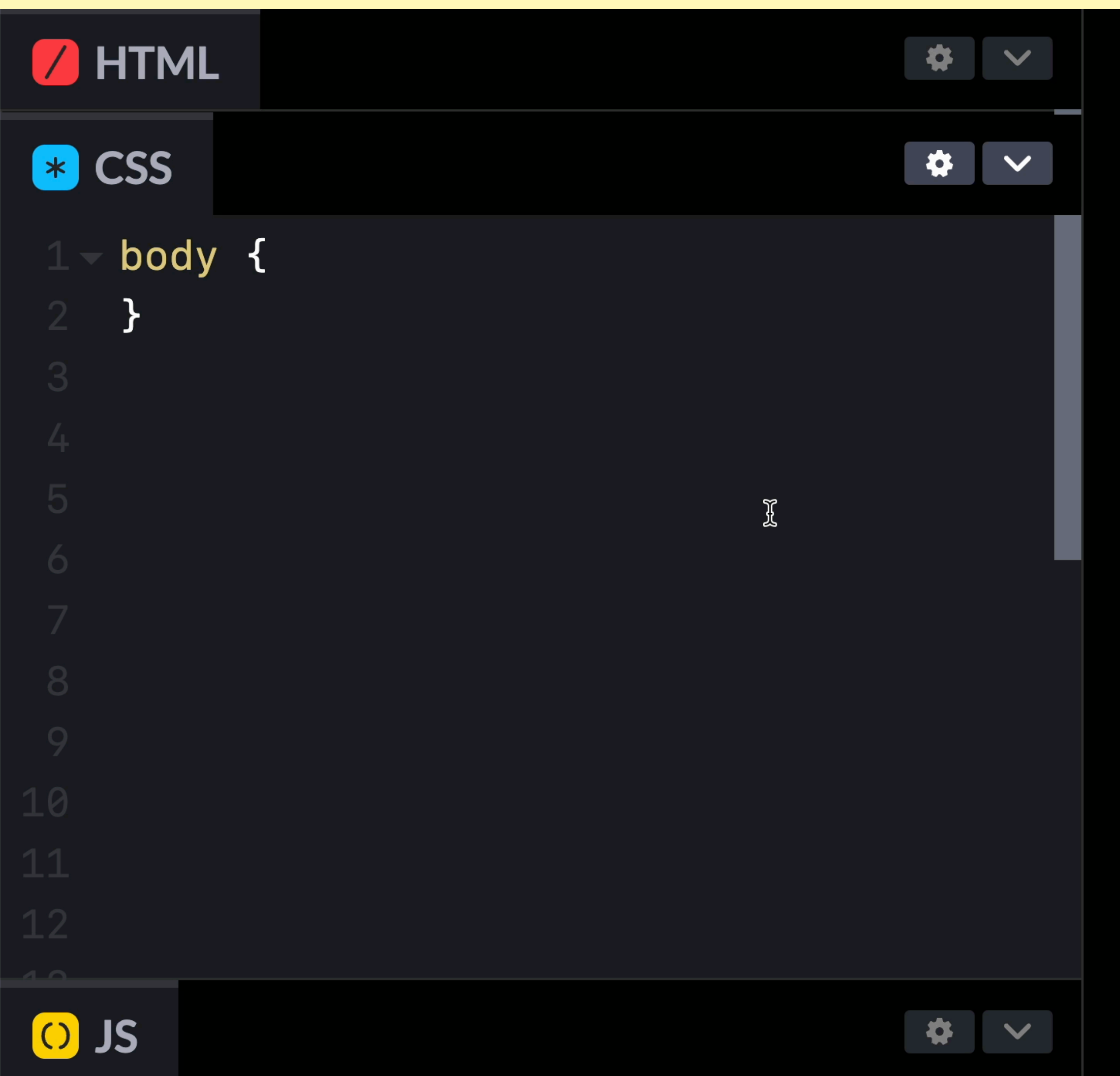


GIF ALT

Standardised controls can be a
huge opportunity for accessibility
(if accessibility considerations are met)

accent-color

**SOMETIMES THE
NEED IS THEMING**



Favourite programming language

- ☐ CSS
- ☐ HTML
- ☐ JavaScript

You must choose

- ☐ CSS
- ☐ HTML
- ☐ JavaScript

ACCENT-COLOR BROWSER SUPPORT



<selectmenu>

DEVELOPERS ON `<SELECT>`

Hard to build “search
in list” UI

– 27.43% of respondents

Can’t customise
popup window (desktop)

– 11.36% of respondents

Can’t style
`<option>`

– 17.85% of respondents

Need to insert
arbitrary HTML

– 7.82% of respondents

Can’t style
default state

– 14.01% of respondents


```
// regular select
```

```
<select>
```

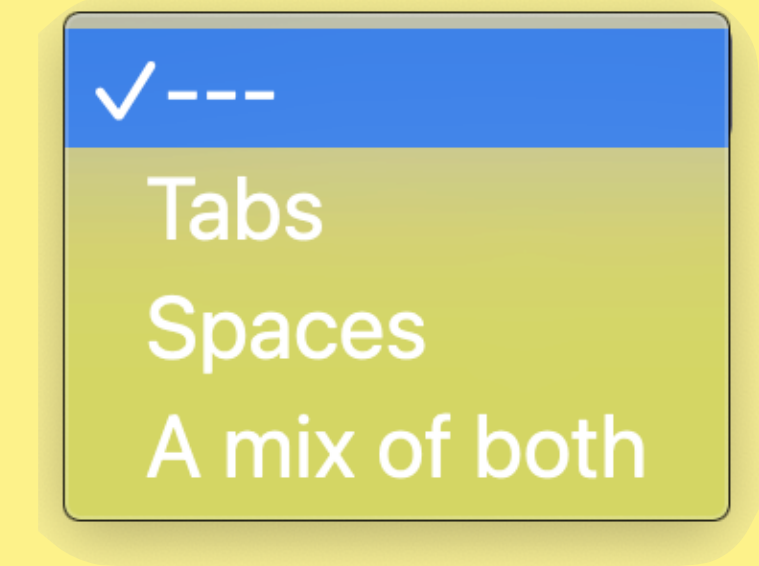
```
  <option>Tabs</option>
```

```
  <option>Spaces</option>
```

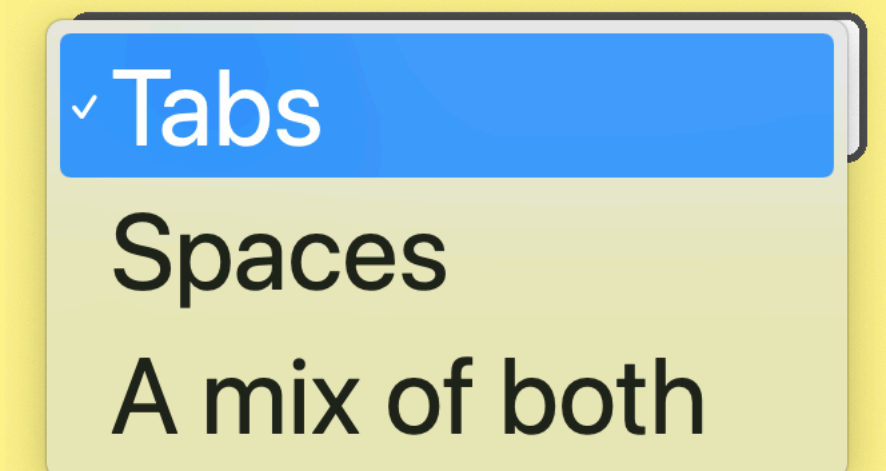
```
  <option>A mix of both</option>
```

```
</select>
```

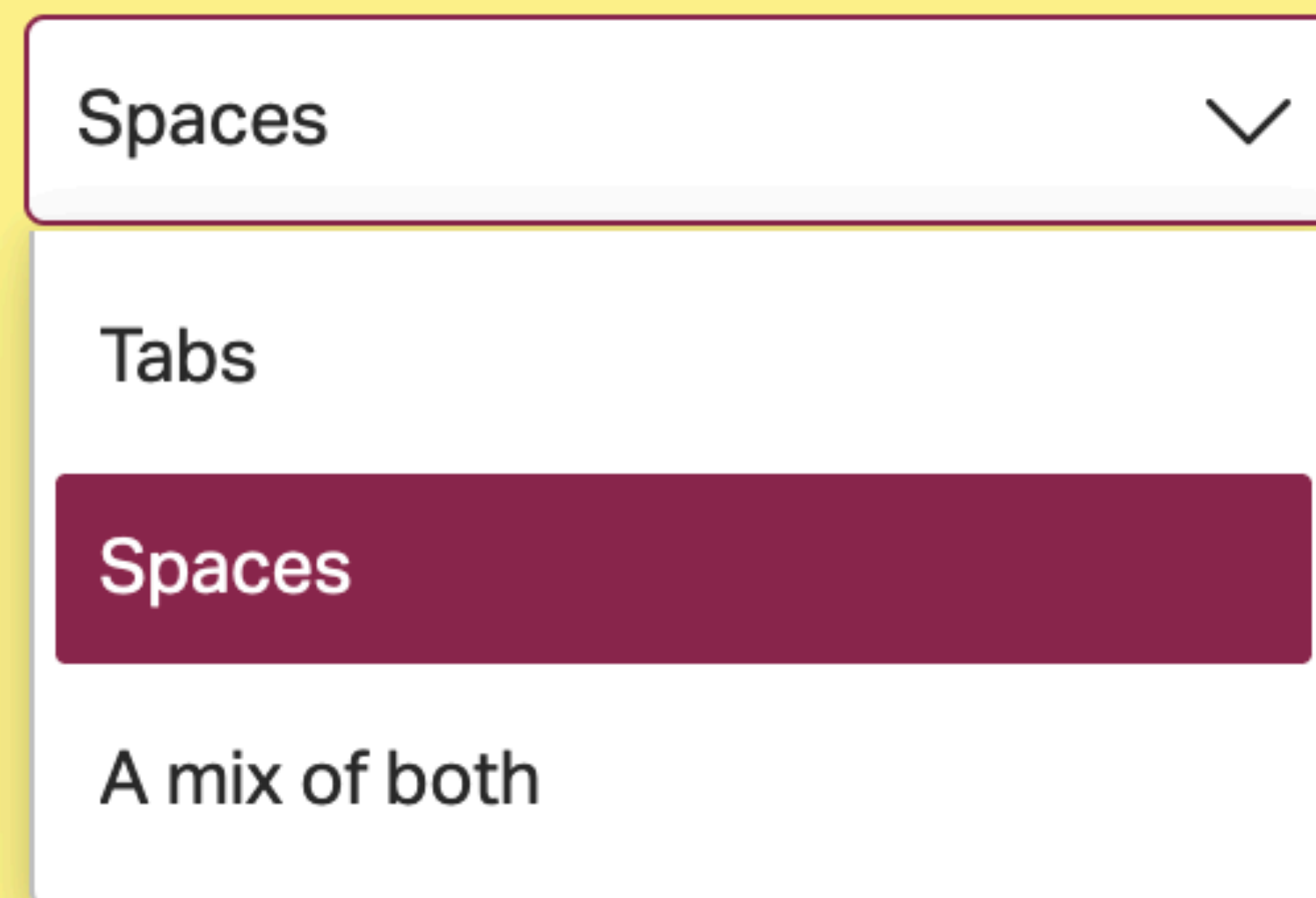
Firefox



Edge



```
// introducing.. <selectmenu>  
<selectmenu>  
  <option>Tabs</option>  
  <option>Spaces</option>  
  <option>A mix of both</option>  
</select>
```



```
selectmenu::part(button) {  
  background-color: #f00;  
  border-radius: 5px;  
}
```



Spaces

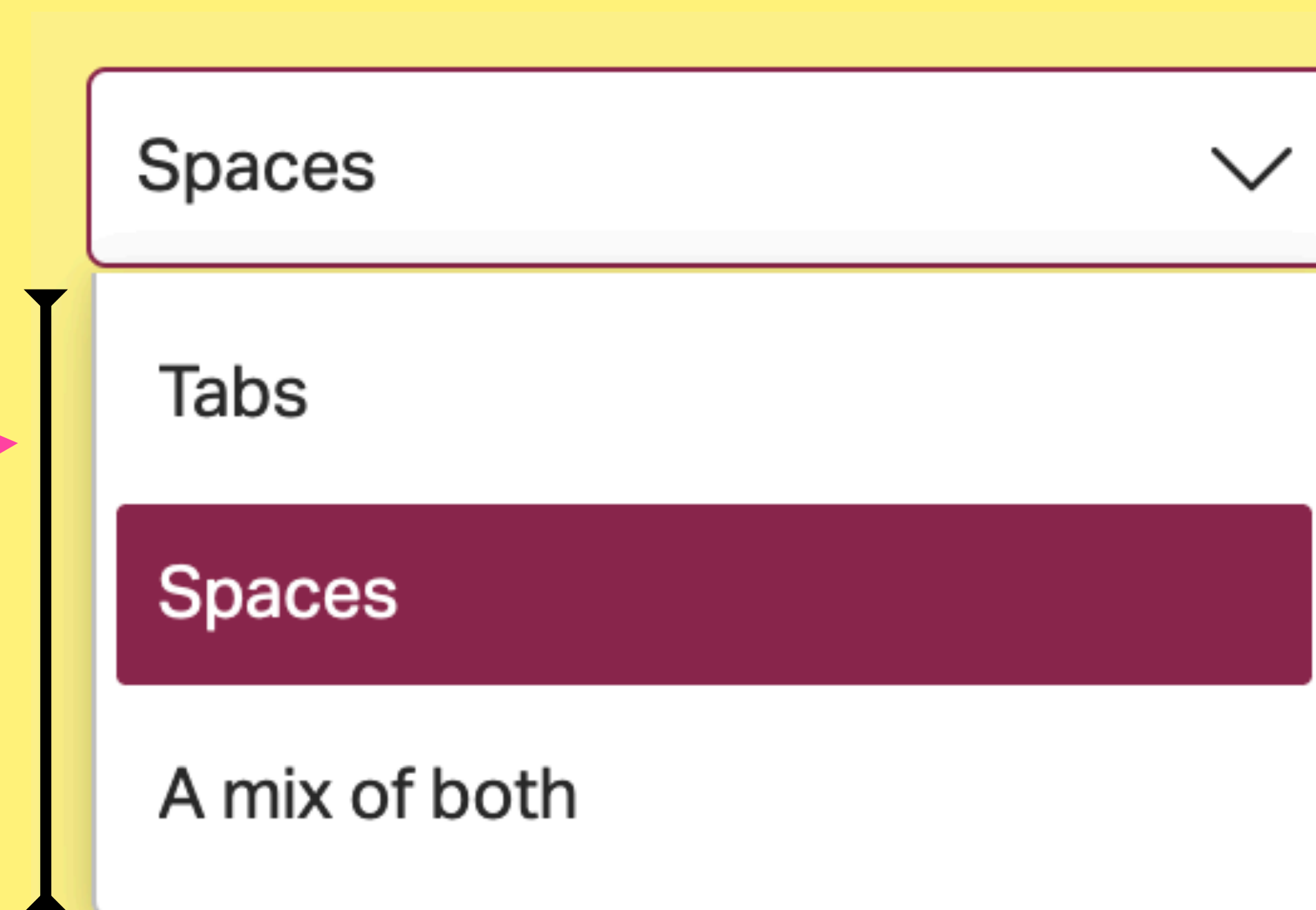
Tabs

Spaces

A mix of both


```
selectmenu::part(button) {  
  background-color: #f00;  
  border-radius: 5px;  
}
```

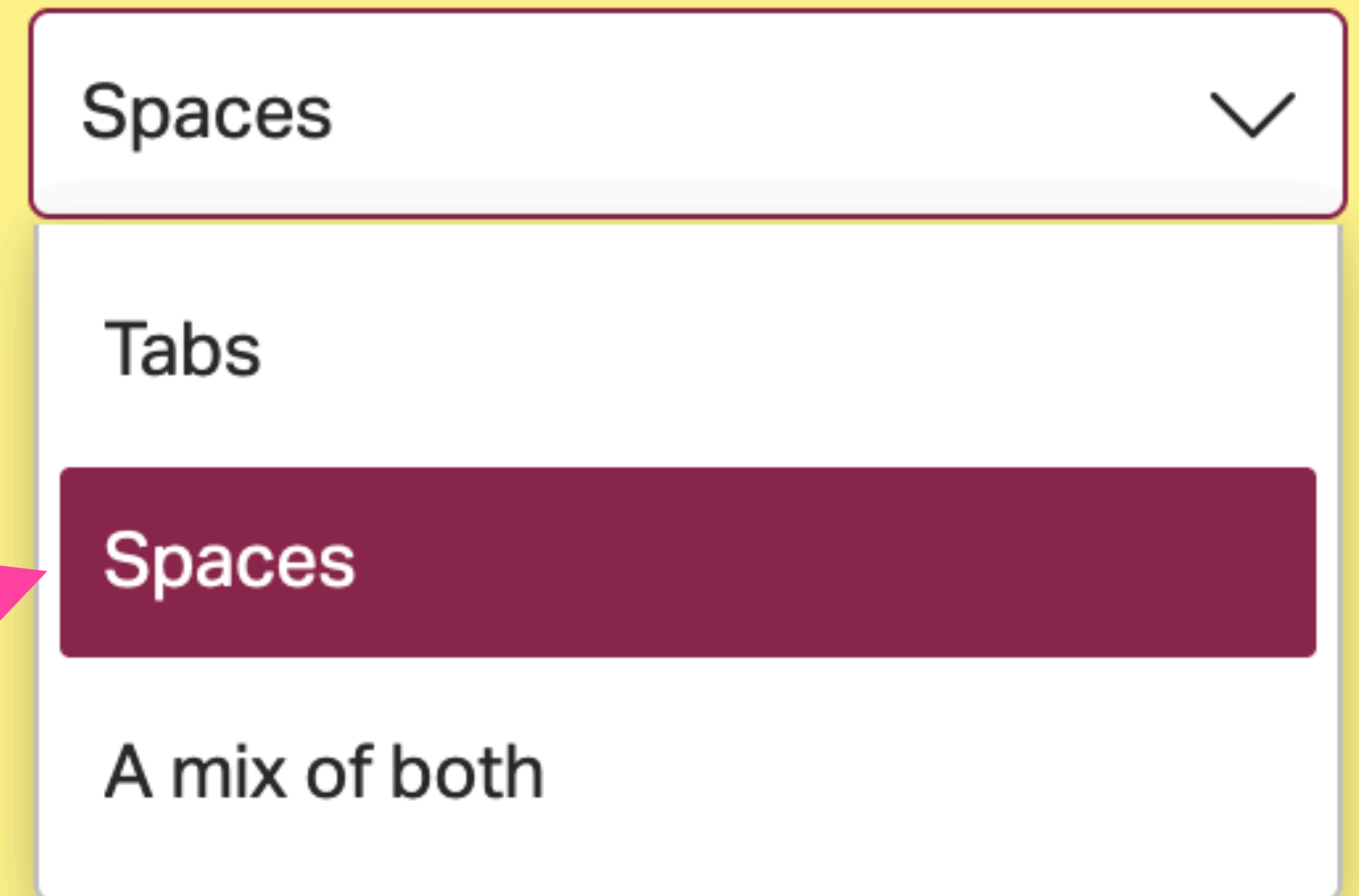
```
selectmenu::part(listbox) {  
  padding: 10px;  
  margin-top: 5px;  
}
```



```
selectmenu::part(button) {  
  background-color: #f00;  
  border-radius: 5px;  
}
```

```
selectmenu::part(listbox) {  
  padding: 10px;  
  margin-top: 5px;  
}
```

```
selectmenu::part(selected-value) {  
  padding: 10px;  
  margin-top: 5px;  
}
```





Content

Photos



Cows

/2022/05/cows/



Ypont

/2022/05/friterie/



Blijdorp

/2022/04/blijdorp/



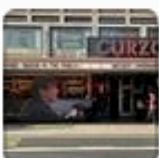
Baths, men's, first class

/2022/03/baths-men-s-first-...



Welcome to Kentish Town

/2022/03/welcome-to-kentis...



Worst person

/2022/03/worst-person/



Sunny in London

/2022/03/sunny-in-london/



Cleveland Residences

/2022/03/cleveland-residenc...



Technically in the UK

/2022/03/technically-in-the-u...



Sausolito

/2022/03/sausolito/



Cows



Current version



Main image



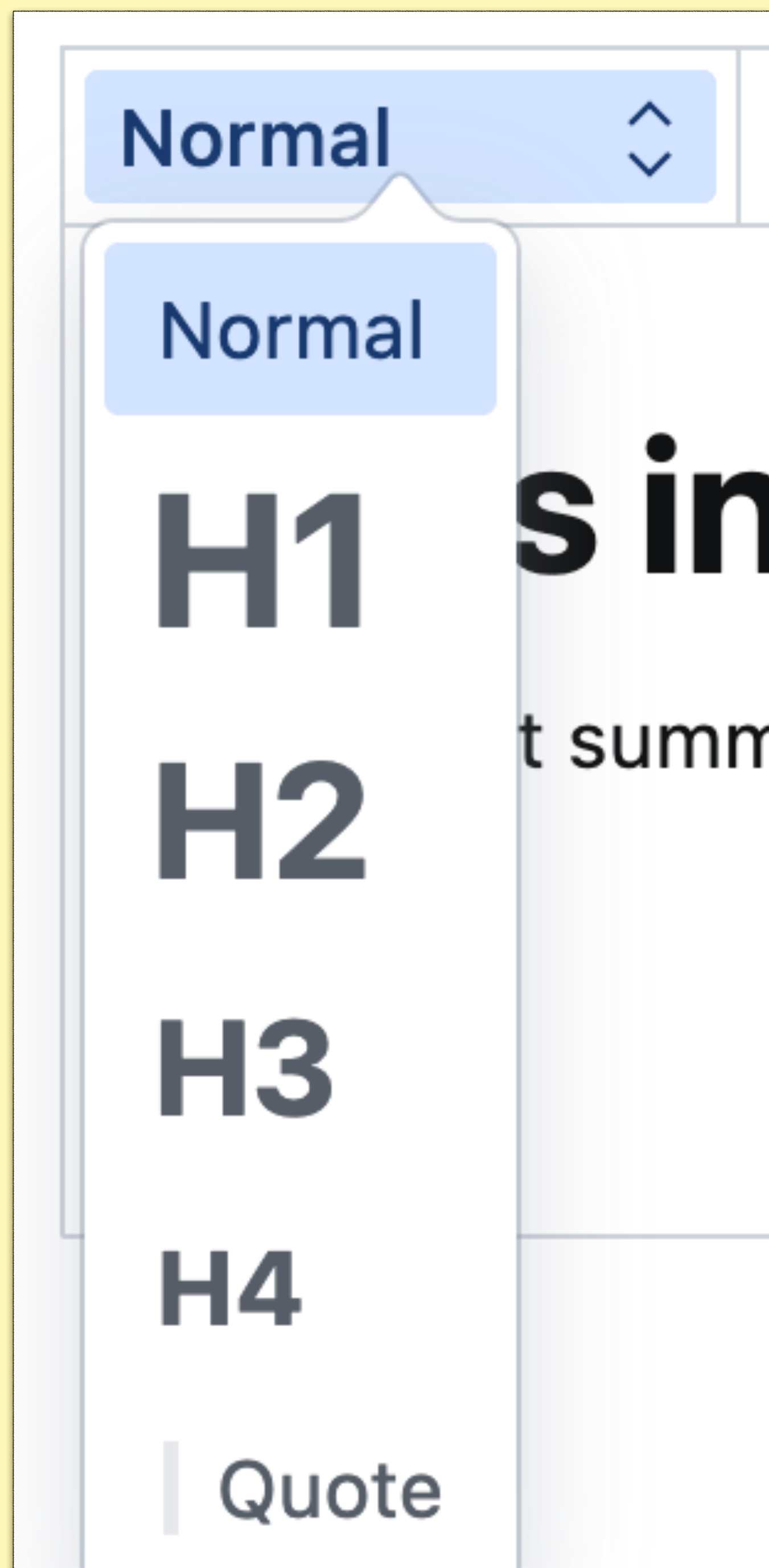
Alternative text

What's on this picture?

12 cows staring into camera

Title

Titles should be catchy, descriptive, and not too long



<SELECTMENU> BROWSER SUPPORT



Experimental, behind flags,
known accessibility issues
[about:flags](#), “Experimental Web Features”

**THANKS FOR
LISTENING!**

Contact/resources

talks.hiddedevries.nl

@hdv or hidde@sanity.io

Typefaces

Bungee by David Jonathan Ross (DJR)

Rasa by Anna Giedryś, David Březina (Rosetta)